

February 2008

# Cadenza

Newsletter for Alumni and Friends



**A World of Music**

# On the cover



## Dr. Stephen Crawford Gamelan in Bali

Dr. Stephen Crawford, Director of Percussion Studies and Associate Professor of Music, spent three weeks in Bali this summer studying and performing Balinese, Javanese, and Sundanese gamelan music as well as Javanese folk dancing.

Dr. Crawford studied with some of the top teachers from Bali and Java that lead to three performances at the Payangan Music and Arts Festival. The Festival was held at the Center for World Music's enclave at Girikusuma (Flower Mountain) in central Bali.

Dr. Crawford also toured the island of Bali observing rehearsals, temple celebrations, and performances of various gamelan ensembles, many of which took place at the royal palaces.

This trip was made possible because Dr. Crawford received a Faculty Development Grant from UMHB.



## Deborah Jones Kodály in Hungary

Deborah Jones received a summer development leave to attend the Kodaly Seminar in Kecskemet, Hungary for three weeks this summer. Kecskemet is the birthplace of the Hungarian composer and music educator, Zoltan Kodaly, and the current location of the Kodaly Institute where the seminar was held.

The International Kodaly Seminar is an intensive three-week program with several options of study. As a participant in the methodology program, Mrs. Jones also attended classes to discuss Kodaly's philosophy and the way that his philosophy is implemented in Hungary.

An important component of the seminar was the Kodaly Festival Concert Series. During the three-week stay in Kecskemet, she attended or performed in a total of eleven concerts. In the final concerts, the participants of the seminar sang Kodaly's *Psalmus Hungaricus* with the World Youth Orchestra. The performance on Thursday evening was in the Budapest Opera House, "a once-in-a-lifetime experience for us," said Mrs. Jones.



## Dr. Michelle Schumann Piano in Vienna

In July and August of 2007, Dr. Michelle Schumann, Assistant Professor of Music at UMHB, traveled to Vienna, Austria on a faculty development grant to do post-doctoral studies with renown Austrian pianist and pedagogue, Roland Batik at the Vienna Conservatory. Schumann said of the experience, "it was amazing to study the music of great masters in the place where they lived. Just to breathe the air that Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms, Berg, and Schoenberg breathed in itself was an astonishing realization."

Schumann worked with Roland Batik for two weeks exploring relationships between the first Viennese School of composers -- Mozart, Haydn, and Beethoven, and the second Viennese School of composers -- Schoenberg, Berg, and Webern. "Often, we think that the differences between Classical composers and 20th-century composers are insurmountable, but in reality, these composers had tremendous similarities in regards to the compositional techniques they used. When a listener recognizes the similarities between Mozart and Schoenberg, they begin to understand contemporary music on an equal level and then become closer to the music of their own time.



## **James Whitis**

Director of Instrumental Activities

Mr. Whitis joined the Department of Music in the summer of 2007. He received his Bachelor of Music Education degree from Wayland Baptist University and his Master of Music in Trombone Performance from East Texas State University. He was a student of Dr. Neil Humfeld, one of the founding members of the International Trombone Association.

Prior to coming to UMHB he served as a band director in the public schools of Texas for 26 years. His experiences range from working with students in grades 6 – 12 and with bands in numbers from 50 – 275. In addition to having taught in public schools, Mr. Whitis has served as adjunct instructor of low brass for Wayland Baptist University and for UMHB. He is also trombonist for the Chisholm Brass Quintet.

Bands under Mr. Whitis' direction have received superior ratings in University Interscholastic League concert, sight reading, and marching contests. He has served as an adjudicator and clinician for high school and middle school bands across the state and continues to write field drills for marching bands as well.

Mr. Whitis is a native of Belton, Texas and is married to Jessye Whitis, Associate Professor of Piano at UMHB.



## **Nils Landsberg**

Director of Athletic Bands

Mr. Nils Landsberg holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music from Gustavus Adolphus College and a Master of Music in Wind Conducting Pedagogy and Performance from Oklahoma State University.

Prior to his appointment at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, Mr. Landsberg served as a Graduate Assistant for the Oklahoma State University band program, where he conducted the University Brass Ensemble, guest conducted the Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, and Concert Band, and served as a drill designer, arranger, and instructor for the Cowboy Marching Band and the Oklahoma State University Spirit Band.

Mr. Landsberg taught in the public schools of Minnesota for five years. During his tenure there, his ensembles consistently received superior ratings at regional and state contests.

Mr. Landsberg is active as a drill designer, clinician, adjudicator, and guest conductor. His professional affiliations include the College Band Directors National Association, the College Music Society, the International Association for Jazz Education, Texas Music Educators Association, and Texas Bandmasters Association.

# *Introducing*



## **Penny Hogan**

Associate Director of Opera

Ms. Hogan holds a Bachelor of Music Education from Simpson College and a Master of Music in Vocal Performance from the University of Michigan. She has sung professionally for several years. Her performance venues have included the Anchorage Opera, Austin Lyric Opera, Augusta Opera, Carnegie Hall, Central City Opera, Connecticut Grand Opera, Lyric Opera of Dallas, Natchez Opera, Opera Omaha, and the Sarasota Opera. She received critical acclaim for her portrayal of Walter in "La Wally," as a studio artist with the Sarasota Opera.

Ms. Hogan has also been a voice instructor at TCU, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Oral Roberts University, Virginia Tech University, and the University of Michigan. She has maintained private studios in New York City, Tulsa (Oklahoma), Indianola (Iowa), and Salem (Virginia), among other places.

Ms. Hogan, along with her husband, George, are highly sought-after soloists and recitalists, and continue to sing in various parts of the country.

# Ensembles



**Crusader Marching Band**

The Crusader Marching Band had a successful season this fall that encompassed travelling to Mississippi to support the Cru football team as they faced the Choctaws of Mississippi College, and performing at two post-season play-off games. The band performed three different half-time shows and also intensified their involvement in the stands by joining forces with the Couch Cru in the North end zone of Tiger Field.



**Jazz Ensemble**

The UMHB Jazz Ensemble was proud to have Ms. Penny Hogan perform with the ensemble as a featured soloist on their November 15th concert. This spring the UMHB Music Department will welcome former Stan Kenton Orchestra leader and trumpet soloist, Mike Vax to campus. Mr. Vax will work with the Jazz Ensemble during one of their rehearsals and also present a master class that will be open to the public on February 21st. The Jazz Ensemble will present its spring concert in Hughes Recital Hall at 7:30 pm on March 25th.



**Concert Choir and Chamber Singers**

The combined choirs of the UMHB Department of Music & Conservatory collaborated in a Christmas Gala Concert with orchestra to celebrate the 'Jewels of the Season'. The same union will present Dvorák's *Mass in D* this March. The University Chamber Singers made its debut in the Hillman Visiting Artists Series with the premier of Belinda Reynolds' *Remembrances*, a composition for chamber ensemble, piano, and marimba.



**Opera / Musical Theatre**

Last spring the opera troupe presented a very lively and entertaining *Hansel and Gretel*. This spring, the opera students will perform two one-act operas by Menotti: *The Old Maid and the Thief* and *The Telephone*. Both productions will take place at the CAC in Temple. OperaCru will tour in west Texas in March. They will also be performing Seymour Barab's *Little Red Riding Hood* for the CAC's Arts in Education series.



The year has seen successful tours to Houston and San Antonio as well as a performance of the National Anthem at a Houston Astros game in conjunction with an alumni reunion. The ensemble will have a busy spring semester ending with a tour to Oahu, Hawai'i in May.

## Concerts

March 10

Wind Ensemble Concert  
7:30 p.m.  
Walton Chapel

March 13

Combined UMHB Choirs  
7:30 p.m.  
St. Christopher's Episcopal  
Church - Killeen

March 25

Jazz Ensemble Concert  
7:30 p.m.  
Hughes Recital Hall

April 15

Raegan Cushman  
and  
Robert Knoke  
Composition Concert  
7:30 p.m.  
Hughes Recital Hall

April 20

Outdoor Wind Ensemble  
Concert and picnic  
4:00 p.m.  
UMHB Amphitheater

## Productions

February 11-12

OperaCru presents  
*Little Red Riding Hood*  
at the CAC

February 29 - March 1

Opera Production  
"A Tribute to Menotti"  
(*The Telephone* and  
*The Old Maid and the Thief*)  
7:30 p.m. at the CAC

# Upcoming Events

## Alumni Reception

February 15

9:30 p.m.  
Marriott River Center  
at TMEA in San Antonio

## Student Recitals

March 11

Melissa Colquitt, flute  
7:30 p.m.  
Hughes Recital Hall

April 18

Daena Yerkes, soprano  
7:30 p.m.  
Hughes Recital Hall

April 24

Meg Gohlke, soprano  
7:30 p.m.  
Hughes Recital Hall

## Faculty Recitals

April 17

Stephen Crawford,  
marimba  
7:30 p.m.  
Hughes Recital Hall

April 25

Michelle Schumann, piano  
7:30 p.m.  
Hughes Recital Hall

## Guest Artists

January 18-19

Days of Percussion  
with Nathan Daughtrey  
7:30 p.m. on the 18th  
9:00 a.m. on the 19th  
Hughes Recital Hall

February 8

John Pinno, guitar  
7:30 p.m.  
Hughes Recital Hall

February 28

Hillman Visiting Artist  
Petar Jankovic, guitar  
7:30 p.m.  
Hughes Recital Hall

April 10

Hillman Visiting Artists  
Braaten & Baldwin  
string duo  
7:30 p.m.  
Hughes Recital Hall

# Faculty News

**Dr. Lon Chaffin** has composed a new work for Horn, Tuba, and Piano entitled *Faraway Nearby*. It is based on select paintings by the artist Georgia O'Keefe. It was commissioned by Dr. Jim Shearer at New Mexico State University and will be premiered this Spring. Another one of his compositions, *Urban Sketches for Percussion Trio*, will be published this year by HoneyRock Publishing.

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**Lisa Clement** attended a Vocal Pedagogy Workshop at UNT in Denton, the TEXOMA National Association of Teachers of Singing Conference at SMU in Dallas and South Texas NATS master classes with Mary Jane Johnson, Paula Homer and Lorna MacDonald in San Antonio. In April, Ms. Clement will co-chair the student auditions of the South Texas chapter of NATS at UT in San Antonio.

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**Dr. Stephen Crawford** has performed as principal percussionist/timpanist with the Temple Symphony Orchestra and as section percussionist with the Waco Symphony Orchestra. He is preparing for his "25th Anniversary in Teaching" recital this April that will feature many of his compositions, including a premiere performance of his new work, *Butterflies, Mountains, Bamboo*, scheduled for publication later this year. His marimba quartet "Chroma 1" was added to the Texas Prescribed Music List this past summer. This past fall, Dr. Crawford signed endorsements with Majestic Timpani and Innovative Percussion as a performing artist and clinician.

This past summer, **Matt Crosby**, Associate Choral Director, directed the music for *The Pajama Game*, a musical at Vive Les Arts in Killeen. He took One Voice on tours to San Antonio and Houston and will end the year with a tour of Oahu, Hawai'i. He continues to accompany student soloists and will be collaborating with UMHB guitar instructor John Pinno on a guitar concerto performed in February. Next summer Mr. Crosby will be going as the choral accompanist with the Texas Baptist All-State Chorus and Band to Germany.

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**George Hogan** will make a guest appearance as Sarastro in Mozart's *Magic Flute* in April with the University of Texas in San Antonio Lyric Opera. In May he will be essaying Don Alfonso in Mozart's *Così fan Tutte* with the Natchez Music Festival in Natchez, Mississippi.

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**Deborah Jones**, Assistant Professor of Music Education, is consulting for the Educational Testing Service in Princeton, New Jersey. She is writing test questions for the All-Level Music TExES Teacher Certification Examination.

**John McLean**, Director of Choral Activities, led a very successful Christmas Gala featuring every choral ensemble of the UMHB Music Department and Conservatory. He also had the opportunity to conduct two TMEA All-Region Mixed Honor Choirs, and to clinic the Dallas ISD Pre-UIL High School Competition. This spring he will conduct the performances of the UMHB Opera as they present *Little Red Riding Hood*, *The Telephone*, and *The Old Maid and the Thief*. In March the UMHB Choirs and Bell Civic Chorale will present Dvorak's *Mass in D Major*, under Mr. McLean's direction.

**Dr. George Stansbury** was invited by the LifeWay Worship Group (a component of the Southern Baptist Convention publishing office in Nashville, TN) to participate in the initial Hymnal Planning for the 2009 BAPTIST HYMNAL with sixty other educators, ministers and publishers. His charge was to submit a list of hymns (old and new), carols, choruses, songs, and service music which he believed to be essential in the formulation of the new hymnal. Also, as director of University Handbells, Dr. Stansbury led the ensemble in two public presentations in the Fall.

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**Dr. Robert Steinbauer** is being awarded a 50-year Certificate by MTNA in Denver this year. He has also had local, state, regional and national assignments for MTNA, MENC, CMS, MTIA, NPF, NASM & AMC.

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**Jessye Whitis**, associate professor of piano, performed the three Gershwin preludes in a master class at the 7th annual Piano Wellness Seminar held at the University of Texas in Arlington this past summer. Mrs. Whitis also presented a lecture recital entitled "Ebony and Ivory: Jazz Piano in the 20th Century" at UMHB, Central Texas College in Killeen, and at several civic and church groups in the Central Texas area. The recital featured the music of Johnny Costa, Oscar Peterson, Bill Evans, George Gershwin, and Dave Brubeck.

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**Dr. Guy Wilson** participated in a Vocal Pedagogy Seminar at the University of North Texas in June. In November he attended the Texoma NATS regional convention and student auditions held at SMU. He entered seven of his students in the auditions and placed three in the finals of their respective divisions. Dr. Wilson continues to serve as Choir Director of the First Presbyterian Church of Temple.

# Alumni News



**Patrick Trahan** is the Assistant Director of Bands at Donna High School in Donna, Texas. He is also the Texas representative for P. Mauriat Saxophones.

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**Crystal Balderas** is teaching elementary music in her hometown of Hutto, Texas at a new school, Ray Elementary. Last December she was honored as the "Teacher of the Month."

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**Megan Bender** is the Choral Director at Travis Middle School in Temple, Texas.

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**Vicki Boyd** will graduate from UT Austin in August with a Masters in Vocal Pedagogy.

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**Brad Bolick** is the Director of Bands for Florence (TX) High School. He completed his Master of Music at UT Arlington.

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**Natalie (Conger) Barrett** is teaching elementary music at Noel Elementary in Odessa, Texas. She is beginning a children's choir program at Northwestern Baptist Church in Midland where her husband, Joseph Barrett, is serving as Minister of Music and Youth.

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**Amy (Easdon) Beskow** is taking graduate classes at SMU and singing in the Fort Worth Opera Chorus.

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**Amber (Wilson) Brown** is in her third year of teaching music at Western Hills Elementary in Temple.

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**Charlotte (Waldrop) Bumbulis** is teaching music at Timber Ridge Elementary in Killeen.

We want to keep in touch with you. If you would share your news and contact info with us, please drop an email to [glayne@umhb.edu](mailto:glayne@umhb.edu).

**Amanda Cantu** is in her first year of graduate school at the University of Michigan. She was awarded a full scholarship and is pursuing a Master in Vocal Performance Degree.

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**Austin Daniel** is in his second year of graduate school at Baylor pursuing a Master of Church Music.

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**Angela French** is the Minister of Music for Kowloon International Baptist Church in Kowloon Tong, Hong Kong.

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**Cody Fosdick** studied two years at the University of Indiana at Bloomington toward a Performer Diploma. He was accepted into the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia and is in his second year.

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**Jesus Hernandez** was recently heard by Placido Domingo and will be attending Placido Domingo's Intern/Apprentice Academy in Washington, D.C.

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**Jonathan Jones** has completed his Master's degree at Texas State University in Choral Conducting and will soon begin his doctorate.

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**Matt Klepac** has received a full scholarship toward his masters degree in vocal performance at the University of Oklahoma where he is also a graduate assistant.

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**Tracey Lowrimore** is the Assistant Band Director at Groesbeck Middle School and the Color Guard Director at the High School. She will be teaching the clarinets at all levels, a 6th grade brass class, and is responsible for the seventh grade band. She also plays in the Waco Community Band.

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**Aleisha (Kelly) Martinez** is in her second year of teaching choir at Belton Middle School.

**Vallie Owens** began teaching elementary music at Mountain View Elementary in Killeen in January.

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**Dan Suniga** is the Assistant Director of Bands for Belton High School. He is in charge of all things brass and all of the fundraising (thanks to his banking background). He is team teaching the marching band and conducts the 3rd Concert band. He is also the director of the new Jazz Ensemble.

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**Jonathan Ratzlaff** is the Minister of Music at Heights Baptist Church in Temple and is attending Truett Seminary in Waco.

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**Dawn (Grangaard) Ratzlaff** is the choral director at Fairway Middle School in Killeen.

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**Danny Webb** is teaching music at Sparta Elementary in Belton.

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**Matt Wittman** is in his third year as Director of Bands for Eastern Hills Middle School in Killeen.

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**Kimberly Williams** is the Choral Director for Henry Middle School in Cedar Park, TX. **Spencer Wiley** is the Assistant Choral Director there. Together they have approximately 320 in their program. Kimberly's Varsity Treble Choir has been selected to perform this February at the TMEA annual convention in San Antonio. The performance will be on February 14 at 11:00 a.m. in Ballroom A.



# Cadenza



Lisa Clement, Penny Hogan, and George Hogan perform in the Fall Opera Gala.

[www.umhbmusic.net](http://www.umhbmusic.net)



University of Mary Hardin Baylor

*Department of Music*

*College of Visual and Performing Arts*