

Three Generations of Music Teachers

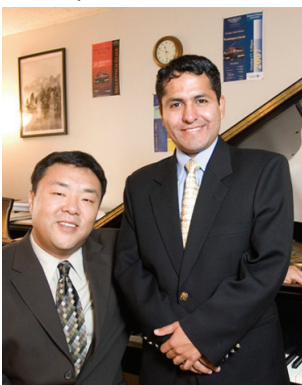
Mollie Tower, her daughter and granddaughter were featured in the *Teaching Music Magazine* - August 2012 Edition. This NAFME (formerly MENC) periodical highlighted the three generations of music educators in the Tower-Tannert family who are currently serving in statewide positions in the Texas Music Educators Conference. Daughter Debbie Tannert is TMEC Past President, granddaughter Christina Tannert is Director of Internal Operations and Finance on the Collegiate Texas Music Educators Board, and Tower is TMEC Collegiate Chair. The article states, "From mother to daughter to



granddaughter, music education is at the core of one Texas family. These three women of the Lone Star State, each representing a different generation, have both an endemic love of music and lifetime exposure to a symphony of inspiration." The four-page article features a picture of Tower's great-grandfather, Edwin Eberhard, with students of the Eberhard Music School in the late 1800s in Seguin, Texas.

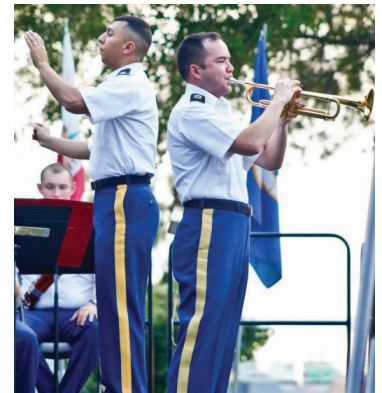
Texas State Team Award

The International Piano Festival was selected to receive the August 2012 Texas State Quarterly Team Award. The team, Dr. **Washington Garcia** and Dr. **Jason Kwak**, recruited for the festival through extensive international travel giving performances, presentations, and masterclasses. Texas State University is now recognized throughout the world for its top-level piano program, and every year students around the world audition for it.



Three Bobcat Alumni in One Army Band

In July, Major **Leo Peña** (vocal/conducting alumnus) was appointed as Commander and Conductor of the US Army Training and Doctrine Command Band based in Virginia. Alumnus **Larry Dean** has been principal trumpet of the band since 2008; his first performance with Major Peña was as soloist performing Curnow's *Concertpiece*. Also, the Executive Officer/Associate Conductor, Second Lieutenant **Silas Huff** (guitar alumnus), was assigned to the band earlier this year. Having three former music students from the Texas State School of Music in one organization is a rare circumstance in the US Army. All three express gratitude for the mentoring and core values received at Texas State that contributed to their success as military musicians.



Peña, Dean

TxState Prof Named Fulbright Specialist

The J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs, and the Council for International Exchange of Scholars have designated Prof. **Ian Davidson** for a place on the Fulbright Specialist Roster. Determined by extensive peer-review, the designation is for the next five years. Unlike the traditional Fulbright program that involves travel for as much as a year, Fulbright Specialists are utilized on a short-term basis, sometimes for assignments as short as two weeks.



Becoming a Published Composer

Alumna **Karol Ann Badget**, former student of **Russell Riepe**, has been named a featured composer for Alpha Major, an educational publishing company in Houston specializing in theory workbooks and musicianship lesson plans for teachers and now branching out into teaching literature. She has composed six sacred duets for one piano-four hands, six elementary violin and piano ensembles, seven primary piano solos (under consideration

for the Federated Music Clubs Junior Festivals list), and a song to a text of Emily Dickinson aimed at the high-school voice student. Her work was also presented at the Texas Music Teachers Association meeting in June.

TxState Music Alumni Get Teaching Jobs

Congratulations to these 32 recent graduates, music educators employed this fall in the following teaching position:

Mary Altura	General Music at Bellaire Elementary	Killeen ISD
Amy Beckman	Asst. Band Director Devine HS	Divine ISD
Jason Brown	Asst. Band Director, Wallace M.S.	Hays ISD
Michael Childress	Asst. Band, Floresville Middle School	Floresville ISD
Ashley Crowder	Asst. Band Director, Peterson MS	Kerrville ISD
Rebecca Gifford	General Music, De Zavala Elementary	San Antonio ISD
Erin Kelleher	Asst. Band, Southwest Early College HS	Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD
Donald Lacy IV	Asst. Band Director, Rhodes MS	San Antonio ISD
Joshua Munoz	Asst. Band Director, Canyon Ridge M.S.	Leander ISD
Raul Ochoa	General Music, Wright Elementary	Harlandale ISD
Andrew Richards	Gen. Music, Beckman Elem. and Asst. Band	Luling ISD
Kirsten Robinson	General Music, Paseman Elementary	Taylor ISD
Daniel Senties	General Music, Science Hall Elementary	Hays CISD
Christina Wishart	Asst. Band Director, Lake Travis MS	Lake Travis ISD
Julia Young	General Music, Macky Elementary	Mesquite ISD
Aaron Richards	General Music, Kleberg Elementary	Dallas ISD
Lewis McMahan	Orchestra Director, Fossum Middle School	McAllen ISD
Mark Maza	General Music, Pittman Elementary	Raymondville ISD
Sonja Caballero	General Music, Woodcreek Elementary	Katy ISD
Marty Lenard	Band Director, Peterson Middle School	Kerrville ISD
Tristi Tobias	General Music, Oak Hill and Kocurek Elem.	Austin ISD
Travis Elrod	Asst. Band Director, Temple HS	Temple ISD
Melissa Serrano	Asst. Choir Director Churchill & Canyon M.S.	Comal ISD
Elizabeth Bongat	Asst. Choir Director North Shore M.S.	Galena Park ISD
Sara Mahmalji	General Music, Palm Elementary	Austin ISD
Sean Morrow	Asst. Band Director Rogers MS/HS	Rogers ISD
Lucas Schoppe	General Music and Asst. Band Director	Florence ISD
Sam Parrott	General Music, Brooke Elementary	Austin ISD
Kendra Talley	General Music, Lee Elementary	Grand Prairie ISD
Karen Zientec Flora	Kindergarten, Early Childhood Center	Beeville ISD
Vanessa Montelongo	Graduate Asst. at Western Illinois University	Macomb, IL
Corina Cantu	General Music, Walzem Elementary	NEISD, San Antonio

Best wishes to 12 other music education alumni who just started new teaching jobs:

Joshua Turnipseed	Asst. Band Director, Brenham MS/HS	Brenham ISD
Rick Astorga	Asst. Band Director, Jefferson MS	NISD, San Antonio
Andy Carr	Asst. Band Director, Mountain Valley MS	Comal ISD
Bryan Pulver	Asst. Choir, Benoit Middle School	Georgetown ISD
Sean Michael	Asst. Band Director, Queen City High School	Queen City ISD
Bonnie Wolf Smith	Asst. Choir, Churchill High School	NEISD, San Antonio
Ramon Parker	Band Director, Rogers High School	Rogers ISD
Mario Contreras	Choir Director, Goodnight Middle School	San Marcos ISD
Jason Brown	General Music, Blanco Vista Elementary	Hays ISD
Ariana Pyburn	Elementary Band/Strings, HS Woodwind Tech.	Arlington, VA
Mark Urbina	Asst. Band Director, Running Brushy MS	Leander ISD
Jamieson McCaffity	Choir Director, Round Rock High School	Round Rock ISD