

Dr. Thomas Clark, Director

Grad Students go Doctoral

Alumna **Jennifer (Bales) Voigt**, recent graduate with her M.M. in Vocal Performance (student of **Samuel Mungo**), has been accepted to the DMA program at the University of Miami with a full-ride tuition waiver.

Some of our current graduate music students have also received offers to attend doctoral programs this fall: **Steven Trinkl** (**Russell Riepe's** student in composition) to Texas Tech University; **Sze Wing Ho** (**Cynthia Gonzalez's** student in music theory) to University of North Texas; **Chuan Li Ko** (**Jason Kwak's** student in piano performance) to Louisiana State University; and **Shaoying Ho** (**Dr. Kevin Mooney's** student in music history) has received offers from both University of North Texas and Boston University, where she has received a "full ride" with yearly stipend.

A Cappella Unlimited takes First Place

The A Cappella Unlimited Chorus of San Marcos captured first place in Division A Small Chorus competition at the Region 10 Sweet Adelines International chorus competition held March 23 in Houston.

Texas State music alumna **Kathryn Dane** and **Grant Goulding** from San Antonio have directed the ensemble since its inception.

In addition, the chorus earned 5th-place medals in the overall competition that included small, mid-size, and large choruses.

The chorus also won the Most Improved Chorus Award. As the Division A champions for their region, the chorus is now in the running to be invited to compete in the Sweet Adelines Harmony Classic in Baltimore in the fall of 2014.

Members range in age from 18 to 84.

The chorus holds weekly rehearsals on Mondays in the Texas State Music Building.

The A Cappella Unlimited Chorus is one of 15 Sweet Adelines International choruses that participated in the Great Gulf Coast Region 10 competition.

Region 10 includes portions of central and south Texas and south Louisiana.

Music Artissimo

Dr. Vanguel G. Tangarov has accepted the position of Artistic Director of the MusicArtissimo International Clarinet Master Class Series at the prestigious "Balabanov's House Music Days" International Festival in Plovdiv, Bulgaria.

He will teach clarinet master classes there June 19–26 during the summer edition of the festival.

Winking in Leander

Dr. Keith Winking was a guest clinician on April 11 with the Rouse High School Jazz Band in Leander ISD. The Rouse Jazz Band is under the direction of Texas State alumnus **Art Jimenez**.



Presentation in Belgium



In early April, **Dr. Cynthia I. Gonzales** presented at the XII International Congress on Musical Signification held in Belgium at the Académie Royale de Belgique and at the Catholic University of Louvain.

Also, excerpts from Dr. Gonzales' TMEA presentation for SmartMusic has been posted on the company's blog.

Alumni currently teaching in choral, band, or orchestral programs who want to implement using SmartMusic with their students are encouraged to contact Dr. Gonzales for start-up advice.

<http://blog.smartmusic.com/post/2013/04/15/Educator-Spotlight-at-TMEA-Pt-3.aspx>

Play ball!

Todd Oxford was chosen by the Texas Rangers Baseball Club to perform the National Anthem at a home game this season at the Ballpark in Arlington.

He recorded two tracks for composer Jason Greenberg's CD project with the ensemble, Orisonata, at Ivory Tower Studios in Houston.

The CD will be released internationally.

This month, he recorded a work with **Lynn Brinkmeyer** and the Texas State Women's Chorus for an upcoming solo CD to be released internationally.

Additionally, his arrangement of *Fantaisie Brillante on themes from Carmen* will be the subject of a featured master class in the May/June edition of the Saxophone Journal.

Phoenix wins Downbeat

Dr. Oxford's top student chamber group, The Phoenix Saxophone Quartet, performed a concert by invitation for the North American Saxophone Alliance's Regional Conference at Texas Christian University.

Additionally, the quartet won Downbeat Magazine's 36th Annual Student Musician Award - Classical Chamber Group Division.

Joshua Weisbrod-Torres won Downbeat Magazine's Student Musician Award - Classical Soloist Division.

From left below: **Gerald Martinez, Gilbert Garza, Josue Mora, Joshua Weisbrod-Torres**



Pianist "enthalls audiences"

Dr. Washington Garcia's recent solo piano performance for Festival Inspiración at Sam Houston State Univ. received an outstanding review on March 5 from *The Houstonian*. Read it on-line at <http://www.houstonianonline.com/a-e/guest-pianist-enthalls-audiences-1.2815190#.UW236aXhH0A>

Trio Collaborates with Texas State composers

Three compositions by three Texas State composers were commissioned and performed by guest artists the Kandinsky Trio April 16 in Evans Auditorium.

Faculty **Russell Riepe** (*Two Poems*) and **Hank Hehmsoth** (*Three Shades of Blue* - premiere) and alumnus **David Jones** (*Galloping Goose*), chair of the ACC music department in Austin and past student of Russell Riepe, shared the Common Experience theme for 2012-2013: "*A Global Odyssey: Exploring Our Connections to the Changing World*".

The Kandinsky Trio is celebrating 25 years as one of the longest and most successful chamber ensembles in the U.S., with over a thousand concerts of chamber music in the U.S., Europe, and Canada.



Left to right: David Jones, Russell Riepe, Hank Hehmsoth, Elizabeth Bachelder - piano, Benedict Goodfriend - violin, Alan Weinstein - cello

Percussion Del Mar

Bobby Lopez was invited to judge and perform at the annual Del Mar Percussion Festival held recently in Corpus Christi.

The festival included a snare drum competition as well as performances by Mr. Lopez, Dr. Matthew McClung, Dr. Neil Sisauyhoat (pictured) and percussion group Line Upon Line.



Winning Composers

Congratulations to this year's winners of the 2013 Ninth Annual Student Composition Competition (coordinated by **Charles Ditto**): **Gilbert Garza** (undergraduate without composition studies); **John Sessions** (undergraduate with composition studies); **Jose M. Garza, Jr.** (graduate student). With these wins, all three become two-time winners.



Left: Gilbert Garza



Right: Jose M. Garza Jr.



Left: John Sessions

Bali Hi!

March 28th saw the official unveiling of Texas State's brand new acquisition – a Balinese Gamelan ensemble. Students from the School of Music and the Department of Theatre and Dance joined forces in a display of traditional Balinese music and dance in the courtyard outside the School of Music.

The dancers were tutored by Jennifer Arnone, an authority on Balinese dance from Boulder, Colorado. Jennifer was rounding off a weeks' residency in the Dance Department here.

The musicians were guided by **Gordon Jones** of the School of Music, who has over 30 years experience of teaching and performing Balinese gamelan music.



Purchase of the authentic instruments was made possible by a grant from the Student Service Fees Commission, with additional support from the College of Fine Arts and Communication and the School of Music.

Regular weekly workshops are available to all Texas State students, regardless of musical ability.

It is envisaged that community and school workshops will be offered starting in August. Contact Gordon Jones, gj13@txstate.edu, phone 512 245 7820.

Alumnae are Mariachi pros

Mariachi Las Alteñas, an all-female professional group, was our featured guest artists for the Texas State Feria del Mariachi this March.

The San Antonio Express-News published an interesting profile story about the group on April 17 written by Features Editor Emily Spicer. Mariachi Las Alteñas members include Texas State alumnae **Corina Cantu**, **Kristi Davis**, **Angela Garcia-Campos**, and **Vanessa Moreno**.

Alumnus Cirilo Campos is their music director.