



Dean's Letter

Dear Friends:

Greetings and best wishes to all of you! This newsletter has resulted in communications from so many of you over the past year, and it has been a delight to hear from you. We encourage those of you who have not communicated with us to get in touch with our tireless and very creative editor, Dr. Furr (e-mail: rfurr@hbu.edu) and to tell us about yourself, your families and your activities.



We have just completed an incredibly busy and wonderful year and are looking forward to another! Last year we performed the world premiere of two major works by two faculty members, over 60 concerts and recitals, and toured the University Singers out of state for the first time in many, many years. In February, the University Singers premiered the *Mass for Chorus and Orchestra* by Dan Kramlich, Associate Professor of Music, and the combined forces of the Opera Workshop and University Chorus premiered the opera *Bonhoeffer* in May. The Singers tour offered performances in Dallas; Norman, Okla.; Little Rock, Ark.; and Jackson, Miss., in addition to their home concert in Houston.

Another big event last Spring was saying our 'So longs' to three of our faculty members, Jeanette Lombard, Eugene Talley-Schmidt and Robert Reid. It is very strange to experience the absence of their delightful and distinct personalities this Fall and they are certainly deeply missed. But we rejoice with them in their new locations and look forward to visits and letters!

After long search and interview processes, we have three new faculty members to replace our retirees. Dr. Richard Fiese comes from the University of Miami to direct the Music Education program, Mrs. Lynda Keith McKnight comes from Baylor to chair the Voice Department, and Mr. Robin Roewe comes from Simpson College to join the Voice faculty. You will read about them in another article in this newsletter. We are delighted to welcome them and are anxious for you to get to know them.

We also are pleased to have two new Affiliate Artists joining our staff this year. Mrs. Patricia Hendrickson will teach voice and Mr. Barry Sills will teach cello and join the faculty trio *Trè Voci*.

Best wishes to all of you, and we hope to see you at some of the many events presented by the School of Music during the coming year!

Dr. Ann Gebuhr, *Director of the School of Music
Associate Dean, College of Arts and Humanities*

Our Own Patron of the Arts: Norma Lowder

— by Rhonda Furr

How does one pay tribute to a present-day "patron of the arts?" The HBU School of Music is extremely fortunate to have as a benefactress Mrs. Norma Lowder. With her familiar presence on our campus, at recitals, at music forum, in the library, and in the classroom, she has become part of the HBU landscape. This great lady has offered herself, her support, her library, and her many resources to our students, our faculty, our library, our School of Music and our University.



The former principal of Houston's High School for the Performing and Visual Arts (HSPVA), Mrs. Lowder remains a first class educator. After almost 40 years of teaching, she continues to educate through her various projects, missions,

and interactions on the HBU campus. A church musician for half a century, Norma remains committed to music ministry, playing the organ and piano for a number of worship services each week in the Houston area. Her commitment to education combined with her understanding of ministry has made Mrs. Lowder the ideal patron.

During her active career, Mrs. Lowder taught music at both the elementary and high school levels. She

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Houston Baptist University — School of Music

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

The Houston Baptist University School of Music fully supports, reflects and is bound by the statement of purpose adopted by the Trustees of the University.

Houston Baptist University is a coeducational, independent, comprehensive institution of higher learning related to the Baptist General Convention of Texas. The University is committed to educational excellence, the Christian faith, personal growth, respect for all persons, a sense of community, career preparation, and service to its various constituencies. The University emphasizes a supportive atmosphere for students, employees, alumni, and visitors from all backgrounds. Therefore, the University affirms the importance of:

- an environment which promotes academic freedom and objectivity, fosters the development of moral character, and enriches spiritual growth based on the Christian faith and message;
- education which promotes the development of critical and creative thinking, compassion, responsibility, and continuing interest in learning;
- programs and services which promote excellence within an academic community that fosters intellectual and social interaction in the teaching-learning processes;
- faculty who acknowledge teaching as a primary responsibility;
- students who are committed to high standards of personal and professional development;
- a responsive attitude to the many constituencies it serves through an attitude of willingness to change while remaining faithful to the original nature of the University.

The School of Music faculty believes and recognizes that musical talent and ability are gifts from God and that the School of Music has the responsibility of stewardship with its students. It is also true that the student has responsibility for stewardship of his/her gift, and that the educational experience at Houston Baptist University must be a mutual effort to develop God-given potential as far as is possible in the time available. The regulations and requirements of the varying curricula are intended to help in development of self discipline, an absolutely necessary skill for all musicians which is necessary to the development of potential and mature stewardship of gifts.

It is the nature and position of the School of Music to offer traditional training methods, as well as current technologies so as to present a challenging, fundamental education that will serve each student in whatever musical career each is called to pursue. The curricula emphasize enduring styles while equipping students to function in a wide variety of professional musical situations. Additionally, the School offers exposure to music that is functional or entertainment-oriented in nature (the purpose and use of these types of music are not questioned or negated, but their limited applicability is recognized).

As its means of realizing the above University Purpose Statement in and through its curricula and programs, the School of Music offers training and experience to its majors that:

- present literature, theory, history and information about the art of music that reflects the development of music over past millennia as well as current trends;
- challenge majors to develop performance, analytical, aural, and leadership skills that will serve them as musicians in multiple areas of service and opportunity;
- offer the opportunities to develop research, compositional, and writing skills that will stimulate and make possible continued study and learning for a lifetime;
- encourage healthy competition and cooperative learning in an environment of support and encouragement from both faculty mentors and peers;
- offer opportunities for solo and ensemble performance with close personal guidance by professionals.

Unanimous faculty adoption, 19 February 1996

HBU

Dr. E. D. Hodo, President

Dr. James Taylor, Dean, Arts & Humanities

Dr. Ann Gebuhr, Director, School of Music

HBUpbeat is published each Fall by the HBU School of Music. It is sent (free of charge) to alumni and friends of the School of Music. If you wish to be placed on our mailing list, write to:

HBUpbeat, School of Music
7502 Fondren Rd.
Houston TX 77074-3298

Rhonda Furr, editor
rfurr@hbu.edu
281-649-3000 x2306

From the Editor:

Dear Alumnus:

As you know, this is our third music alumni newsletter. Chanda Dancy, my assistant editor for all three issues, will be graduating this coming Spring and consequently is working on her last issue as Assistant Editor.

Chanda is a violin and composition major. She has served as Concertmaster for the Houston Baptist University Orchestra. She has also performed as first and second violinist for the Texas Festival Orchestra, the Scott Joplin Chamber Orchestra, the Houston Youth Symphony, Clear lake Symphony Orchestra, the Houston Civic Symphony, and the Schola Corda String Quartet. She has composed works for orchestra, choir, woodwind quintet, string quartet, violin/piano, piano, art songs, brass trio, and other instrumental combinations. Chanda has received many awards at HBU including Outstanding Violin Student, Outstanding Orchestra Student, HBU Composition Competition, and Honors Concert Performer. Other awards include membership in Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society, Alpha Chi Honor Society, National Dean's List, American Collegiate Scholastic Award, Houston Music Teachers Association Chamber Music Competition and various music scholarships. After graduation, Chanda plans to attend graduate school in violin performance or composition.



Dancy

Chanda's contributions to the newsletter have been significant. Each year, she has helped with the design of *HBUpbeat*, written many of the articles, proof read, typed all of the alumni information, completed necessary research for the project, and served as my consultant on many issues. In my classroom, she has been an outstanding student, yet at the same time, she maintained the ability to walk into my office and work as a trusted colleague and friend. It is hard to imagine working on this project without her. In addition to the newsletter, she has also helped me prepare for our yearly academic tours to Europe, and has assisted me with duties as library liaison for the School of Music. Her sweet spirit, cheerful disposition, dependability and hard work ethic have made her a valuable partner in all these areas. I will miss you Chanda, but congratulate you on your upcoming change of status from Assistant Editor to Alumnus.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Furr,
editor

HBU Says "Goodbye" to Three Beloved Faculty

After teaching a total of 47 years in the School of Music, three distinguished music faculty concluded their teaching tenure at HBU Spring quarter. Faculty and students alike miss their presence.

Eugene Talley-Schmidt, Professor of Voice and Opera, was also Chair of the Voice Department. He joined the HBU faculty in 1979, teaching applied voice. Prior to that time, he was Professor of Voice and Chairman of the Arts at Florida State University for fourteen years.

Mr. Talley-Schmidt received the Artist's Diploma from the Scuolo di Perfezionamento del Teatro Lirico Sperimentale (Fulbright Scholarship), a Diploma in Opera Arts from Atlanta, and a Diploma from the Universita per Stranieri in Perugia, Italy. He also studied music at Indiana University and San Diego State University.

As leading tenor with the Dusseldorf and Hamburg opera houses, Mr. Talley-Schmidt performed more than 50 major roles, his most popular being that of Manrico in *Il Trovatore*, which he performed over 150 times. His performances as guest artist in major opera houses throughout Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Holland and America received high critical praise, as did his numerous performances in oratorio, concert and song recital.

Hundreds of students studied voice with Mr. Talley-Schmidt during his tenure at HBU. His students continue to have successful careers in vocal performance. His successful teaching style combined technical knowledge with an impressive command of the vocal repertoire. His method of teaching included a wonderful sense of humor.

"My memories of Mr. Eugene Talley-Schmidt will always be memorable. Mr. Talley-Schmidt had a way with his students that was always personalized and full of laughs. I was not an exception. As an older returning student, Mr. Talley-Schmidt always treated me with respect. He made sure that I worked very hard and gave me encouragement when I needed it the most. He trusted my talent and made sure that I performed to the best of my ability (even when I didn't want to). He was a very funny man who understood that there was something funny about every situation. Mr. Talley-Schmidt's sense of humor, comedic timing and last but not least his dedication to the students will be sorely missed."

— Keith Eason, 2001

Jeanette Lombard, Associate Professor, joined the voice faculty in 1994. Her teaching responsibilities at HBU included applied voice, Italian diction and vocal literature. Before joining the faculty at HBU, Ms. Lombard taught voice and diction at Rice University for 12 years.

She received the Artist's Diploma, Scuolo di Perfezionamento del Teatro Lirico Sperimentale (Fulbright Scholarship) Certificate from L'Accademia di Santa Cecilia in Rome, a Diploma from the Universita per Stranieri in Perugia, Italy and she studied opera at the Philadelphia Conservatory of Music.

Ms. Lombard was the recipient of two consecutive Fulbright scholarships for study of opera in Rome, Italy, and an additional grant from the Italian government for study of song repertoire at the Academy of St. Cecilia. Her debut with the Rome Opera at Spoleto was followed by concert appearances in Italy, Austria and Germany. Her recording of the complete Schumann duets for soprano and tenor, with husband Eugene Talley-Schmidt, received high critical acclaim, as did her numerous concert, recital, oratorio and opera

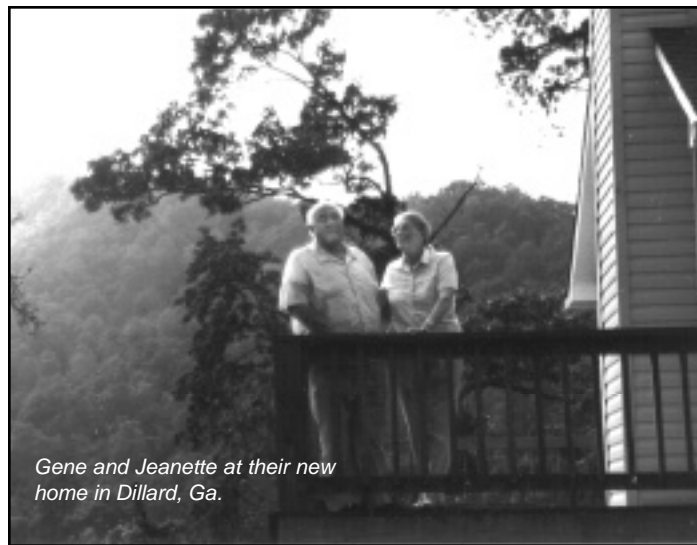
performances. She has sung at both the Kennedy Center and Lincoln Center, and her credits include several world premier performances

Ms. Lombard's legacy at HBU is the many students she taught during her tenure here. In demand as a vocal teacher, her devoted students continue to sing her praises.

"I had the wonderful opportunity to study voice with Ms. Jeanette Lombard for the past four years. She was not only my voice teacher, but she was also my advisor, mentor, and my second "mom." Ms. Lombard was always there for me to encourage me and to support me in difficult times. She is one of the finest people I have ever met and one of the finest artists I have ever worked with. She taught me technique, music and artistry. Ms. Lombard placed her students first at all times. She lives for the art of music and its expression through her students. I will never forget her, and I am truly grateful for her patience, her dedication, and her love for me, as well as for all her students."

— Dalma Boronkai, alumnus, 2000

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Dr. Robert Reid, Professor of Music, joined the HBU faculty in 1980. He directed both the Church Music and Music Education programs. His teaching responsibilities included Music for Children, Hymnody, Handbell Techniques, Church Music Administration, Internships in Church Music, INDC: Culture and Human Experience, Music Appreciation, Music in the Public Schools and supervising student teachers.

Dr. Reid received his Bachelor of Music Education and his Master of Music Education and General Studies from Baylor University. He received his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Choral Music from the University of Texas at Austin.



Prior to accepting the position at HBU, Dr. Reid was on the faculty at Panola College and served in teaching assistant roles at Baylor University and the University of Texas at Austin. He appeared as vocal soloist with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, the Houston Masterworks Chorus, and in numerous Houston area churches. As a composer, he has received numerous commissions from area churches and youth ensembles, and many of those works have been published. He is in demand as a workshop speaker and adjudicator. With his background in General Studies and his diverse experiences, Dr. Reid brought a broad vision of the profession to his students. He presently serves as

Minister of Music at Memorial Drive Baptist Church in Houston.

Teaching in the two areas of Music Education and Church Music brought Dr. Reid in contact with students from diverse backgrounds and future goals. Many of his students remember him as an encourager.

Since leaving HBU, Dr. Reid has expanded his work as a free-lance musician. He is currently active as a composer, private teacher, conductor of the Chevron Chorale, vocal soloist, workshop speaker, choral clinician and adjudicator. He is composer in residence for the Houston Chorale Society and three of Dr. Reid's compositions were premiered by HCS in Oct., 2000. He also continues his work as part-time minister of music at Memorial Drive Church.

"During the time I spent in classes with Dr. Reid I was amazed with his zest for life and his passion to see his students grow. He was a constant encourager and advisor. Dr. Reid seemed to have an answer for every question and an ear for every problem. I always felt as though he was not only concerned about my education but also my growth as a Christian. He encouraged all of us to be the best leaders we could be and to never forget the principles we believe in. I am privileged to have had Dr. Reid as a professor, and am privileged to call him my friend."

— Aimee Thompson, November, 2000 graduate

***Bonhoeffer* Shines in World Premiere**

On May 19, 2000, the world was introduced to a production of supreme beauty, introspective thought, and an overall phenomenal effect. The opera *Bonhoeffer*, written by Ann K. Gebuhr, is the first full length, fully costumed opera produced and performed by the HBU School of Music. It is serious drama based upon the true-life story of a German Lutheran pastor, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who struggles with his sense of morality as a priest and his desire to conspire to stop Hitler during WWII.

Virtually all who attended the premiere had a moving experience. Here are just a few of the responses from enthralled audience members:

"What a wonderful gift you've given the community with the *Bonhoeffer* opera. We thoroughly enjoyed the music, message, and performances. Words cannot express the significant meaning that comes through in the production. You truly touched our lives in significant ways. What a message..."

"Bravo! How incredible! Your opera was an awesome work of art. The music ranged from the most beautiful to the

deepest. I was truly touched, as were my friends that attended with me. The visual impact of the staging was riveting. The performers were wonderful! Mazel Tov!"

"It was tremendous, breath-taking. The score, I could just go on and on. Talk about a gripping production from beginning to end, and one that caused much reflection and thought. This is an incredible, incredible work which you have provided to the world. What a special evening."

"Brilliant! Wonderful! And truly thought provoking. The orchestration was gripping. I particularly liked the prelude... congratulations again!"

"What a wonderful premiere for *Bonhoeffer*! The initial prelude is one of the most beautiful pieces I have ever heard. It is a great introduction to a very touching opera. Give us another opera soon..."

"Fabulous, marvelous, bravo-bravo! *Bonhoeffer* was incredibly performed- so moving- so incredible!! Thank you for sharing his life and yours with us. Praying for many more opportunities to present this opera."

Alumni Showcase



Each year HBU**Upbeat** will showcase a music alumnus. The alumnus selected for this honor was chosen by a committee.

— by Ed Flores, '72

Lew King

On a sunny fall in 1967, a bright, vivacious young lady sat next to me in the student center on a soft, orange sofa facing the beautiful nine foot Steinway grand piano nestled under the stairwell by the water fountain in the HBU student center. We whispered to each other about the handsome young man playing some luscious choral textures to familiar gospel tunes. We approached him and I introduced myself and the young lady, Linda Armour. Thirty-plus years later we relived that memorable moment etched in time through a recent phone conversation with Lew and his dear wife, Linda. What follows recapitulates the outstanding features of a life lived totally committed to Christ.

As a native Houstonian, Lew T. King graduated from John H. Reagan High School in 1964. He received a BA in music from Houston Baptist University in 1970, and finished his MCM in 1973 at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.

Immediately, he was called to Calvary Baptist Church in Little Rock, Arkansas, where he served as Minister of Music and Youth until 1975. From Little Rock he moved to Fort Smith, Arkansas to serve as Minister of Music, Youth and Media at East Side Baptist Church from 1975 until 1985. During his years in Arkansas, Lew also served as principal arranger for the Arkansas Singing Men, a state music minister's singing group. In 1985, he moved his family to Jackson, Mississippi to serve as Minister of Music at Parkway Baptist Church from 1985-



1992. He next served as Music Assistant for Broadmoor Baptist Church in Jackson from 1993 until 1996. Currently, he serves as Minister of Music at Wynndale Baptist Church in Terry, Mississippi.

Lew's move to Mississippi brought more opportunity for his musical talent and leadership skills to be used in a broad range of activities. Since 1985, he has been the arranger and pianist for the Mississippi Singing Churchmen. He produced a recording of the group in 1999, and co-produced three recordings with the same group dating back to 1995. From 1997 to 1998, he served as the President for the Southwestern Seminary Mississippi Alumni Association. Also, he has served as Past President of the Mississippi Singing Churchmen, Past Associational Music Director for Metro Association of Jackson MS. Since 1995, he has been an active member of a small Promise Keepers Bible study-prayer-accountability group.

His other notable musical accomplishments include:

- Composing and arranging the youth musical, *Choices*, which was recorded and produced by Broadman (now Genevox) in 1983. *Choices* was the musical for nine Centrifuge weeks at Ridgecrest and Glorieta in 1983.

- Composing the song, *Witnesses*, which he co-wrote with the nationally known composer/arranger Tom Fettke of Word, Inc. in 1993. The International Mission Board in their Missionary Commissioning Services held around the Baptist Convention has used this song.

- Producing the Easter Pageant at Parkway Baptist Church in Jackson, MS that was televised on the National ACTS Television Channel.

- The Modulator, a CD Rom computer program that has generic modulations to go from any key to any other key that can be printed out.

In a recent phone conversation with Lew King I found that he is still an affable, honest, and totally committed Christian. He mentioned how much he is in love with his beautiful wife of 32 years, Linda Alice Armour. This marital commitment itself speaks volumes about the strength of character strongly rooted in Lew as a result of an intimate relationship with Christ. Third, I noticed throughout our conversation how much he tried not to dominate the conversation but defer to his wife her rightful place — a mark of a wise and caring husband. As a proud father, he gladly delineated interesting tidbits

about their two daughters and one son, as well as explained how each was doing in their adult life. His sincere love and care for his three children notably underlined his carefully worded comments about each of them. Finally, he mentioned how he and his wife would be celebrating being in love for 33 years in 2001.

Lew King epitomizes an alumnus whose musical accomplishments are only overshadowed by his genuine, loving efforts to put Christ first in all his relationships and endeavors.

Lew, what HBU classes or teachers had an impact on your development as a person and as a musician?

How?

“HBU had an excellent music school, and the professors and classes helped build on the music foundation laid by my piano teacher, Mrs. Margaret Sutton, while I was growing up. Lew Zailer was my organ professor and became special to me because he encouraged and challenged me in my organ studies. Also, Dr. Travis’ care class in Systematic Theology (don’t remember the actual course name) was profound — he was an incredible teacher, and I hung on his every word. Dr. R. Paul Green’s choral technique class as well as singing under his direction in the great Master Choral Work’s class was a wonderful musical worship experience. It was amazing what he could do with a choir. Dr. Calvin Huckaby’s literature class — Mrs. Elsa Jean Looser’s freshman English class — I could go on and on.”

Are there any memorable experiences from the HBU years that you care to share?

“I’ll never forget the chapel service when Bill O’Brien, a former international missionary to Indonesia, gave his testimony. He

had a marvelous high tenor voice, and he testified in between songs. The last song he sang was Roberta Bitgood’s *First Corinthians Thirteen*, a beautiful sacred song about love being the greatest of these. I was greatly moved by the whole service. I later got to accompany Bill at the banquet in Fort Worth while in seminary. Linda and I also had that song sung at our wedding.

I feel the relationships that I made in college were special. Many of them still last to this day. Remember the Four Winds folk group? Sonny Ivey, Mickey Hill, and Mike Davis and I were together for five years singing for youth meetings, revivals, and retreats. We had a blast, and even made a recording in a guy’s garage! We had a 20-year reunion a few years ago — we could remember the music but could not remember the words! Ah, senility! Those were great times together. Also, Carol Sylar Parrish lives here in Jackson, and she helps me with news on some HBU folks.”

What do you consider to be the highlight of your career?

“The thing that remains with me and continues to bless me is the relationships with people that I have made over the years in the various churches. Jesus’ ministry was all about people and relationships, and it’s still true today. My musical highlight is getting to lead an adult choir and orchestra and drama cast in recreating the Passion Week of Christ in an Easter Pageant. I think I have the best seat in the house — right in the middle of everything! I think choir, orchestra and drama are the great triumvirate.

About the author: Edward Flores, a 1972 HBU alumnus, received his Master of Science in Education at the University of Houston-Clear Lake. He is currently a bilingual instructor for Spring Branch ISD and is a member of the Christ Covenant Church of Houston worship team.

Tell us about your family and your hobbies.

“Linda Armour (a former HBU student) and I married in 1968 and have three wonderful children. Laurel, 26, has her masters degree in the German language and is married to Burkhard Thies, a fine young German man she met while an exchange student in Germany. Leanne is 23 and a senior viola major at Western Michigan University and will graduate this year. Landon is 19 and in the U.S. Navy in electronics school. The kids are all musical, fortunately for me, and I am so proud of them and their accomplishments. We had some great times on camping vacations with them out west in my Volkswagen Campermobile when they were children. Now we keep up with email and phone calls. My hobbies are computers, writing music, riding my Nordic Trak to stay fit, and ham radio.”

What are your plans for the future?

“For the future I plan to keep on serving my church and writing music for the Lord and His church. My roots are deep here in Mississippi. I love these people — they are the warmest, most loving and giving people I have ever met. They challenge me and inspire me with their commitment to Jesus. I’m glad the Lord led us here.”



Grace Notes

MUSIC ALUMNI UPDATE



Note: "Update" indicates students who were included in the previous issue of **HBUpbeat**. Addresses and phone numbers may be found in these editions or you can contact the **Upbeat** editor.

1969

CAROL S. COLE (Bond)
226 Shorewood Dr.
Valparaiso, IN 46385
219-462-5265
nwicoles@netnitco.net

Update: Retired
Married to William H. Cole.

1970

RENEE FRANSEE GRIFFIN
281-353-8624
jgriffin@flash.net

Update: She and husband are using some of their own property to raise exotic deer. Son, Jeremy, is studying Law at Stephen F. Austin Univ. Son, David, a junior at Klein Oak High School and a volunteer fireman.

1971

NANCY PARSONS
12363 South
1565 East
Draper, UT 84020
801-674-6027
nancyparsons@email.com

Update: Single once again. Has a 15 months old granddaughter.

1972

EDWARD FLORES
9001 Jones Rd #1011
Houston, TX 77065
281-477-7632
edward.flores@gte.net

Current Position: Bilingual/ESL
Teacher, Houston I.S.D.

Has been on four missionary trips to Cuba and is helping Cuban pastor to start an Hispanic church in Spring Branch. Attending College of Biblical Studies for B.A. in Theology. New grandfather as of March 18, 2000.

VICKI WILSON
(Drews-Davis)
vrwilson@ebi.net

Update: New Phone number-
662-844-0678
After one year as Choral Music Education director at Univ. of Mississippi, has been hired at Northeast Mississippi Community College to be director of Chamber choir and teach voice and piano.

MICHAEL L. PERRICONE
MPerric197@aol.com
281-469-0499

Update: Director of Purchasing, Clear Creek I.S.D. New granddaughter, Cameron Lea Carr, born March 8, 2000.

1973

NANCY HALL (Ramsey)
64 Eagle Rock Circle
Woodlands, TX 77381
281-367-1267
musiknkh@aol.com

Update: Selected as one of Who's Who in American Women 2000. Currently the owner of Hall's Family Musik and Kindermusik of the Woodlands.

Other degrees: attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

LEW KING
601-924-6535
lking629@email.msn.com

Update: Developed a new music ministry product, The Modulator, a CD software program that allows generic modulation from one key to any other key smoothly. Log on to the website, www.themodulator.com for more information.

CATHERINE E. GRIGGS
14107 Louan Ct.
Sugar Land, TX 77478
218-491-1547

Teacher, Sugar Land Middle School, Ft. Bend I.S.D. Will begin her 28th year as a school teacher this fall. Also, keyboard player for Fishers of Men Lutheran and Lexington Baptist churches.

1974

KARL R. MANGRUM
7739 Streamside Dr.
Houston, TX 77088
281-591-1219
karlmangrum@hotmail.com

Current Postion: Interim Music Ministry, First Baptist Church, Houston.

He and wife, Cindy, have surrendered to full time Christian service.

BARBARA MULLINS (Brown)
7203 Standard Rd.
Houston, TX 77355
281-356-3437
bamullins@mindspring.com

Other degrees: M.A. Chemistry,
Rice University

Currently Study Director,
Stillmeadow, Inc.

1975

ELIZABETH RUTH BEESON
713-688-3346

Update: Played drums professionally
in contemporary Christian groups at
St. Philips UMC and Terrace UMC.
Now plays piano at 1st UNM at
Westchase.

1982

ZVARTMINASSIAN
2119 Brinton Oaks Court
Katy, TX 77450
281-492-8989

Update: French Teacher, Houston
Community College. Teaches private
piano and is a member of the
Houston Music Teachers Association,
and the Katy Music Teachers
Association.

1984

ROBERTO GUINEA
6422 Grape
Houston, TX 77074
713-988-9941
rgtrsm@yahoo.com

Current Position: Guitar Teacher,
Johnston Middle School, H.I.S.D.

1985

KEVIN MCBETH
129 Woods Mill Road
Manchester, MO 63011
314-394-7506

Current Position: Director of Music
Ministries

ALAN T. REED
1510 Kings Hill St.
Bowie, MD 20721
301-218-8849
areed24552@aol.com

Currently Choral Director at Stephen
Dacatur MS. Associate Minister and
Choral Director, Mt. Zion Pentecostal
Church. Member of the Washington
Opera, Wolf Trap Opera Co., and the
Washington Concert Opera. Was
named "Teacher of the Year" in May
2000.

KEN BARTHOLOMEW
4722 Sunbird Dr.
Chandler, TX 75758
903-849-6889
kenbart@juno.com

Other Degrees: M. A. in Religious
Education, SWBTS.
Currently Minister of Music, West
Lake Baptist Church. Married to
Deana Walker and has two children,
Adam and Alyssa. Deana is also an
HBU alum. Was asked to be keynote
speaker at the National Honor Society
of Brownsboro High School and
conducted the Senior Choir for
Graduation exercises.

KATHY WELLS TERRELL
11502 Dumas
Houston, TX 77034
713-910-6480
terrelltk@usa.net

Current Position: Choir member,
Sagemont church and homemaker.

Homeschooling two children, Victoria
and Morgan.

HOLLY A. WOSTAL
158 Tahitian Dr.
Bastrop, TX 78602
512-332-0913

Current Position: Choir Director,
Bastrop High School.

Other Degrees: M.M Performance
Conducting, Univ. of Houston.

1986

MARK LUNSFORD
magi@ltw.net

Update: New address-
11 Quick Stream Place
Woodlands, TX 77381
281-362-8554

Currently a Pilot for Continental
Airlines, Choir member at Woodlands
Parkway Baptist Church, and a
volunteer dad at the Woodlands
Christian Academy.

HUGH POLAND
3231 Park Garden Dr.
Kingwood, TX 77339
281-360-0673
HughPoland@aol.com
hpoland@woodridge.org

Current Position: Minister of
Music/Worship, Woodridge Baptist
Church.

Update: Served as pianist and vocalist
with the Kingwood Pops Orchestra
for their "Big Band Encore."

DEIDRA J. BROWN (Young)
913-681-2478
deidrasings@prodigy.net

Update: Promoted to Assistant
Director of Kansas City Chorus.
Handbell director for Blue Valley
Baptist Church. Featured in "KC 150-
A Celebration of the Heart"- a
televised event celebrating Kansas
City's Sesquicentennial.

1987

DAN TUCKER
dtuck@swbell.net

Teacher at Cloverleaf Elementary,
Galena Park I.S.D. Owner of
Southwest Robe Co., Deer Park, TX.

1988

ELAINE DEALMEIDA
713-953-0926
sdealmeida@pdq.net

KIMBERLY KANE GILMER

11310 S. Kolbe Cir.
Cypress, TX 77429
281-970-3799
kimskeys@hotmail.com

Current position: Mary Kay sales director.

Involved in coordinating the music ministry at The Remnant Church. Married to Doug Gilmer and has three children, Joshua, Garret and Whitney.

DUSTIN RADABAUGH

New Address:
12514 Darryl Dr.
Buda, TX 78610
512-312-2594
dradabaugh@lwol.com

PAMELA SMITH

New Address:
12514 Darryl Dr.
Buda, TX 78610
512-312-2594
dradabaugh@lwol.com

JENNIFER KUBENKA

9020 Elbe Trl
Fort Worth, TX 76118
817-284-3432
emher@flash.net

Drummer for local belly-dance troupe. Started a Celtic rock band called "One Happy Man" and teaches private voice and piano.

1989**DINAH HANCOCK**

101 Hickory Dr.
Richwood, TX 77531
979-265-0994
rich@orbitworld.net

Music Teacher, Brazosport Christian School, Lake Jackson TX.

KATHRYN KELLY-WILKIE

281-482-7096
kwilkie@pdq.net

Assistant Band Director, Galveston Ball High School for five years now.

JOHN KEITH CUMMINGS

4613 Sandalwood
Rosenberg, TX 77471
281-344-0161
jkc123@flash.net

Other Degrees: Teacher Certification from Univ. of Houston.

Re-entered the teaching profession after a time as a general contractor. Science Teacher, Hodges Bend Middle School.

1991**PAM RHEA DISHONGH**

7102 Red Coral
Pasadena, TX 77505
281-998-1363
pdishongh@deer-park.isd.tenet.edu

Choir Teacher, Deer Park Junior High. Has two children, Adam and Brett.

JACK MANN, JR.

10227 Fleming Dr.
Houston, TX 77013
713-675-3909
revjack@evl.net

Ordained into ministry on March 5, 2000. Currently Associate Pastor and Youth Minister at First Baptist Church, Jacinto City, Texas.

CHRISTINA MILLER-SNELL

281-852-0483

Update: New baby boy as of December 17th 1999-Mitchell Blayne Snell.

1992**MICHAEL ANDREW GAINNEY**

mikegainey@hotmail.com

New Address:
MPA
Bldg 87 Box 12
Fort Monroe, VA 23651

Now in the US Continental Army Band.

SYDNEY HEALD YARBROUGH

Yarbrough_s@hccs.cc.tx.us

Served as technical director for Dr. Ann Gebuhr's opera, *Bonhoeffer*.

MARCY BAYLIS

281-412-3976
baylis2@pdq.net

Update: Teaching private voice and piano at the Bay Area Christian Performing Arts Center.

1993**DANA DAPKUS BARNES**

19932 Sutton Falls
Cypress, TX 77433
218-550-5412
tdjbarnes@juno.com

Now a member of the worship team at the Encourager Church in Houston.

CHARLES REID

1281 Wildwood Terrace
Union, NJ 07083
908-687-7222
singreid@attglobal.net

Update: Performed with the Sarasota Opera, L'Opera Francais de New York, Carnegie Hall, Maryland Handel Festival, and Wildwood Festival of the Arts. Many more upcoming events...

JOE MACDONALD

New Address:
9910 Villa Verde
Houston, TX 77064
281-970-6334
joecaz@dellnet.com

1994**ERIC MAXWELL RYE**

Update: Married Anne R. Heupel on July 29, 2000. New email address-emr2425@msn.com
New phone #-850-224-3693

RUSSELL WOODS

5015 Sitca
Spring, TX 77389

1995

TASHA MOSS-FOX

315 Magnolia
Channelview, TX 77530
218-862-9588
crackups@hotmail.com

Been a band director for 5 years and Department Chair of Electives at Galena Park Middle School. Currently wife to Jeff Fox and stay at home mother to new baby girl. Leads worship services at church, teaches private lessons and plays trumpet with the Gulf Coast Symphonic Band.

KEN HARVEY

2746 Leichester
Spring, TX 77386
281-353-6261
frenchfriedfish@yahoo.com

Trombone player for various musicals including "Annie," "Fiddler on the Roof," and "Arabian Knights." Played 2nd trombone in the "Billy Led Better Orchestra" Big Band. Currently teacher at Peet Jr. High in Conroe.

MELANIE HANCOCK KAHLEH

7430 Beechnut
Houston, TX 77074
281-649-3485

Update: Birth of new daughter, Karah Grace Kahleh, on April 30, 2000.

1996

JENNIFER HARGRAVE-MORAN

16322 Blossomwood Ln
Sugar Land, TX 77478
281-313-0438
princessjenni@prodigy.net

Update: Chorus member in the Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Houston. Performed *Patience* in July 2000.

GARY M. BROWN

Update: 713-226-5401
gbrown@sohmission.org

1997

WILBURN COUCH

2346 Triway
Houston, TX 77043
wlcouch@hotmail.com

Current Position: Band Director, James Hogg M.S. in Houston I.S.D.

Recently performed at TMEA as a member of the All-State Alumni Band. Married with three children.

CHAD C. GRANT

281-242-6835
ChadNHou@aol.com

Other degrees: MM Composition, Univ. of Houston.

Plans to teach college theory in the fall. Performer in the Masquerade Theatre in the Heights.

LINDA JAMES

402 S. 11th St. #21
Richmond, TX 77469
281-686-3267
birdflying@hotmail.com

Piano Instructor, Music and Sound in Missouri City. Music Director, First Colony Christian Church.

RACHAEL JANTZ

4406 Innsbrook Place
Sugar Land, TX 77479
281-491-9056

Current Position: Private vocal instructor.

Working as Music Assistant at St. John's UMC in Richmond. Mentor to high school students and a new mother as of April 1999.

1998

JAMES HALL

905 Houston #3
Takoma Park, MD 20912
301-587-2537
jhall4515@aol.com

Other degrees: MM, Univ. Maryland

1999

KEVIN KLOTZ

1102 Meadowlark Ln.
Sugar Land, TX 77478
281-491-1558
bartok135@aol.com

Current Position: Choir Director, St. Lawrence Music Ministry

Private piano teacher and accompanist. Pursuing a M.M. in choral conducting.

CHRISTINA WILLIAMS

mtjazz25@hotmail.com
281-895-6387

Currently fifth grade general music teacher at Parker Intermediate School, Aldine School District. Also working on an all-level teacher's certification at U of H.

KARINA ROMERO

3543 Lakearies Lane
Katy, TX 77449
281-647-6552
kvromero@yahoo.com

Currently working at Bank of America in International Private Banking.

SUSAN ANDERSON

5222 Cameran Creek Circle #237
Ft. Worth, TX 76132
817-292-4669
SAnder9430@aol.com

Teacher of Music and Spanish, Holy Family Catholic School. Director of Holy Family Catholic Church traditional choir and singer with Ft. Worth Civic Chorus.

RYAN CLARK

12655 Crossroads Park Dr. #516
Houston, TX 77065
281-477-0073
JamesBond1223@aol.com

Minister of Music and Youth, First Baptist Church Hearne, TX. Married Krista Lyon on Dec. 23, 1999 and now attending SWBTS to get masters in Church Music.

2000

STEPHANIE SIMMONS

14207 Woodforest Blvd.
Houston, TX 77015
713-455-6411
srs1739@hbu.edu

Currently working on Masters of Music Education at HBU.

KELLY CROSBY

13807 Ivymount
Sugar Land, TX 77478
281-242-4126
klcmusic@hotmail.com

DOROTHY SMITH

5305 Weaver Road
Houston, TX 77016
713-635-5050
dbs7473@hbu.edu

Music Specialist, Bush Elementary

VERONICA LYNN OLVERA

2111 Huckleberry
Pasadena, TX 77502
713-477-4665
vlynn20@aol.com

KELLY GRACE

18211 Kelly Blvd. #622
Dallas, TX 75287
972-306-1660
purplebass@aol.com.

FORMER STUDENTS

DAN UNGER

7510 Troulon
Houston, TX 77074

DAWN BLESSING HATFIELD

4301 E. 29th #176
Tucson, AZ 85711
520-750-4006

ALEX NAVARRO

909 E. Yorba Linda Blvd. #152
Placentia, CA 92870
714-267-3764
mr.alex@rocketmail.com

Other degrees: BM Jazz Studies,
Univ. North Texas

Keyboardist for contemporary
Christian band, "Basix." First album,
"Believe" available in stores

JOHN DE LA FUENTE

601-736-6610
john@woodlawnupc.org

Current position: Director of
Evangelism, Woodlawn Church.

Director and vocal coach of
Mississippi All-State Youth Choir.
Founder and director of the UPCI
Symphony Orchestra. Staff director
for the Impact 2000 National Con-
vention. Married to Leah Wallace and
has a baby on the way.

HBU Tours **Europe**

Travel with HBU faculty, students & alum.

WHERE:

Rothenburg, Munich Salzburg, Vienna,
Venice, Rome, Padua, Florence, Lucerne,
Versailles, Paris, London

WHEN:

June 5-25 (tentative) 21 days

WHAT IS INCLUDED:

Airfare, tour bus, hotel accommodations,
two meals per day, guided tours, historic
sites, museums, registration fee;
customs/security fees, tips, tour book.

TOUR COST:

Under 25 years of age - \$3,754
(three persons per room)

25 years or older - \$4,220
(two persons per room)

To receive an application and schedule
an interview contact:

Dr. Rhonda Furr

281- 649-3000, x2306 or rfurr@hbu.edu
Monthly payment plans are available.

**All Travelers will be interviewed.*



Friday

February 2, 2001

7:00 p.m. Tailgate Party

8:00 p.m. Bonfire

9:00 p.m. Alumni Social

For more information on
Homecoming activities contact
Don Anderson, Director,
Alumni Development, at
281-649-3428 or
danderson@hbu.edu

Saturday

February 3, 2001

1:00 p.m. Women's Basketball

3:00 p.m. Walk of Honor

3:30 p.m. Alumni Reception

4:30 p.m. Alumni Annual Meeting

5:15 p.m. Heritage Walk

5:45 p.m. Dinner

7:30 p.m. Men's Basketball

9:45 p.m. "Time Out" for a Reception

Music School Gives "Husky" Welcome to Three New Faculty Members

— by Chanda Dancy

With the onset of the Fall quarter comes the excitement of three of HBU's newest recruits. In the vocal department, Mrs. Lynda McKnight and Mr. Robin Roewe have come aboard, along with Dr. Richard Fiese in the department of Education.



Lynda McKnight is, first of all, an excellent vocal performer with a "significant national profile." She has sung with a plethora of renowned opera companies and institutes including the Washington Concert Opera, Israel Vocal Arts Institute, Shreveport Opera and the Metropolitan Opera. She has given numerous solo recitals and

masterclasses all across the United States and has earned several awards for her singing. Furthermore, McKnight is a successful university level vocal professor with seven years of teaching experience. She was Assistant Professor of voice at Baylor University from 1993 to 2000.



Robin Roewe is also an accomplished performer. He has sung with numerous opera companies such as the Des Moines Metro Opera, Baylor Opera Theater, and Simpson Opera Theater. He has also had a few performances with HBU in the past. Mr. Roewe has received accolades from prestigious competitions with the

Metropolitan Opera, Houston Opera and the Aspen Music

Festival, and has given a significant number of solo performances over the past few years. His teaching experience comes from Simpson College in Iowa, where he was Instructor of Music.

Dr. Richard Fiese

is an exceptional teacher of music education with impressive past teaching positions. He was Associate Professor of Music Education with the University of Miami from 1995 to 2000, and



with the University of Houston from 1989 to 1995. He was visiting professor at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro and guest lecturer at the Brazilian Federal High School District. He was Director of Bands at the Henry West Laboratory School in Florida for three years and Department Chairman of Music and Band Director of Cypress Lake High School in Florida for four years. He is a published author with over thirty publications on the market. He has given and participated in an astounding number of clinics and masterclasses all over the United States as well as given several research presentations for music educators conferences and research sessions.

The School of Music is quite excited about these valuable additions to the vocal and educational programs. All three are the paragons of excellence in their fields and we look forward to the excellence they bring to our University.

Upon interviewing these fine artists, they had quite a bit to say:

Q. What are your goals for your department and studio?

A. (McKnight) "As a teacher, I want to train my students to prepare them for their chosen careers. The Voice Department here has always held an excellent reputation as a small but fine program. I would like to enhance that reputation in three ways: by continuing to recruit the best young singers available; by offering them enough financial assistance to allow or convince them to attend HBU; and by giving them the absolute finest education possible, with excellent teaching, state-of-the-art facilities, and abundant opportunities that assist in their growth and development.

A. (Fiese) "The music education program needs to provide students with the preservice opportunities and experiences that will enable them to flourish as inservice music educators, and I need to make certain that this occurs. There must be a strong focus on developing foundational music pedagogical skills with practical, functional information and application. Moreover, our students need to be able to situate this learning within a sound philosophical framework whereby they can objectively analyze, criticize, and evaluate new trends, ideas, and techniques. Students need to have a balance between the traditional and the contemporary, including experience with appropriate technological advances and current understanding of the nature of the human experience. These are my generic goals for the program. Certainly, my personal goals include preparing our graduates with the ability to provide balanced, high quality music instruction for every child they encounter, and to successfully participate in the tradition of excellence that is the hallmark of Texas music education.

A. (Roewe) "I would really like to see our recruiting base extended. I know that there are fine musicians everywhere who would love the environment that HBU offers... they just don't know about us. I would also like to see our opera program grow as I think that this would be a positive recruiting tool for the school of music. I know as a solo singer, choir was quite beneficial and rewarding, but was not the major thrust of my singing experience. I feel that if the department wants to attract stronger and stronger singer/ musicians, it must increase the opportunities available to these students.

Q. Please share what led you to join the HBU School of Music.

A. (McKnight) "I was looking for a more challenging environment in a small program committed to growth. I was attracted by the warm, friendly atmosphere at HBU, and by the enormous potential found in students and faculty alike. I feel the Christian environment contributes greatly to a spirit of cooperation and collegiality, and gives me the opportunity to use my gifts in His service. I also welcomed a chance to return to Houston, my hometown, for many reasons: I am now close to family, and I love the exciting cultural and artistic scene here (not to mention the shopping!)

A. (Fiese) "I am convinced that my coming to serve on the faculty at HBU is providential. First and foremost, there was my desire to return to Texas, which is the only place that I have ever felt was home and the place where I am convinced that the level of wind and percussion performance and instruction is arguably the finest to be found. I also felt led to work in an environment that not only accepted the fact that God is the source of all understanding and discernment, but one that would encourage that perspective as a central tenet to the educational enterprise. I also had a desire to return to teaching in undergraduate music education, where I feel the greatest potential for influencing the profession in positive ways exists.

A. (Roewe) "The possibility to teach in a school of music where the curriculum was painted over the canvas of instilling Christian morals and values was quite attractive to me. The atmosphere is so different here at HBU compared to many schools of music with which I have been associated. I am also excited to be a part of the time of growth as the University moves toward the construction of the Center for American Culture.

Q. Please tell us about your family and your hobbies.

A. (McKnight) "I have been married for almost five years to a wonderful man, Cleavy McKnight, a geologist who works in Upstream Technological Computing for ExxonMobile Exploration. He's also a Houstonian and Baylor Alum. He loves music and is my biggest supporter. Our son, David, is 18 months old and a real handful. He's a very sweet, loving, child full of laughter and into everything! He loves our cats, blueberries, and anything that resembles a ball. My hobbies tend to fall into the Martha Stewart category: I enjoy decorating, and cooking. I am a member of the Junior League of Houston, and volunteer at the READ Commission Adult Literacy Center.

A. (Fiese) "My beautiful wife, Robin, a native of Spring, Texas, two wonderful dogs, and I constitute my immediate family. My wife and I have just celebrated our third wedding anniversary, so we have no grandchildren, (or human children, for that matter) yet. We enjoy kayaking, mountain biking, hiking, snorkeling, and rodeo and we have the scars to prove it. Robin is a high school band director who is currently teaching at Oak Ridge High School. She is a graduate of the University of Houston and was the recipient of the first scholarship for graduate studies offered by the Texas Music Educators Association.

A. (Roewe) "I have been married to my lovely wife, Suzanne, for nine years. We have two children. Adam is two and a half and Lauren is one and a half. My hobbies include reading classic literature, going to museums, and riding motorcycles. I also like to work on cars but not in the Houston summers (too hot for me!). I am also active in the music ministry at Tallowood Baptist Church where I sing in the choir and am a regular soloist for Sunday worship and special events.



INSTRUMENTAL

— Dr. Richard Spitz, Associate Professor

The year is off to a rousing start in the instrumental area. I am looking forward to great things! Enrollment this year in the band is 40 strong. This spring will see another first for the instrumental area with a concert tour by the band in late April.

A review of the events of the past year reveals another productive year. The symphonic band continues to grow musically. It performed three outstanding concerts, as well as the February graduation ceremony. Student conductors that have taken the reigns of the band this year have included Ruben Escobar, Ken Borak, Heath Hampton (*St. Martin Suite* by Van der Roost), Kathryn Chancy, (*Salvation is Created* by Tschesnokoff), and Jason Peguero (*Beau Ideal* by Sousa).

The jazz ensemble had another busy year performing at a private party in September, a guest artist concert in November, and a high school recruiting tour of HISD in January (Lamar, Wheatley, and Yates High Schools). The featured guest artist in the fall was Warren Snead and "Sax No End," with Thomas Hulten on trombone. (Dick Wilkie, an HBU affiliate artist, is a member of the ensemble.) It was truly a night of "burning be bop." The evening was even more unique in that one of the HBU string majors, Kathryn Orr, played a great improvised solo with the jazz ensemble. The HBU student/faculty jazz combo provided entertainment for the annual "Spirit of Excellence" program held at the Double Tree Post Oak Hotel and featured student vocalist Stephanie Simmons. The spring Convocation was a resounding success in April. Stephanie was featured once again along with Keith Eason on vocals.

The HBU chamber orchestra saw another first in the winter quarter. The entire string faculty joined forces with students and community members in a program presented in Mabee Theater. Faculty member Rodica Weber was featured with the ensemble on Vaughan William's *Lark Ascending*. Student soloists Lucina Reyes and Kathryn Orr were featured soloists on Bach's *Double Concerto* for violins. Two other selections (violin quartets) by Telemann rounded out the program. The HBU string players performed both in the fall and spring with the Houston

Civic Orchestra which rehearsed on campus this year. The spring program was under the baton of Dr. Spitz and featured fourteen HBU musicians in a program including Rhesphigi's *Pines of Rome*, Danzi *Concerto for Clarinet and Flute*, as well as Mozart's *Symphony No.40*.

The Faculty Brass Quintet performed a recital at HBU and at Bethany United Methodist Church as part of their performing arts series. They completed a recruiting tour in January visiting Northbrook, McArthur, Memorial, and Spring Woods High Schools.

Dr. Grady Hallman has continued his gracious sponsorship of the Rafael Mendez Brass Conference Scholarship. This year sophomore horn player Suzanne Switzer attended the conference in Cincinnati, Ohio. Suzanne describe her experience as, "... a life changing event."

The pep band activities have been greatly expanded with the addition of women's basketball. The year began with the annual performance at the "Welcome Days" festivities in Alvin and continued through February with pep rallies and a busy co-ed basketball schedule.

ALUMNI BAND!!!

Make plans to join us Saturday, February 3 (with your instrument) for homecoming 2001. It promises to be another exciting evening in the Husky tradition. Game time for the men's basketball is 7:30 p.m. We'll start playing at 7:00 p.m.

RECRUITING CONCERTS/CLINICS

If you would like to have an HBU ensemble performance at your school, clinic, or recruitment presentation, please be in touch. The Symphonic Band, Jazz Ensemble, and Chamber Orchestra are ready to "hit the road." Clinics by individual applied instructors can also be arranged. The wind, percussion and string faculty are eager to spread the word about what is happening at HBU. Please, stay in touch!

CHORAL

— Dr. John Yarrington, Director of Choral Activities

The 1999-2000 year marked the beginning of Dr. John Yarrington's work as Director of Choral Activities. In the November concert, "Musik's Jubilee," both the University Singers and the University Chorus sang to an overflow audience at St. Luke's United Methodist Church. Christmas saw the Singers at First United

Methodist Church, downtown Houston, in a noon concert as part of the church's Advent series. Both choirs, the band, assisting string players, handbell choir, and Focus led a Christmas celebration before students and faculty left for vacation.

After the Christmas break, a major premiere of a new Mass by HBU music faculty member, Daniel Kramlich, was presented by the University Singers and orchestra under Dr. Yarrington's direction at South Main Baptist Church. The University Chorus joined the singers in a performance of Henry Purcell's "Jubilate Deo and Te Deum."

In the spring, the University Singers presented a full choral program on tour through Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Mississippi, returning to Grace Presbyterian Church for a home concert.

Adding to the program for fall, 2000, is a newly-auditioned Chamber Choir which will debut at the November concert. In addition, a campus choir, CREDO, will be offered for students who are unable to sing in a regularly-scheduled choir during the day. CREDO will meet on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

In the planning is a nine-day trip to England which would be open to alums in the area in addition to the University Singers, Tentative dates are May 23-31, after the end of the spring quarter.

Choral music is alive and well at HBU.



University Singers and Orchestra premier Daniel Kramlich's Mass at South Main Baptist Church.

VOCAL

— Mrs. Billie Hagemeyer, Assistant Professor

The school year 1999-2000 was an eventful and exciting one for the voice department at HBU. Our students had the opportunity to perform in many different venues, including the world premiere of Dr. Ann Gebuhr's opera, *Bonhoeffer*. The work was performed at the Moores Opera at the University of Houston in May. Just having the opportunity to perform in this state-of-the-art performance hall was terrific, but it was especially exciting for the students to have the opportunity to work with such wonderful professionals as Dr. Robert Linder and a "real" orchestra, along with professional directors, lighting, costume, and set designers. The opera was a huge success. Our students sounded and looked like professionals.

On a sadder note for us, but happy for them, we saw Eugene Talley-Schmidt and Jeanette Lombard move to Georgia to begin their long-awaited retirement. They are doing well, according to an eyewitness who saw them this summer. I would like to say, on a personal note, that I miss them and thank them for being such wonderful colleagues during my time with them here at HBU. But, two fabulous singers/teachers have come to take their places: Lynda Keith McKnight, wonderful soprano and department chair and Robin Roewe, tenor extraordinaire. We wish them all the best as they begin their work here in Houston.

Our students did extremely well in the NATS competitions, both the regional auditions at the



NATS WINNERS

First row (l-r): Noelle Ferrada, Rachael Castillo, Amy Romero, Dalma Boronkai. Second row (l-r): Elisa Williams, Matt Parker, Roxamme Silva, Josh Wilson.

University of North Texas State last fall and in the local spring auditions here in Houston. Last fall we had almost half of our entries move into the semi-finals and one student, Dalma Boronkai, move into the finals, placing 4th in her division. This past spring, 12 of our students placed in the finals of the competition, and of the 12, six were first place winners. We are extremely proud and happy for the caliber of performance that these students showed there. 1999-2000 will be remembered as a very busy, productive and happy year for the voice department.

Faculty Update

DR. RHONDA FURR, *Associate Professor*

Dr. Furr was the guest organist for worship at the Heiliggeistkirche in Heidelberg, Germany and accompanied Houston's First United Methodist Church Choir in concert at the International Church Music Festival in Bern Switzerland. She performed an organ recital for the dedication of the new chapel organ at the First United Methodist Church at the Westchase campus. She recently accepted the position as organist for Grace Presbyterian Church in Houston.



DR. ANN GEBUHR, *Professor*

Dr. Gebuhr has been invited to serve a three-year term on the board of the Lutheran-Episcopal Division for Spiritual Formation. She has also received an invitation to present a paper on the opera *Bonhoeffer* at the Conference on Contemporary Opera at the Millennium to be held at Hofstra University in November. In addition, she has delivered lectures and presentations on *Bonhoeffer* to the Tuesday Music Club at the Brown Auditorium in the Museum of Fine Arts and at the River Oaks Country Club, as well as to the board of the Cultural Arts Council of Houston. She has also led two adult seminar sessions on Dietrich Bonhoeffer at Christ the Servant Lutheran Church. Dr. Gebuhr's *Bonhoeffer* was partially presented in concert performance at an international conference at Penn State University. The world premier was presented in May at the Moores School of Music Opera House in Houston by Houston Baptist University.



MR. JOHN HENDRICKSON, *Assistant Professor*

Mr. Hendrickson performed the dedication recital of a new piano and new sanctuary at the First United Methodist Church in Unalaska, Alaska. The piano was a gift to the church from Mrs. Norma Lowder. Mr. Hendrickson also led the Fourth Chamber Music Institute held on the HBU campus.



MR. DANIEL KRAMLICH, *Associate Professor*

Mr. Kramlich wrote a commissioned orchestral work for the Arkansas Symphony that was premiered in Crossett, Arkansas. His Mass for Chorus and Orchestra was premiered by HBU's University Singers at South Main Baptist Church and was directed by Dr. John Yarrington. Mr. Kramlich has been commissioned to write a brass quintet for the Houston Composer's Alliance that will be premiered in January 2001. His arrangement of *Shenandoah* for Handbells and Piano has been accepted for publication by Hope Publishing.



MS. NANCY MCCREARY, *Assistant Professor*

Ms. McCreary completed 20 years at HBU and received an award at the Honors Convocation. She also has completed ten years as an advisor to Freshman music majors. She toured with the University Singers as accompanist/sponsor last Spring.



DR. RICHARD SPITZ, *Associate Professor*

Dr. Spitz conducted the Texas Baptist All State Jazz Ensemble at Dallas Baptist University and The Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas. He has judged in music festivals for Houston Independent School District, Sharpstown Jazz Festival, Performing Arts Consultants and Music in the Parks. He has served as conductor for several programs with the Houston Civic Symphony. Dr. Spitz performances include a solo concerto performance with the Houston Civic Symphony, performing *Concertino* by Ferdinand David and a world premiere performance of *Texas Alter* by J. Todd Frazier with the Houston Ballet Orchestra at Wortham Center. He was guest soloist with the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts wind ensemble and performed a recital with the HBU Faculty Brass. Other performances include *The Nutcracker* with the Houston Ballet Orchestra; *Christmas According to Thomas Kinkaid*, with the Second Baptist Church of Houston Orchestra; Quintet. He played trombone as a back-up musician for two performances by rock music artist Don Henley. His recent CD release is entitled, *Alpine Express Live*.



DR. JOHN YARRINGTON, *Professor*

Dr. Yarrington conducted *Israel in Egypt* in two performances with the Houston Masterworks Chorus and Orchestra. He also was guest conductor for the Alabama Junior High All State Choir on the campus of Auburn University.



Dr. Yarrington was choir director for the Sumatanoa Youth Choir Week at Birmingham, Alabama, and the Northwest ACDA Junior High Honor's Choir in Seattle. In addition, he conducted TCDA Sessions in San Antonio and was guest director for Disciple Musicians National Music Week in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and for The Association of Disciple Musicians at The University of New Mexico.

Affiliate Artists

ANN RIVERS WITHERSPOON *Adjunct Composition*

DMA/MMA, Shepherd School of Music, Rice Univ.
BS, University of Texas at Austin

Dr. Witherspoon recently received the TMTA Composer Commissioning Program, 2001 Award. This award commissions her to write a composition for the June 2001 Convention to be held at the Wyndham-Greenspoint Hotel in Houston. Dr. Witherspoon was nominated by HMTA, and her work will be entered in the MTNA2002 competition.

New Affiliate Artists

PATRICIA HENDRICKSON

BM/Vocal Performance / Mount St. Mary's College

Patricia Hendrickson was a semi-finalist in the Western Regional Metropolitan opera Auditions. She has sung as

soloist with numerous community orchestras including the Texas Chamber Orchestra and Houston Metropolitan Symphony. She has performed with the Houston Grand Opera Chorus for several seasons and was a member of the Houston Concert Chorale. She also appeared as soloist at St. Paul's Methodist Church and Christ Church Cathedral in Houston and at The Woodlands Christian Science Church. Patricia and her husband, pianist John Hendrickson, artist-in-residence at HBU, frequently perform recitals together for various community events. Patricia teaches voice privately and is a frequent soloist for many church functions. She is presently the Music Director at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Cypress, TX.

BARRETT SILLS

BA / Yale University
MM / Yale School of Music

Barrett Sills was a scholarship student at Yale where he was teaching assistant to Aldo Parisot. He was recipient of the Maxwell Belding Internship Award by the Yale School of Music. He has performed with orchestras in six countries and was a prizewinner in competitions in Germany, France and Brazil. He has been a frequent performer of chamber music in the Midwest and Texas. He is also an active performer of early music, playing both the baroque cello and the viola da gamba. He has performed as soloist with the Houston Symphony and Houston Grand Opera. He is a founding member of both Ayres and Fancies and Arts Lyrica Houston. He was teacher at the Conservatoire National de Boulouge-Billancourt near Paris and more recently on the faculty at Southwestern University in Georgetown. Currently he is principal cellist of the Houston Ballet Orchestra.

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organized and conducted performing tours to cities across the United States. At HSPVA, she organized programs in Houston's Sister Cities program including Norway, Scotland, France, Taiwan, and Japan. From the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts, in conjunction with the White House, she received the Distinguished Teacher in the Arts Award. She also worked with her late husband, Earle, in music ministry at Bellaire United Methodist Church, where she now holds the title of "Organist Emeritus."

In 1992, Mrs. Lowder moved to University Place (UP), a retirement community adjacent to the HBU campus, and became both neighbor and friend to Houston Baptist University. Her combined love of music and education made the connection between herself and the School of Music a natural alliance. She supports music majors by attending 60-

80 student performances every year. She also attends weekly convocations and guest lectures, has audited seven classes, hosts luncheons for faculty and new staff, and invites faculty and students to perform at University Place. It is not uncommon to receive pictures and a hand-written note from Norma after a performance or special occasion. She often travels with camera in hand, ready to snap a picture that will be cherished by its subject for years to come. Beyond personal and professional support, she provides financial support for students in need of assistance. She acts as liaison between HBU and University Place, truly offering a "friendship bridge" between the two places. The worn path between UP and HBU over the Friendship Bridge (a footbridge between the two campuses) is certainly that

belonging to Norma. She was honored as one of HBU's outstanding volunteers at the NSFRE National Philanthropic Day. According to Dr. Doug Hodo, President of Houston Baptist University, "Norma is a faithful friend and participant in several areas of campus life. Her primary interest, however, is for students in the fine arts department. She endeavors to attend every musical performance, is a true champion for the arts on campus and encourages individual students in numerous ways. She represents the best of mutual interest between University Place and Houston Baptist University."

Over the years, Mrs. Lowder has donated many exquisite books to the HBU Moody Library. The most recent contribution is her collection of Gilbert and Sullivan books, periodicals, recordings, costume sketches, and other memorabilia. The collection, donated in honor of Dr. Robert Linder, HBU's former Dean of Fine Arts, will be called the *Robert J. Linder Gilbert and Sullivan Collection* and housed in the newly-named Norma Lowder Room in Moody Library. In a letter of appreciation of the Gilbert and Sullivan gift, Dr. Jon Suter, Director of Moody Library, stated, "Your gifts, over the years, have been overwhelming. I am at a loss for words to describe the magnitude of this further gift."

Supporting HBU is only one of many service-oriented projects adopted by Mrs. Lowder. For the past five years, she has done mission work in Unalaska, a small island 800 miles southwest of Anchorage. In addition to fund raising and sending needed items to Steve Lambert, pastor of the First Methodist Church in Unalaska, she has completed extensive research on the Aleutian Islands, aiding the town's



Steve Lambert and Norma Lowder in Unalaska.

historical society. Most recently she researched and selected a beautiful Ibach grand piano for the church, shipped the instrument to Alaska, and traveled with pianist John Hendrickson, Artist-in-Residence at HBU, to Unalaska for the dedication program. She has also completed a 200-page biography of Dr. and Mrs. Newhall, missionaries to the Aleutian Islands from 1898-1925. In June of this year, Mrs. Lowder was recognized by both the Alaska Missionary Conference and the Texas Methodist Annual Conference for her work in Unalaska.

In addition to her work with HBU and the congregation in Unalaska, Norma spends significant time volunteering her services at Southwest Memorial Hospital and University Place. She was also recently named Chair of the University Place Residence Association Endowment Foundation.

Named Distinguished Mentor Emeritus for the School of Music, Mrs. Lowder's legacy to the music program at HBU is extremely significant. Dr. Ann Gebuhr, Director of the School of Music, stated, "Norma Lowder has been an incredible blessing to the School of Music. Her tireless and wonderfully generous efforts on behalf of our students, her friendship and support for everyone on the Music faculty, and her enthusiasm, loyalty and constant interest and help are both heartwarming and humbling. This year she has been honored with an endowed scholarship in her name for music students—another blessing which will have a wonderful impact on the School of Music and its students for years to come."

Although she had no biological children of her own, this remarkable woman has impacted the lives of thousands of students from elementary school through college. Since officially retiring from her dual careers in education and church music, she has continued learning in numerous venues, making several mission trips to Alaska (conquering a lifetime fear of flying), learning to surf the web, auditing college classes, and directing innumerable volunteer projects. The consummate student, she offers this advice for other alumni:

"Study so that you may seek to serve. Do not at any age or stage in life fail to continue the learning process. It may be the technique needed to perform a new composition. It may be, and often should be, in a different field, far removed from music; all learning will help mold you into a richer person.

Learn about the world and the marvels of its differing, yet unified, people. Travel as you are able to learn these things first hand.

Study the tenets of your faith. Never do we learn all there is to know about the beliefs we profess. The culmination of study should be service to your family, your community, your profession, your God. No greater satisfaction, no greater achievement, can be yours.

Dr. Lloyd Pfautsch said it well when he named an anthem commissioned in memory of my husband:

"Seek to Serve."

The School of Music
HOUSTON BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

Fall Quarter Concert Schedule

SEPTEMBER 10
9:00 a.m.
University Singers
Grace Presbyterian Church

OCTOBER 26
7:30 p.m.
Jazz Ensemble
Glasscock Activities Center

NOVEMBER 3
8 p.m.
Fall Choral Concert
Grace Presbyterian Church

OCTOBER 5
8 p.m.
Faculty Recital
Lynda Keith McKnight
Mabee Theater

OCTOBER 28
7:30 p.m.
Composition Masterclass
Alfonso Montecino
Site TBA

NOVEMBER 7
7:30 p.m.
Symphonic Band
First Baptist Church, Bellaire

OCTOBER 10
8 p.m.
Chamber Music Concert
Mosaic
Mabee Theater

OCTOBER 30
4 p.m.
Piano Masterclass
Alfonso Montecino
Mabee Theater

NOVEMBER 11
8 p.m.
Senior Recital
Armando Rodriguez,
Classical Guitar
Mabee Theater

OCTOBER 20
8 p.m.
Faculty Recital
Rodica Weber, Mihaela Oancea-
Frusina and John Hedrickson
Mabee Theater

Winter Quarter Concert Schedule

DECEMBER 1
8 p.m.
Faculty Recital
John Hendrickson
Mabee Theater

JANUARY 25
7:30 p.m.
Opera Workshop
Mabee Theater

FEBRUARY 8
7:30 p.m.
University Orchestra
Mabee Theater

JANUARY 16
8 p.m.
Faculty Recital
Tre Voci
Mabee Theater

JANUARY 26
7:30 p.m.
Opera Workshop
Mabee Theater
(repeat of Jan. 25)

FEBRUARY 16
8 p.m.
Winter Choral Concert and
Symphonic Band
Sites TBA

Spring Quarter Concert Schedule

MARCH 15
Next! Concert
Student Composers
Mabee Theater
Time: TBA

MAY 3
7:30 p.m.
Opera Workshop
Mabee Theater

MAY 6
6 p.m.
Symphonic Band
Williams Trace Baptist Church

APRIL 24
8 p.m.
Tre Voci
Mabee Theater

MAY 4
7:30 p.m.
Opera Workshop
Mabee Theater
(repeat of May 3)

MAY 8
7:30 p.m.
Jazz Ensemble
Glasscock Activities Center

APRIL 29
University Orchestra and
Choral Concert
Site/Time TBA