

Director's Letter

Dear Friends –



Can you believe it has been 10 years since I was the HBU Dean of Fine Arts — followed by retirement? Guess What? I'm back ... It was with a great deal of excitement that I agreed to return to HBU School of Music

— a place that has left an indelible print upon my heart. The coming academic year will be very challenging as we continue along the path of producing tomorrow's finest music teachers, performers and church musicians. Once again, I will be a member of a team of superior artists and teachers. It will be a pleasure to serve as director for this outstanding faculty.

I want to take this opportunity to thank those alumni, faculty and friends who were kind enough to acquire a "Dr. Robert Linder" brick as part of the HBU Heritage Walkway in 2004. It was a wonderful surprise and most deeply appreciated.

It is my sincere desire that the academic year 2004-2005 be one of forward motion and continued musical excellence as a search is conducted for a new administrator in Humanities and Music.

I also want to sing the praises of Dr. Ann Gebuhr who provided outstanding leadership for the School of Music during the past 10 years. As she returns to the classroom and finds more time for her composition work, we wish her the very best. Recognition and awards keep arising for this talented composer. It is so great to have her as a colleague and friend.

In closing — as we begin this new school year there is high expectation that in the very near future HBU will be moving closer towards its own performing facility. To that we say — onward and upward.

Sincerely,

Dr. Robert Linder
Interim Director
HBU School of Music

Dr. Dan Kramlich

— Rhonda Furr

The Passionate Encourager

Dr. Dan Kramlich may well be the most colorful personality in the School of Music. Students who have studied under him know of his quick wit, his amazing gifts on the piano and his love of theory, history and trivia. Colleagues count on him to think beyond the box in committee meetings. Musicians know of his keyboard technique and improvisational skills. His church responds to his gifts in ministry. His completion of his doctorate this year is testimony to his ability to multi-task with teaching responsibilities, family commitments, church ministry and graduate school projects. During his 23 years at HBU, Dr. Kramlich has touched many lives and inspired countless students. We call him teacher, colleague, and friend, but it is his warmth, wit and pervasive optimism that endears this gifted man to all who know him.

Dan grew up in a pleasant home as the middle child in a family of seven. Although classical music was of little interest in his family, at the age of seven he asked his parents to allow him to take piano lessons.



I started begging (bugging?) my parents to let me study piano, even though we lived in a fairly small house (small for two adults and five children) and did not own a piano. Not anxious to invest in a piano and then see the investment wasted on the fleeting whim of a seven-year-old, we all agreed on a deal in which I would practice at the house of a family friend across town. So every day after school (second grade), I would walk to her house, knock on the door, be allowed to practice for a half hour, and then walk the mile or so home. Ironically, my piano teacher lived across the street! This went on for over a year and a half, until one glorious day we finally got our own piano.

Self-motivated and in a nurturing, competition-free environment, Kramlich progressed rapidly toward his goal of being able to perform Rachmaninoff's Prelude in C# Minor. In the eighth grade, he auditioned and was accepted into the studio of Dr. Wilbur Hollman of Cedar Crest College, where competition with other talented young pianists encouraged him to excel. In addition to piano lessons, his involvement in musical organizations fostered friendships with other young musicians in the region. He was involved with Music Club (affiliated with the National Association of Music Clubs) from at least 5th grade through his senior year in high school, serving in various leadership roles including president. *"I would recommend the experience to anybody because it was there that I made friendships with people outside my high school and was offered plenty of solid performance experience."* Kramlich's most memorable experience with Music Club was a field trip to New York City to hear one of Leonard Bernstein's last Young People's Concerts in 1968.



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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.

VISION, MISSION AND PURPOSE

VISION

To be recognized as one of metropolitan America's premier academic Christian institutions.

MISSION

Houston Baptist University, a Christian, liberal arts institution, prepares students for meaningful lives and work, and for service to God and the peoples of the world.

Approved by the Board of Trustees, February 26, 2002

PURPOSE

The University welcomes and extends its resources to those who strive for academic excellence. The faculty, staff, and administrators are committed to providing a responsive and intellectually stimulating environment that:

- fosters spiritual maturity, strength of character, and moral virtue as the foundation for successful living;
- develops professional behaviors and personal characteristics for life-long learning and service to God and to the community;
- meets the changing needs of the community and society; and
- remains faithful to the "Nature of the Institution."

The University offers a broad range of programs and services committed to liberal arts education that are designed to promote the growth of the whole person. The undergraduate programs familiarize students with the principal bodies of knowledge, cultural viewpoints, belief systems, and aesthetic perspectives that affect them and their world. The graduate programs provide advanced educational opportunities to develop ethical and capable scholars and practitioners who can contribute to their academic disciplines and to society. The integration of scholarship, service, and spirituality essential to liberal arts education is nurtured in an environment of open inquiry.

Approved by the Board of Trustees, February 2000

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, College of Arts & Humanities

Dr. Robert Linder, Interim Director, School of Music

*HBU*beat is published each fall by the HBU School of Music. This newsletter 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:

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From the Editor:

Dear Alumni:

The heart of the alumni newsletter is *Grace Notes*. Thank you for submitting information that allows us and your friends to celebrate your accomplishments and keep informed with the events in your lives. New to *Grace Notes* this year is the inclusion of pictures. I hope that the number of pictures will grow next year. Pictures of you, your family, your performances or performing groups ... all are welcome!



Ruffino

My assistant editor is Toni Ruffino, a senior church music major. Prior to her study at HBU, Toni completed a B.A. at TAMU. She has worked for non-profit organizations, taught elementary school music, as well as applied lessons, and has been a church musician for over 10 years. Her return to HBU in the Fall of 2002 was to fulfill her life-long dream of a degree in Church Music. Toni is a brilliant student, a gifted writer, a dedicated church musician and personal friend. It has been my joy to work with her on this newsletter. She will be missed next year when she joins your ranks as an alumnus of our fine University. Thank you, Toni!

It was a delight to write this year's feature article on my colleague and friend, Dan Kramlich. The editing process can be painful as one is required to cut and downsize letters and noteworthy news. The amount of material used for Dan's article could have filled this entire newsletter. As a final personal reflection on my friend of 15 years, it occurred to me that I have never known Dan Kramlich to say an unkind word about anyone. Dan, you are a gift!

Sincerely,

Rhonda Furr, *Editor*

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Dan's teenage years were transformational. He maintained an active performance and competition schedule. At the age of 13, he competed in a concerto competition, making it to the final round of competition before losing to a 21-year old that performed Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3.



As the middle child with four siblings, including brothers without musical interests, Dan learned that being accepted into their company meant he had to also participate in sports. He played

organized baseball and football until high school and varsity tennis throughout high school and college. Even now, Dan continues to play softball every weekend. Kramlich notes that sports and music are not always compatible.

The stupidest thing I ever did involved a performance of Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue — I was the guest soloist at Allentown PA's Symphony Hall in a concert on, ironically, April 1st in my senior year in high school. The Thursday prior, I was in gym class playing volleyball, of all things, and did not demonstrate even a shred of common sense when I went up aggressively for a "kill shot." The only thing I killed was my right thumb, which began swelling badly almost immediately. I did have the sense to call my parents right away and go to the hospital. After three visits to the doctor in two days, we returned on Saturday to have the cast removed. Immediately the four of us (myself, my parents, and Dr. Weston) trekked through the entire hospital, looking for a piano so I could try out my hand and inform the conductor (the late Alburtus Myers) whether or not I would be performing the following day! In the Children's Ward, we found a rinky-dink piano that had been painted powder blue; I sat down and (not without pain) played through the Gershwin. I said, 'Let's do it' and we called the conductor. I played the concert with an Ace bandage supporting my right thumb, and even got a very favorable newspaper review.

Dan learned valuable lessons from his parents who supported each of their five children by affirming who they were as individuals. His siblings' professions attest to their differences and parental support. Richard is a two-star general in the Marines, Michael is a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America, Joanne is a heavy machinery transportation supervisor, and Alice is an Emergency Room nurse.

Perhaps the most important thing I have learned from my parents is to create an environment in which children can grow up believing that they can achieve their own dreams. Our parents not only supported us as we dreamed, but

assisted us with our professional life choices. I also learned that the sacrifice a parent makes doesn't need to be disclosed or held over the child's head. Although my piano lessons with Dr. Hollman were very taxing to the family budget, I never heard a word about it from either of my parents for all those years. My own ability to express my thanks came later, when I dedicated my Mass to them in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary.

The transition to college was a wonderful experience for Kramlich who enjoyed his association with music peers. His undergraduate study was completed at Lebanon Valley College, a liberal arts institution in central Pennsylvania, where he majored in piano performance. He chose Lebanon Valley both for its small size and intimate setting, as well as to study with William Fairlamb. In a recent phone conversation, Fairlamb remembered Kramlich as a good student, an interesting person, and a lively guy with a good sense of humor. *"I remember that we got along together well, which is very important for a student/teacher relationship."* At LVC, Kramlich also received his first instruction in composition, working with Thomas Lanese. Kramlich performed one of his own works on his senior piano recital.

LVC was an excellent experience for me in a lot of ways. I expanded my interests and activities in many areas: jazz, ensemble playing (I accompanied a LOT), choral music (I was in the Concert Choir, and was even Bass section leader), conducting, and other things. I think the reason I loved my LVC years so much was because I was challenged to develop new skills and allowed to be myself. I even played classical and light jazz 'happy hour' music at a country club and can remember thinking how terrific it was to be paid for doing something that was so much fun!

Another influential teacher was Dr. Robert C. Lau. It was Lau's encouragement that helped Dan decide to pursue music theory as a teaching profession.

I remember Dan as a friendly, yet serious, student. It was obvious from his musical talent and intellect that he would be no 'ordinary' music student. Congratulations, Dan, from one of your former teachers. My best to you on this occasion and in the future.

Robert Lau, *former music theory teacher*
Lebanon Valley College

After completing his undergraduate degree, Kramlich enrolled in graduate school at Indiana University. The transition from a small, intimate college setting to one of the largest music schools in the world (filled with world-class musicians) was a radical change that provided both challenges and competition. After completing a Master's in Music Theory with a piano minor, Dan continued directly into the PhD Theory program where he studied piano and composition.

Kramlich studied with Dr. Beversdorf who he describes as *"one of the most important figures in my personal and*

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professional life." Dr. Beversdorf's encouragement inspired Dan and helped him build confidence in his composing abilities.

As a theorist, he is superb; as a composer, he was rather timid in presenting his works at first. However, I have found he has the capacity of a very thorough and capable composer indeed, in spite of his modesty ... He has a marvelous creative impulse, and I expect him to be a most gifted composer.

Dr. S.T. Beversdorf (deceased)
Former theory professor, Indiana University
(Letter of Recommendation, 1/19/81)

One of the most important events in Kramlich's professional life was his appointment as a graduate teaching assistant at IU. Classroom teaching experience is a major asset for candidates looking for full-time teaching positions, and Kramlich taught theory at IU all four years he was in residence.

I truly considered it a sort of 'apprenticeship' in my field. I taught under two amazing theorists/educators: Dr. Allen Winold, and Dr. Mary Wennerstrom. Day-to-day classroom work and course management skills were on display, and I soaked up as much of it as I could. In my first year of doctoral coursework (my third year at IU), I was rewarded the honor of supervising second-year theory, ultimately coordinating a staff of eight subordinate grad-teaching assistants and 180 students. It was this hands-on experience that solidified my abilities as a college teacher.

In 1981, Dan was recruited for the faculty position at HBU by Dr. Ann Gebuhr and hired by the new Dean, Dr. Robert Linder. With his orals and dissertation yet to complete, he accepted the position because HBU so closely resembled the positive, intimate setting of undergraduate school. The move was complicated by the arrival of Dan's first child two weeks prior to the moving date.



We moved to Houston on the 25th of August, with 15-day-old Lauren in the back seat of our VW Rabbit! I was treated with amazing kindness by the faculty (who may have been a bit nervous to see this 26-year-old "rookie" in their midst).

Ann Gebuhr put us up in her home until our moving van finally showed up with our belongings, and we moved into a townhouse that Virginia Babikian arranged for us to rent.

In 2003, Dan completed a Doctorate in composition at the University of Houston under the direction of Dr. Michael Horvit. The load of teaching full-time, parenting, serving in music ministry at church and working to complete the doctorate provided Dan with major challenges. Yet, he managed to juggle all in order to complete the degree.



During his tenure at HBU, Dan Kramlich has contributed to the theory program, both in the classroom and as chair of the curriculum committee. In the classroom, he teaches as much from the piano keyboard as from a textbook or blackboard. Need to hear a Neapolitan chord or a fully diminished 7th chord in the context of a composition? Kramlich can play you examples from favorite compositions on the piano. Want to hear the difference between Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin, and Copland? You need only to ask Kramlich, who can take a simple folk tune and play it in the style of each of these composers. In the applied studio, Dr. Kramlich has a faithful following of former students whose lives he influenced.

I have always admired Dr. Kramlich because of the way he has thoroughly integrated his knowledge of music history and theory into his performance. He is knowledgeable of many historical periods and genres of music (including popular genres), and quickly transfers this knowledge into his playing, making him the best type of practical musician. Also, he makes music fun.

Carol Nave '97

Kramlich and Ann Gebuhr have collaborated to revise and improve the music theory curriculum. Their goal to provide the best possible experience for students during their study of theory at HBU can be seen through the changes to the theory program over the years.

Dan has brought energy, delightful wit and constant intellectual stimulation to the theory program at HBU, and he is a wonderful composer. He's been an inspiration to his students — and to me!

Ann Gebuhr, *Chair, Theory Department*

Dan has offered extensive service to the University as a pianist in many different venues. The versatility of Dan's musical abilities amazes all who hear him perform. One might hear him play a challenging 20th century composition in recital one night and jazz piano the next. (He was the pianist in the jazz band under Bob Zwick.) He might provide light, entertaining music for a social occasion on campus in the afternoon and provide the orchestral accompaniment for a piano concerto on a recital in the evening. When asked to perform at HBU, regardless of the venue or the time involved, Dan can be counted on to participate. He is a team player, assists his colleagues whenever possible and gets along with those around him.

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Thank you, Dr. Ann Gebuhr

— Rhonda Furr

After 10 years as Director of the School of Music, Dr. Ann Gebuhr has returned to the classroom where she can focus on her two loves: students and composition. She has earned the respect of colleagues through her wisdom, academic and scholarly endeavors, administrative leadership, caring personality, spiritual depth, personal integrity and compositional gifts.



During her tenure as Director, Dr. Gebuhr made significant contributions to the School of Music and to the University. Under her leadership, new faculty were hired; student enrollment increased; office spaces were reconfigured; hours were spent on design ideas for our new performing spaces; a computer Finale lab was added; the music degree programs were revised;

Clef Notes (our journal of showcase papers and compositions) was created; yearly symposiums were implemented through the Christianity and the Arts program; national and international recognition was brought to HBU through her compositions and lectures; the amount of scholarship funds available for music students was increased; and she provided an atmosphere in which everyone could use their creative energies to improve the quality of education within the School of Music.

Dr. James Taylor, Dean for the College of Fine Arts and Humanities, affirmed Dr. Gebuhr's service to the College. *"Ann served for six years as Associate Dean of the COAH in addition to her duties as Director of the School of Music. I could always count on her wise counsel, vision, and ability to think globally. Ann is the consummate professional."*

Dr. Gebuhr recently noted that her return to full-time teaching will provide her more time to spend with students and colleagues, as well as class preparation and composition. *"I also am excited about renewed involvement in my specialties — Penderecki studies and composition. Her spring sabbatical leave will be spent in Houston working on Mass for Peace for chorus, soloists, organ, brass and percussion."*

Ann, we celebrate with you as you return to the classroom and the students you love so dearly. We welcome you back as a colleague in a faculty role, and we look forward to hearing and performing your new compositions. Thank you for your rich legacy, for your hours of labor and sacrifice on our behalf, and for remaining our friend through these past 10 years!

Dr. Robert Linder returns as Director of School of Music

— Toni Ruffino '05

Excitement charges the atmosphere as students and faculty welcome back Dr. Robert Linder as Interim Director of the School of Music for the 2004–2005 academic year. Dr. Linder first joined the HBU faculty in 1969 and was named the dean of the College of Fine Arts in 1982, serving in this capacity until 1994. When asked about Dr. Linder's return to the faculty, Dr. Don Looser, Vice President for Academic Affairs, commented, *"This year will afford the School outstanding leadership for the year, and will enable the University to engage in its search for new leadership in an orderly and timely manner. We are grateful to Dr. Linder ... he is an active musician, well-respected in the city, and familiar with the music faculty and our academic program. This appointment marks the return of a good friend and outstanding colleague."*



Dr. Linder shares the enthusiasm of students and faculty as he begins his new position: *"I have a deep love for Houston Baptist University because of the way I was treated during my 25 years on the faculty. I felt that it was the right thing to give back to the institution where I had spent the major part of my academic life."* HBU has transformed in many ways since Linder's first days with the University. He recalls his earlier years when the School of Music shared one computer and no one knew how to use it. More importantly, Linder believes the University is better in every way, *"from teaching to publications, in student talent and academic accountability ... I am impressed. Our University is doing well."*

Dr. Linder's community involvement and commitment to excellence will powerfully impact HBU's School of Music in the coming year and for years to come. He looks forward to helping realize the dream of a new Cultural Arts Center for our campus. He also hopes to increase the scholarship funds to keep HBU competitive with sister institutions.

"We have a wonderful faculty in the School of Music, and I want to establish an environment where they can grow professionally and do their best teaching. That is a large task, but I welcome it. Our students expect the best from us and we have the faculty quality that will set them on the proper track for a successful career in music. This is our commitment."

The success and progress of both students and faculty will no doubt reflect the personal care and heartfelt dedication of Dr. Robert Linder to each individual in the School of Music. Welcome back, Dr. Linder!

Goodbye, Mom!

A Farewell to Nancy McCreary

After 25 years of service, Nancy McCreary retired from HBU at the end of Spring quarter. Her care for the HBU music students over the years, particularly the freshman, earned her the affectionate nickname "Mom."

Ms. McCreary completed her Bachelor of Music degree in piano at Baylor University, and in 1979, she was hired at HBU as an administrative assistant in the Music Department. She completed a Master's Degree in Music Accompaniment at UH the hard way: one to two courses at a time while she worked full time and raised a family as a single parent. After her promotion to a faculty position, she added teaching to her other duties. While on sabbatical, she attended Texas Tech University and completed coursework for her doctorate. Nancy also served in an administrative role as Music Coordinator and Keyboard Coordinator for the School of Music. Perhaps one of her greatest contributions to the School of Music and the University was as an advisor to students. She was the winner of the University's Outstanding Advisor Award in 1993 and named Faculty Woman of the Year in 1995.

Nancy is excited about retirement. "I am truly looking forward to catching up at home and becoming more involved in activities during the week at church. I look forward to church choir and senior adult activities and expect to volunteer for a reading ministry program at church." She also volunteers as an interim tutor in the Alief School District. Finally, she looks forward to spending more time with her two grandchildren, Caitlyn and Ryan.

TESTIMONIES AND THANKS:



Colleagues

When I arrived as a new faculty member at HBU, I learned quickly that Nancy was the one to call with questions about degree requirements. Through the years, she was the first person I would call with advising questions. Her care for our students and for us helped bring us together as a family.

— **Rhonda Furr**

When Nancy first came to HBU, she brought her always present smile, her wonderful organizational skills, her exquisite musicianship as an accompanist and ensemble pianist, and her unflinching love for the students and her colleagues. Those four gifts were constant and foundational through all of her years at HBU and through all of the very large changes in her role with the School of Music. She is a wonderful musician and a cherished colleague.

— **Ann Gebuhr**

Nancy was so kind and helpful to me in my first few months at HBU! Besides her extraordinary kindness and constant pleasant attitude, Nancy's list of strengths includes excellent curriculum troubleshooting skill. During curriculum or keyboard department discussions, Nancy was always able to find the hidden flaws and loopholes in curriculum or procedure proposals. She was always able to explain her position clearly, and always proved to be a valuable member of any such group work.

— **Dan Kramlich**



Nancy McCreary was a major contributor in her long tenure with HBU. She was a strong music coordinator in her early years before changing directions to utilize more of her teaching skills. Nancy always found ways to balance her church life, her home life and her HBU academic life. She was a student advocate-- always aiding with our aspiring young musicians. She was at home accompanying, in the classroom or managing our music office. She had much to offer to our Music School.

— **Robert Linder**

I owe a large debt of gratitude to Nancy McCreary. She's the one who taught me "the ropes" for how things are done in the Music Office. When I first came to work here in August, 1987, Nancy held forth in the Music Office in the morning and then we had a "changing of the guard" at noon. I came in and stayed until 5 p.m., while Nancy went off to accompany University Singers, teach piano, etc. She was very patient with me while I learned the job. I have always known her to be hard-working and dedicated to serving the interests of our students. She has been a devoted mentor to so many students and for that we all owe her a huge THANK YOU!

— **Mary Ellen Spore**

Nancy and I worked next door to each other in my short time at HBU. I love that woman! I tried for five years, however, to get the better of her just once....and never succeeded! No matter what comment I made her rejoinder was immediate and "right back at ya." I value Nancy as a musician and teacher and saw many, many times her ministry side, especially with the students who fell through the cracks. I value her even more as a friend and as a special person. Nancy: You are missed already. Come back and see us.

— **John Yarrington**

Students

Thank you for being such a faithful and forgiving accompanist. You are the best at making the soloist be the star. I am also grateful for your patience in teaching me piano. My saxophone fingers and brain did not want anything to do with a keyboard, they still don't but your patience with me gave me the basic knowledge and skills that are so necessary for a band director/music teacher. Happy trails!

— **Wilburn Couch '97**

A heartfelt thanks for your assistance and guidance while I was completing my degree in music at HBU. You brought an abundance of musical knowledge and experience to all the students, and most importantly, your friendship to each person that you encountered. Thank you for making my undergraduate collegiate experience so special!

— **Kevin Klotz '99**

I can't imagine HBU without you! You were the first warm and friendly face I saw when I entered the music school. Thank you for the investment you've made in so many young musicians' lives.

— **Lauren Thompson Shelton '01**

From the first time that you and I met, you treated me like an adult (even though I was in a class with younger adults.) I am so happy that you encouraged me and called me your child every time we saw each other. I know that the other students will miss your maternal attention as I do right now.

— **Keith Eason '01**

I was a scared, single mother auditioning on the piano for several professors upon entering HBU. Ms McCreary relentlessly encouraged, loved and prayed for me. She is my all-time champion! Ms. McCreary, know that I will forever hold you in my heart. You were there as an emissary of God's favor and mercy over my life all those years while I was at HBU.

— **Vicki Webster Conn '02**

Thank you for your years of loving service to us who have passed through HBU. You have enriched our lives by your love of music, your cheerful encouragement, and your respect and devoted care for each of us as people. I am very grateful to have had you as a teacher and as a model for how to treat my own students.

— **Joshua Wilson '02**

Music Ministry at West University Baptist Church

Church Pianist from 1980-1994

As a person, Nancy was so much more than just a great musician. She loved God, loved the church, and loved the people she ministered to. Being the church pianist was never about money for Nancy. She did it as a Divine calling. If you wanted to describe the ideal church musician you would only have to describe this wonderful lady. As a musician, Nancy could sight read the most difficult music with ease. As an accompanist she followed you as a director or as a soloist. I always enjoyed singing solos with Nancy at the piano. You knew she was going to accompany you rather than try to impose her own interpretation on the singer or the choir. Her offertories were always well planned and played with skill and feeling. You felt God's presence as she played. As a Christian, you need only to observe her life and her life style to know that she was a committed Christian Lady. As a single mom she raised her three lovely children to be wonderful and productive adults. Nancy was always concerned that the music presented brought honor and glory to God.

LET ME PERSONALLY CONGRATULATE Nancy McCreary for the remarkable contribution she has made to God's Kingdom and Houston Baptist University. If Nancy were to express her life's ambition through music, I think it would probably be, God's Blessing and Honor, Glory and Power be unto Him for ever and ever!!

— **Ronny W. Barner**
37 years as Minister of Music,
West University Baptist Church



Mary Ellen Spore honored with the Mayfield Outstanding Staff Award

For 17 years, Mrs. Mary Ellen Spore has cared for and kept up with those of us in the School of Music. HBU chose to honor this fine woman with the HBU Mayfield Outstanding Staff Award.

Mrs. Spore gives of herself to the students, to the faculty and to the University. She does the work of at least two full-time employees, balancing tasks that would make most of our heads spin. The title *Secretary* is a misnomer. Mary Ellen keeps the School of Music running. She is extremely competent, thoughtful and tactful in her relationships with faculty, students and off-campus visitors. Her attention to detail and her dedication is legendary. She has created an environment that allows us to be our best at what we were hired to do. At the same time, she cares for us, listens to us, encourages us, Mother's us, and loves us and our students. Her wisdom has kept most of us out of hot water more than once. Yet, it is her smile and warmth that touches us each time we enter the Music Office. Mary Ellen Spore is the heart-beat of the School of Music.



*Thank you, Mary Ellen
and Congratulations on this
well-deserved honor!*

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I have always considered Dr. Dan Kramlich an extremely valuable member of our HBU music faculty — because he is 'Mr. Versatile.' He accompanies very well, his compositional work is very exciting and of superior quality, he is a fine solo pianist, and loves teaching. He is also a dedicated mentor (one on one) to students who enter his sphere of influence. Yes, Mr. Versatile. That's him.

Robert Linder, *Director, School of Music*

In addition to his work in the School of Music, Dan is a leader on the HBU campus. His painstaking work as chair of the Faculty/Staff Benefits Committee has resulted in faculty-recommended health insurance decisions. He describes his work on this committee as occasionally excruciating and sometimes a thankless job that has nothing to do with music.

Dan and I served together on the Benefits Committee. Dan has demonstrated a passion for doing the right thing for all of our faculty and staff while approaching everything with a disarming sense of humor. He has exhibited an ability to make tough decisions and has truly been a leader.

Chuck Crocker, *Associate VP, Enrichment Center*

Dan is valued by his colleagues. His wit, his sincerity, and his "down-to-earth" personality endear him to those of us who know and work with him. He will go beyond

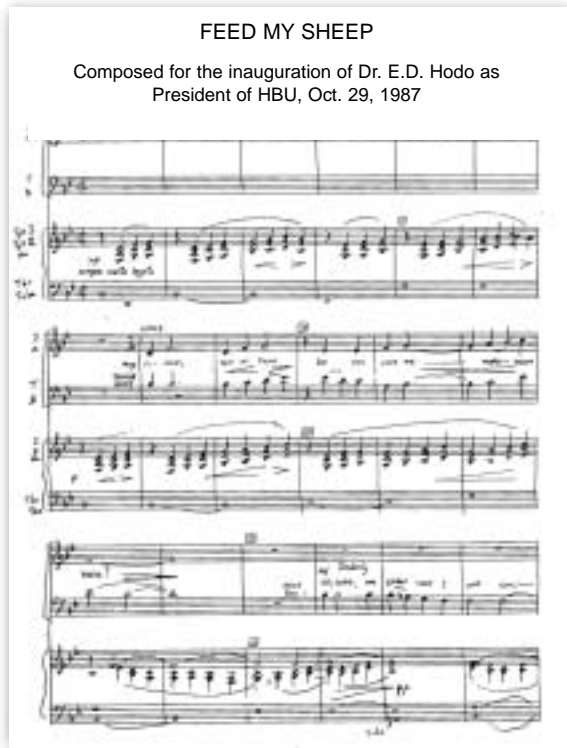
the call of duty for the HBU students, participating in a "pie-in-the-face" fund raising event for students or getting drenched in the dunking booth at the annual Spring event on campus. Faculty and committee meetings have added spice when Dan is present, yet his thoughtful reflections have helped lead the School of Music through major positive changes over the years.

Mr. Fun-guy. Mr. Upbeat. Mr. Impromptu. Working with Dan has been one of my biggest joys at HBU. His music is a beautiful reflection of his wit and character-imaginative, robust, and a gentle touch of profundity. Dan definitely has something to say, and what he says is so worth hearing. I have never understood the creative process of composition, and to walk alongside such a person who is so down-to-earth, down-right funny, and sincere to the core is a pleasure and an honor. HBU was well led to incorporate Dan's service. He inspires all who work with him, academically and as a performer.

John Hendrickson, *Artist-in-Residence*

During his tenure at HBU, Kramlich has written in a variety of compositional styles. He has written more than a dozen major works since 1980, and his compositions have received attention beyond the walls of the University and have been performed by many artists and performing groups around the United States. Works have been showcased at the Texas Choral Directors Convention in San Antonio (*Mass for Chorus and Orchestra*) and Conference in Houston (*Ave Verum Corpus*). Works have

been commissioned, including an orchestral work for the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra (*Centennial Fanfare*) and the Houston Symphony Brass Section (*Fanfare and Variants for Brass Quintet*). His *Mass for Chorus and Orchestra* will be performed on October 29, 2004 by the HBU Choral Union. He also has written numerous commissioned sacred choral works, has been active in composing and arranging music for handbells, children and music for film and local television.



Another side of Dan, less visible at HBU, is his role as a minister of music. He has been involved in music ministry at Mission Bend United Methodist Church since 1983, when he was hired as pianist. In 1997, he became minister of music to this congregation, where he directs a 60-member chorus and administers the music program for its 1300-member congregation.

Dan in one word ... ENERGIZED! Most teachers only have the ability to "teach" but Dan goes beyond the NORM by marshaling the choir toward his idea of perfection by instilling confidence while keeping it humorous, entertaining and fun. His offbeat wit and knowledge of obscure trivia keep most of us wearing a smirk through choir practice and occasionally during the service. It is not always fun and games and occasionally discipline is required. Dan has perfected the art of straight-faced scolding that has its effect but doesn't put you on the spot and has also mastered a high pitched whistle to regain control when required. He will point out those 'unintended solo opportunities' that would inevitably happen if not flagged in practice, and no matter what musical symbol is found in the piece, Dan will translate its true meaning as "watch the conductor."

Dan has blessed the church and the community with his service and can best be judged by the fellowship he brings

to the choir and through them to the congregation. By using his talents and abilities he shares with the church members his love of the Lord Jesus Christ. Mission Bend UMC would not be the same without him. It may be God's choir, but He has asked Dan to direct it for Him!

Tom Gee, Choir Member
Mission Bend United Methodist Church

Dan is a devoted husband and father. He is extremely proud of his children whom he has supported as they follow their own dreams. Lauren works with autistic children in Los Angeles. Brent (whose exceptional talent is in wire sculpture) is entering his senior year at HBU as an Art Education major. Dawn is in the top one percent of her senior class in high school. His step-daughter Christina is excelling in an accelerated fourth grade program. *"Perhaps the crown jewel in the blessing department is my wife, Emmeline, whose support and caring make life's difficulties melt away. She is an outstanding piano teacher in her own right, and makes day-to-day life an absolute joy!"*



After more than two decades at HBU, Dr. Kramlich remains loyal to the University, his colleagues and his students. *"I have stayed at HBU because it is for me the exact kind of teaching situation I always wanted: small school, solid liberal arts curriculum, remarkable faculty, and excellent music program."*

Sincere, optimistic, witty, gifted, passionate, dedicated, gracious, energized, imaginative, caring — the many adjectives that students, colleagues and friends use to describe Dan attest to his love for life and the people that are a part of his world. Perhaps the best way to encapsulate the qualities and contributions of this great friend and colleague is through the words of one of his former students:

Dr. Kramlich was one of the first professors I met when I came to HBU. Dr. "K." had such a unique way of teaching theory classes. He made learning fun. I thought it was wonderful when he would take a minute to play a few bars of jazz on the piano to give his students a mental break when we became overwhelmed. As a music professor, Dr. Kramlich was very approachable. He never failed to take time to answer questions, assist with problem-solving, and hear student concerns. As my piano instructor, Dr. Kramlich worked tirelessly with me. He has helped me in so many ways to realize my dreams. He was a great encourager, a dynamic motivator and a marvelous facilitator. I could write a book about Dr. Daniel Kramlich and the many ways he has impacted my life. He illuminates the world with his God-given gift of music.

Dorothy Smith '00



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

— Toni Ruffino '05

Kathryn “Kathy” Ellis

Thoughtful, enthusiastic, creative, and unique are just a few of the adjectives used to describe gifted pianist, composer and HBU School of Music graduate, Kathryn “Kathy” Ellis. Kathy began playing the piano at the age of eight, and her lifelong love of music inspired her to return to school to study theory and composition years after completing a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing. She graduated from HBU Magna Cum Laude in 1996 with a Bachelor of Music in Theory and Composition and is remembered with affection and admiration by the faculty of the School of Music:

Kathy Ellis is an extremely creative, thoughtful and self-motivating composer, pianist, and friend. She completed her degree at HBU with distinction and has continued her creative output with success and enthusiasm since graduation. She certainly is one of our graduates whom we claim with pride.

— Dr. Ann Gebuhr, School of Music

Regardless of both academic and professional success, Kathy had not envisioned a thriving career as a composer:

When I started at HBU I mainly wanted to learn some basic music theory, such as key signatures. I could read music and play the piano, but I wanted to be able to write simple pieces. Dan Kramlich really interested me in music theory. At least I think that’s what our class was about ... one thing led to another and I am still enjoying pursuing composition.

What began as a personal passion and quest for knowledge has led to the creation of over 60 compositions for publication, small recitals, student performances and private use. Kathy’s compositional interests include solo piano, piano and flute, orchestral music, small chamber ensemble pieces, sacred vocal pieces and hymns. Kathy enjoys



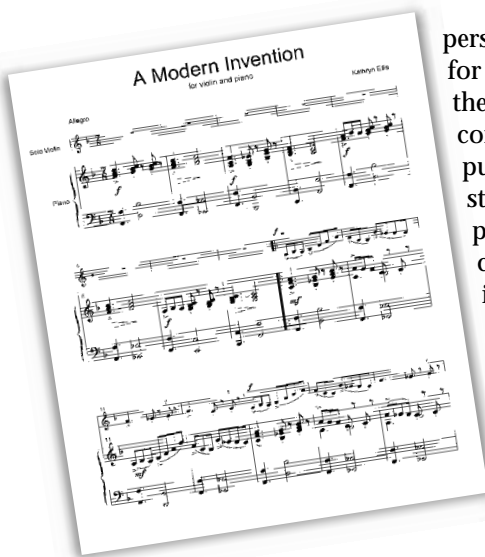
composing in a Neo-Classical style and greatly admires the compositional achievements of the masters of the Classical and Romantic periods, including Schumann and Chopin. The marriage of literature and artwork has also impacted her work as a result of her deep appreciation for illustrations in music created by joining the two genres. Her writing was also inspired by personal instruction she received while at HBU:

One of the pieces dear to my heart is *The Little Prince Suite* that I wrote while I was still in school at HBU. It was inspired by reading the book in German with Dr. Daton Dodson. It is a truly magical story, and I enjoyed experimenting with some new fun techniques on the piano in those pieces. Dr. Gebuhr and Dr. Kramlich also impacted my style by their guidance and encouragement.

The road to success as a professional composer was paved with countless rejections as Kathy worked for recognition as a distinctive voice in the music world.

I had so many rejections that I started assigning grades to the rejection letters. My favorite one came back with a tire tread on the actual piece and the outside of the package simply said “return to sender.” I thought I must have sent it to the wrong address but the receptionist I spoke with said: “What part of ‘return to sender’ don’t you understand?” That’s an A+ rejection letter!

Kathy continued to share her work with publishers despite numerous rejections, and in 1999 she received her first publishing contract with *Voice of the Rockies*





Grace Notes

MUSIC ALUMNI UPDATE

1969

CAROL SUE COLE
(Bond)
College Station, TX
979-690-3010
nwicoles@netnitco.net

1970

WILLIAM DOUGLAS
(Dennis)
New Paltz, NY
845-255-0027
ddmail@aol.com

Providing technical training solutions through his consulting firm, Mind Over Matter. Proud grandfather of five grandchildren by his son Jeremy. Continued love for music as well as hiking and bike riding.

DARLENE JAMES
(Cox)
Houston, TX
281-993-1817
divadarlene@aol.com

Enjoying her 27th season performing with Houston Grand Opera. Private vocal instruction with students at Boston Conservatory, Baylor, and University of Texas. Proud grandmother of Nathan, born December 2001.

DR. BILL ROBERTS
9801 Forest Grove Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20902
301-592-8228

Currently serving as Director of Music Ministry at St. John's Episcopal Church, Lafayette Square, Washington D.C. Active work as a composer with numerous publishers, including Augsburg-Fortress, GIA, St. James Music Press, Selah, and Paraclete.

HAL YARBROUGH
Enterprise, AL
334-347-0675
yarbro@graceba.net

1975

ELIZABETH BEESON
P.O. Box 55436
Houston, TX 77255-5436
713-688-3346

During the 2003 – 2004 season, Beeson School of Music performed at West Lake Club and Treemont Retirement Home as well as first graduating class in May 2003. Piano accompanist in 2004 for Houston Christian High School. Listed annually in the composer issue of Pan Pipes, an international music publication of Sigma Alpha Iota.

1976

BELINDA CANTU
(Lartigue)
Orlando, FL
gbcantu@pobox.com

Joined the staff of Campus Crusade for Christ in June 2004; working on the Macedonian Project of the Jesus Film Project.

1978

LINDA CLARK
(Wigger)
Houston, TX
281-649-3232
lclark@hbu.edu

Recently honored by Wilcrest Baptist Church for 15 years of service as church pianist.

1980

TERRI HOWARD
(Stanford)
Houston, TX
281-256-9634
terrihoward@sbcglobal.net

Math and Science teacher in Katy ISD. Nominated for Outstanding Mathematics/Science Teacher of the Year in 2004. Staff member in the music department at Metropolitan Baptist Church. Celebrated the birth of first grandbaby Katherine Grace Melnyk on March 3, 2004 by daughter Melissa, and the marriage of son Jeremy on March 27, 2004.

1982

ALLEN W. HEFNER
Carlsbad, NM
505-885-9668
ahefner@nmsu.edu

Completing course work to become an RN at NMSU in the nursing program. Active member of Phi Theta Kappa.

1983

TERESA NELSON
(Seiter)
Pasadena, TX
281-998-7339
t.nelson123@sbcglobal.net

B.M.E. from HBU. Looking forward to teaching music during the 2004 – 2005 school year at Fairmont Elementary in Deer Park ISD.

Personal Comment: "I've enjoyed being at home with my children for the past 14 years, and now that they are older, I am looking forward to returning to classroom teaching."

VANCE WHITMORE
7094 Whispering Wind
Willis, TX 77318
936-856-8655

B.M. from HBU. M.A.R.E. from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Minister of Administration and Music at First Baptist Church, Willis for 17 years. Celebrating life with Peggy, his wife of 20 years, and their two children Jonathan (17) and Lindsey (15). Enjoys traveling including trips to San Francisco, Washington D.C., and Orlando.

1985

DAVID MATHIS
Bay City, TX
979-245-5518
dmathis@fbc-bc.org



Minister of Worship/Education at First Baptist in Bay City. Enjoying life with his wife Barbara and their two daughters Claire (16) and Caroline (11).

JEFF NELSON
Pasadena, TX
281-998-7339
jnelson221@sbcglobal.net

B.M. in Vocal Performance from HBU. Celebrated 8 years of service as Minister of Music at Clear Lake Baptist Church in February 2004, totaling 18 years of part-time service in music ministry. Embarking on a new career with the sales team of Schulmerich Bells, Inc. New position includes representing product lines of Electronic Carillons, Bell Towers, and Cast Bells for churches, universities, and municipalities throughout Texas.

KEVIN PENCE
Carlsbad, NM
505-885-6561
kevinpencefbc@yahoo.com

Looking forward to celebrating 12th anniversary as Minister of Music and Education at First Baptist Church, Carlsbad, in September 2004. Recently completed term as Vice President of the New Mexico Singing Churchmen. Married to Amy Beaman-Pence, fellow HBU graduate.

HOLLY WOSTAL
Carl Junction, MO
417-649-7046
hwostal@bastrop.isd.tenet.edu

Choral Director at Carl Junction High School and honored in Who's Who Among American Teachers in 2004.

1986

DEIDRA J. BROWN
(Young)
Overland Park, KS
913-681-2478
deidrabb@kc.rr.com

Assistant Director of the Kansas City Chorus of Sweet Adelines, International; chorus won first place in Regional Competition in Spring 2004. Sings baritone in the WHAT 4 barbershop quartet. Sings tenor, lead, baritone and sometimes bass for multi-track learning tapes for the Region. Private vocal instruction and quartet coach. Coordinator for Kansas City area Young Women in Harmony. Handbell Director for Blue Valley Baptist Church. Celebrating 15 years of marriage to husband Lynn; daughter Caitlin (8) sings tenor.

HUGH POLAND
Kingwood, TX
281-360-0673
hpoland@earthlink.net

Currently in fourth year of serving as Minister of Music at Woodridge Baptist Church in Kingwood. Honored as guest conductor of Kingwood Pops Orchestra in December 2003.

1988

DUSTIN RADABAUGH
(Dusty)
Hobbs, NM
505-392-4088
dustyradabaugh@taylorbc.org

B.A. in Music and Christianity from HBU. Currently the Choral Director for College of the Southwest in Hobbs in addition to being Associate Pastor of Worship for Taylor Memorial Baptist Church.

PAMELA RADABAUGH
(Smith)
Hobbs, NM
505-392-4088
dlradabaugh@earthlink.net

Currently Director of Elementary Music Education for Hobbs Municipal School District.

1990

MARY ENA KEAN
(Kelso)
13146 Kimberly
Houston, TX 77079
713-465-6841

CYNTHIA MCDOWELL
Alexandria, VA
703-684-0205
info@albrightevents.com

B.A. in Music and Political Science from HBU. Enjoying her new job as Internal Communications Coordinator for the U.S. Department of Justice.

KEVIN NEWMAN
Houston, TX
713-516-6409
nivek517@yahoo.com

B.M. in Vocal Performance from HBU. Vocational nursing license from Cooke County Jr. College and an Associate Degree in Nursing from Wheaton County Jr. College. Currently working as a registered nurse at Methodist Hospital and a reservations agent for Continental Airlines. Enjoys singing in the Houston Symphony Chorus and the Tallowood Baptist Church Choir. Loves to travel and has run in 35 marathons. Proud father of three children: Ollie (13), Annie (3), and Tobie (2).

1992

MICHAEL GAINEY
(Mike)
Mannheim, Germany
01149-6241-970327
mgaaney02b@hotmail.com

B.M. Ed. from HBU. Serving as a trumpet player in the 76th U.S. Army Band, Mannheim, Germany for more than seven years.

SCOTT SNYDER
Houston, TX
281-491-5218
ssnyder@sugarcreek.net



Currently serving as Associate Worship Pastor at Sugar Creek Baptist Church. He and wife Jennifer are celebrating the birth of their third child, Morgan Rae, born on January 28, 2004. She is little sister to Molly (5) and Wesley (3).

1993

CHARLES REID
(Chuck)
Send Mail:
c/o Larry Karpenko
85 Woodland Terrace
Hamburg, PA 19526
singreid@attglobal.net

Celebrated the birth of his son Samuel Charles Reid with wife Julie on May 7, 2003. Looking forward to moving to Mannheim, Germany with his family this fall where Chuck will begin a Fest position at the National Theater. Roles for the season include Belmonte, Ferrando, Tamino, Tito and Aceste. Chuck will return to the Metropolitan Opera as the Ottavio cover for a brief run of Don Giovanni Spring 2005.

1994

ERIC RYE
Tallahassee, FL
850-224-3693
erm2425@msn.com

1995

LYNN BROWN
Cypress, TX
lynetteabrown@sbcglobal.net

Enjoying her new position as Administrative Director of Houston Children's Charity. Received an M.B.A. from LeTourneau University.

MELANIE KAHLEH
(Hancock)
Houston, TX
281-649-3485
mkahleh@hbu.edu

B.A. in Music and Christianity from HBU. Celebrating the birth of Simeon Saleim Kahleh, born on January 1, 2004.

1997

WILBURN L. COUCH
Houston, TX
wlcouch@hotmail.com

Currently working as the band director at First Baptist Academy, Houston.

TAN TANG
(Tran)
Houston, TX
713-983-7708
tantan@sbcglobal.net

Graduated from South Texas College of Law in May 2004 and will continue in a permanent position at O'Connor, Craig, Gould, and Evans, the law firm she clerked for while completing her degree. Proud mom of two daughters: Hope (6) and Cheri (3).

1998

KEEFE CLINE
Richmond, CA
510-526-9014
marcoxavier@usa.net

B.A. in Music and Christianity from HBU. Earned a M.Ed. in Reading and Curriculum Instruction from Prairie View A&M. Graduated in May 2004 with a Masters of Fine Arts from Academy of Art University, San Francisco, Calif. Currently serving as Minister of Music at Amos Temple Church in Oakland. Contributes as a board member to Mothers Against Illiteracy Nationwide. Hobbies include skiing, weightlifting, tutoring, hang gliding, white water rafting, ballooning and basketball.

1999

RYAN CLARK
Ft. Worth, TX
817-292-7089
ryan@wedgwoodbc.org

B.M. in Church Music from HBU. Graduating Cum Laude from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in the Fall 2004. Currently serving as Music Associate at Wedgwood Baptist Church leading praise and worship teams, junior high and senior high choirs and the senior adult choir. Celebrating five years of marriage to Krista Lyon on December 23.

KEVIN KLOTZ
Sugar Land, TX
713-858-0009
pianomankmk@aol.com

Currently serving as music minister, St. Laurence Catholic Church in Sugar Land. Director of the newly-formed St. Laurence Chamber Singers, an auditioned classical ensemble; performances include the music of Mozart with orchestra. Enjoyed leading praise and worship for the Steubenville South Youth Retreat in June 2004.

2000

DALMA BORONKAI
Houston, TX
713-304-1289
dboronkai@yahoo.com

B.M. in Vocal Performance from HBU. Currently working as Registrar and Office Assistant at Bridges Academy of Fine Arts, St. Luke's United Methodist Church. Celebrated the completion of a Master of Music degree on May 8, 2004 from the Shepherd School of Music, Rice University. Finalist at the San Francisco Opera Merola Program, the Dallas Opera Guild Vocal Competition, and the Palm Beach Opera Competition in 2003 - 2004. Became an American citizen on January 16, 2004.

KELLY LYN CROSBY
Sugar Land, TX
281-242-4126
kcrosby@hbu.edu

Currently the Administrative Assistant to the Dean of College of Education and Behavioral Sciences HBU.



Caleb Crosby

Her son Caleb (20) is serving in Iraq and Keren (22) is currently a student at HBU majoring in Secondary Education and English.

WILLIAM KEITH EASON
Stafford, TX
281-630-4008
kason6214@aol.com

B.M. in Vocal Performance from HBU. Currently in his eighth year as Music Minister at Covenant Glen United Methodist Church. Continues to perform spiritual concerts in Arkansas, Mississippi and the Houston area. Honored as a guest soloist on three gospel recordings to be released this year. Continued work as clinician and consultant for numerous gospel choirs in the Houston area. Enjoying life with his wife Pamona and their three children: Marlena, Devinn and Keith Jr.

Personal Comment: "My music career has experienced a huge increase due to my association and graduation from HBU ... I am thankful to be able to go back (so late in my career) and finish from one of the best schools in the country!"

KELLY GRACE
Houston, TX
281-459-4419
kelly@purplebass.com

B.M. from HBU. Currently working as the Systems Coordinator for LINK Integrated Systems and the Music Minister for New Life Assembly. Sings and plays bass for the worship band Anderson (andersonworship.com). Celebrated 10 years of marriage to wife Denise in August 2004. Proud dad of Mattalyen (3).

PHILLIP HINTZE
Lake Jackson, TX
979-480-9276
phintze@ev1.net

Currently the orchestra director at Brazoswood High School and plays lead guitar in the Brazos Pointe Fellowship Praise Band. Married Jenny Townsend, 2001 HBU graduate, on June 17, 2000. They celebrated the birth of their son Jackson Gray on May 7, 2002.

ADRIENNE WALLS
(Fry)
9449 Briar Forest Dr. #5001
Houston, TX 77063
713-705-7835

B.M. in Church Music from HBU. Currently the choir director at Spring Woods High School. Celebrated her marriage to Wesley Walls on June 12, 2004. She grew close to Wesley during her internship at Tallowood Baptist. Continues to enjoy teaching choir and both of her choirs received sweepstakes honors at UIL Concert and Sightreading Contest.

2001

SARAH CARRAHER
(Laine)
sarahcarraher@yahoo.com

Proud mom of two sons: Shawn Michael Larry born June 5, 2002 and Charles Eugene Lewis born April 20, 2004. Achieved numerous accomplishments in refereeing journal articles since her HBU days.

LAUREN SHELTON
(Thompson)
Castroville, TX
die_zauberflote@hotmail.com

B.M. in Vocal Performance from HBU. Celebrated the completion of her M.M. in Church Music from Baylor in August 2004. Excited about her husband Ross' new position as pastor of First Baptist, Castroville.

2002

KATHRYN CHANCEY
Houston, TX
713-981-6928
sonshine77074@yahoo.com

B.M. from HBU. Currently a graduate student in Curriculum and Instruction, free-standing Special Education with numerous graduation presentation subjects in 2004, and works as Contract Retail Analyst for Corporate Research International of Findlay, OH. Also enjoys serving as Substitute Pianist and Organist for St. Frances de Sales Church in both their Christian Contemporary and Spanish services.

JOSH HORTMAN
Saint Louis, MO
314-621-9397
Christiandevreich@yahoo.com

B.M. in Theory and Composition from HBU. Also earned an M.A. in Historical Musicology from NYU.

RYAN KELLY
Longview, TX
903-758-3535
ryankelly@swbell.net

Recently completed an M.M. in Choral Conducting from the University of Oklahoma. Enjoying his first year as Director of Choral Activities at Kilgore College, a two-year college in Kilgore. Currently serving as Director of the East Texas Community Chorus. Also continues to own and operate his commercial Web site design business, RMK WebDesign.

KRISTEN KUFELDT
101 Hawk Ridge Drive
Iowa City, IA 52246
832-606-5058
krissyann78@yahoo.com

Attending the University of Iowa in Fall 2004 to begin work on Masters Degree in Vocal Performance and Pedagogy. Working in a T.A. position as voice instructor for non-music majors as well as a number of undergraduate music majors with about 18 voice students. Enjoying the beauty of her new atmosphere close to the Iowa River.

ROXANNE SILVA
(Lopez)
Houston, TX
singrox@aol.com

Currently serving as Music Minister at Sacred Heart Co-Cathedral and Choral Director at Alief Albright Middle School. Working toward a master's degree in Liturgical Music. Oldest son Angelo is six years old. Celebrated the birth of twin boys on July 7, 2003. Husband Mark recently promoted to Quality Coach over Builder Managers of Houston for David Weekley Homes.

LYDIA TATE
(Beard)
Houston, TX
713-896-1715
lydiatate@earthlink.net

Currently serving as Executive Director of Sigma Phi Lambda. Started a private piano studio in Fall 2004. Excited about celebrating the first birthday of her son.

2003

CHRISTINA DAVID
(Paul)
Houston, TX
713-861-3123
crickettsongs@hotmail.com

B.M. from HBU. Currently teaching private violin and viola out of her home and working as a free lance musician.



Celebrated her marriage to Steven David on November 1, 2003. Enjoying living in their 100 year old home in the Heights. Also working as the fundraising coordinator for Children's Restoration Homes, a non-profit organization.

MELINDA HATTEN
(Butt)
Houston, TX
832-483-4613
houdinihatten@yahoo.com

B.A. in Music and History from HBU. Currently working in management at Barry's Pizza.

WAYNE B. MAYDWELL
Cypress, TX
281-894-5005
wmaydwell@aol.com

B.M. in Performance from HBU. Pursuing a Masters Degree in Musicology at University of Houston; expected graduation May 2005. Currently working as director of music ministries, Bear Creek Community Church as well as teaching assistant at Moores School of Music, UH. Also enjoys owning and working at Maydwell Music Studio. Celebrated daughter Ashley's 16th birthday August 2003. Son Chad made first chair oboist, Bleyl Middle School Symphonic Band, August 2003. Daughter Ashley (bassoonist) made TMEA Texas All-State for third year in a row in January 2004. Celebrated 19 years of marriage to Kim in February 2004. Daughter Victoria began formal music studies in Alto Saxophone, February 2004. Enjoyed vacationing in California during Summer 2004.

ALUMNI SHOWCASE continued from p.10

Publishing in Boulder, Colorado for *Piano Sonata No. 1 in C Minor*. Today, she has twelve works published with this same company. Patricia Holmes, President and Founder of Voice of the Rockies publishing, was immediately attracted to Kathy's music and personality:

Kathy has been very strong in finding her own voice in her composing. She is comfortable with tonal music and resists being swayed to write atonal, dissonant music, which is often touted in academic music institutions. As a result, her music is accessible, challenging and interesting. It is very appealing both to listener and performer. She writes wonderful melodies and exhibits great skill in developing those melodies with counterpoint and various other musical devices. Through it all, her style is refreshingly creative and very much her own. We love her music, and she is a lovely, wonderful person.

In addition to her love for composition, Kathy treasures her family and the continued support they have given to her musical endeavors. She lives in Round Rock, Texas with her husband of more than 31 years, Dick Ellis. They have two daughters, married and living in Fort Worth, Texas. She is also the proud grandmother of five fabulous grandchildren and looks forward to their monthly family gatherings. When she is not with family or writing

at the piano, Kathy works as a Legal Nurse Investigator at the State Board of Medical Examiners.

Kathy represents the finest of the HBU School of Music in achievement as both student and professional musician.

Kathy distinguished herself in all classes during her tenure at HBU. She modeled excellence as a student, and she was both admired and respected by her teachers. Kathy was more than a student at HBU, she was (and remains) a friend to us all. We are proud of her many accomplishments in music and successes in composition.

— Rhonda Furr

Kathryn "Kathy" Ellis, composer and pianist, attributes much of her success to her years at HBU. Her continued achievements endow HBU with pride and honor.

I treasure most two things from my years at HBU: good friends and good education. Playing the piano and writing music have brought great joy to my life, and I believe they are real gifts from God for which I am very grateful.

NOTE: Learn more about Kathy's music by visiting her website at www.pianomusicellis.com. Also visit the website of her publishing company at www.voiceoftherockies.com.

First annual HBU School of Music reunion held at TMEA

— Robert McElroy

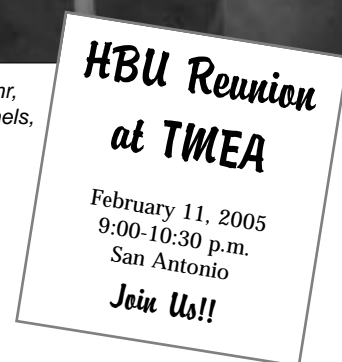
The Texas Music Educators Association meets in convention in San Antonio in February each year. An annual highlight of the meetings occurs on Friday evening when most of the colleges and universities of the state invite graduates for food, fun and fellowship in hospitality rooms located in the various hotels around the downtown convention center.

Houston Baptist University participated in this event for the first time during the most recent convention. Dr. Ann Gebuhr along with Robert McElroy of HBU's School of Music and his wife Marie, entertained some 45 persons at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. The guests included ex-students and their guests along with several current HBU students.

Everyone had a great time with plenty of food, conversation, reminiscences and catching-up with old friends. A second reunion is planned for the 2005 convention. Please check HBU and TMEA publications for exact location, but mark your calendars to join us for the next reunion!



*Josh Wilson, Dr. Ann Gebuhr,
Robert McElroy, Brian Runnels,
John Hemmenway*



School of Music and Moody Library Receive Gift

— Dr. Ann Gebuhr

Ruth Strittmatter and Richard Collins have retired from the faculty of the School of Music, but their influence will continue for many, many years. Mrs. Strittmatter taught piano, class piano, music appreciation and music theory for nearly 30 years at HBU, and in the process won the Opal Goolsby Outstanding Teacher Award twice. Additionally, her advising and work with students was legendary, and she extended her influence on young musicians by developing the Preparatory School of Music (which continues to enroll over 150 students every year).

In 1980, Dr. Richard Collins was appointed director of opera and professor of voice. A year later, he and Mrs. Strittmatter were married, ending a rather lengthy period of time during which two members of the same family were not to be employed by the University! Under his direction, the productions offered by the Opera Workshop included numerous Houston, Texas and American premieres, providing professional-level stage experience for our undergraduate students.

For the next decade, their continued contributions to the School of Music, the opera program and the University served to help many, many young musicians begin successful and valuable professional careers in teaching, performance and many other areas. And those contributions continue to the present day.



In honor of Dr. Collins, who passed away in 2003, Mrs. Strittmatter has donated his considerable library of scores and books to HBU. The collection is housed in both the Moody Library and in the School of Music. The School of Music received this gift at a celebration last May. Thank you, Mrs. Strittmatter!



Keeping in Touch



WITH MUSIC FACULTY

This addition to our newsletter will help you stay in contact with your former faculty. They would love to hear from you personally. Why not send them a note!

<u>NAME</u>	<u>YEARS AT HBU</u>	<u>ADDRESSES</u>
Dr. Don Looser*	1964-present	dlooser@hbu.edu
Dr. Lew Zailer	1965-1977	lpzailer@aol.com 2210 Woodland Park Houston, TX 77077
Dr. H. Bert Coble	1966-1967	coblevoicer@aol.com 1505 Lyle Street Lebanon, TN 37087-3111
Ms. Ruth Strittmatter	1968-1990	2910 Country Club Blvd. Sugar Land, TX 77478
Dr. Robert Linder*	1969-1994 2004-present	rlinderhaus@aol.com 24 East Broad Oaks Houston, TX 77056
Dr. Ann Gebuhr*	1978-present	agebuhr@hbu.edu
Dr. David Wehr	1979-1999	dwconducts@aol.com
Ms. Nancy McCreary*	1979-2004	nmccreary@hbu.edu
Dr. Robert Reid	1980-2000	rareid@academicplanet.com 810 Kellogg Street Carthage, TX 75633
Dr. Robert Zwick	1981-1995	zwick@LCC.net 86 Creekwood Drive Montgomery, TX 77356
Dr. Dan Kramlich*	1981-present	dkramlich@hbu.edu
Dr. Sarah Rideout-Slight	1982-1994	sarjac1@hotmail.com 5873 Harrison Road Venice, FL 34293-6835
Dr. Rhonda Furr*	1989-present	rfurr@hbu.edu
Ms. Kathy Cinatl	1990-1992	cinatl@juno.com 264 McBath Street State College, PA 16801
Ms. Colleen Mallette	1991-1994	highcdiva@aol.com 6000 Lovell Fort Worth, TX 76116
Mr. John Hendrickson*	1992-present	jhendrickson@hbu.edu

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Ms. Melanie Smith	1995-1998	melanie.smith@pepperdine.edu 24223 Baxter Drive Malibu, CA 90265
Ms. Billie Hagemeier	1995-2001	tiadol@comcast.net 4613 Ridgepointe Drive The Colony, TX 75056
Dr. Richard Spitz	1996-2003	txspitz@ev1.net 18007 Concho River Ct. Sugar Land, TX 77478
Dr. John Yarrington*	1999-present	jyarrington@hbu.edu
Ms. Lynda McKnight*	2000-present	lmcknight@hbu.edu
Mr. Robin Roewe*	2000-present	rroewe@hbu.edu
Dr. Richard Fiese*	2000-present	rfiese@hbu.edu
Mr. Rick Piersall*	2002-present	rpiersall@hbu.edu
Mr. Robert McElroy*	2003-present	rmcelroy@hbu.edu

*Current faculty addresses:

HBU
7502 Fondren Road
Houston, TX 77074-3298

In Memory



EUGENE TALLEY-SCHMIDT

We grieve the loss of our friend. Gene was the former Chair of the Vocal Department. Pictured here with wife and former faculty member, Jeanette Lombard, who died in 2003. A concert in his honor is planned for later this year. Contact the School of Music at 281-649-3338 for more information.

INSTRUMENTAL

— Mr. Robert McElroy

This past year was one of dramatic change for our department. Long-time and widely-known Houston area conductor and music educator Robert McElroy served as interim director and master professional instrumentalists Thomas Hulten (trombone) and Dr. Dan Shipman (trumpet) joined our studio instructional staff.

These appointments continue the University's tradition of providing its students with some of the finest professional musicians in the nation to help them pursue their instrumental studies. Our other instrumental artists include Teresa Grawunder (flute), Paul Harris (woodwinds), Kevin McIntyre (horn), Lovie Smith-Schenk (percussion), Rodica Weber (violin), Mary Fulgham (viola), Greg Garcia (double bass), Kimberly Snauffer (harp), Eve Woodard (jazz guitar) and Mark Moore (classical guitar).



Mr. McElroy's and the band's top priority this year was to reinstitute the importance and viability of the HBU Husky Basketball Pep Band. Many thanks go to the men's and women's teams, Coach and Ms. Cottrell and Coach Brown for their support of our efforts and for the championship basketball played by both teams. What a season! ... and we hope you will come out during the next season and support the Husky teams and the Pep Band!

The Symphonic Band and Orchestra experienced a year full of great music-making. The string students' participation in Rice University's Campanile Orchestra provides them with excellent full ensemble opportunities. The band produced concerts to great response in October, November, December (with the fabulous HBU Choirs), March and April. Additionally, the Symphonic Band performed for HBU Commencement Exercises in February and May.

A unique HBU tradition began this year. The First Annual HBU Invitational Two-Year College Band Festival for Two-year Colleges was held in March 2004. Band

students from several two-year colleges in Texas came to HBU for a day of rehearsals, tours of the campus and a public concert that evening given jointly with the HBU Symphonic Band and guests from the Houston Symphonic Band.

The 2004-2005 academic year will see even more excitement in the department. At the close of the last year, McElroy agreed to stay on as permanent director, recruiting efforts were quite successful (we will double our number of students!), the Second Annual Invitational will be held on November 22, 2004 in the M.D. Anderson Student Center, Pep Band appearances will continue, instrumental chamber music will become much more important in our concert schedule and finally, we are honored to announce the addition of Mr. Steve Hoyle as clarinet and saxophone instructor.



If you know any students who would be interested in band or orchestra at HBU (especially in preparing for a career in music education), please encourage them to contact the University 281-649-3000 or Mr. McElroy directly rmcelroy@hbu.edu. Exciting things are happening at HBU! Thank you in advance for your continued support.

CHORAL

— Dr. John Yarrington

The HBU Singing Men performed at the annual Spirit of Excellence Dinner. Along with the undergraduate men, Drs. Hodo, Looser and Byrnes also sang.

Dr. James Jordan, author of *Evoking Sound, The Musicians Soul, The Musicians Spirit*, and faculty member at the Westminster Choir College in Princeton New Jersey, was in residence October 6-10. Dr. Jordan worked with conductors and choirs, spoke to the Music Forum, and taught a Symposium for area choral directors in which the HBU Schola Cantorum was the featured choir.

The Fall Choral Concert featured the University Singers and Schola Cantorum performing the music of Schubert, Gawthrop, Thompson, Bernstein, Lauridsen, Brahms and

Departmental News



Pachelbel. Assistant Conductors, Christopher Jones and Donald Stubblefield conducted, in addition to Dr. Yarrington.

A Schola Christmas was once again offered on a December afternoon in the Hinton Center, and the University Singers and instrumentalists led in a Christmas celebration in Sharp Gym before the holiday break.

The Winter Choral Concert, named the President's Concert, in honor of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the University, invited two outstanding High School choirs to perform individually and to join the combined HBU choirs in concert. Participating in the concert were the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts Women's Chorus, under the direction of Patricia Bonner, and the Sam Rayburn High School Chorale, under the direction of Janwin Overstreet-Goode.

The Schola Cantorum went on a five day tour through Texas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas during the winter. The 24 singers presented a varied program to churches and schools, including an appearance at the University of Oklahoma, in Norman, Oklahoma. The Schola Cantorum was also the featured choir in *An Evening of Music* by Dr. Ann K. Gebuhr at Christ the King Lutheran Church.

The Spring Choral Concert featured the music of American composer, Daniel E. Gawthrop. Mr. Gawthrop and his wife, poet, Jane Griner, were in residence for a week preceding the concert of his music on Friday evening, May 7. The week with the Gawthrops was full of events: a choral reading for area musicians, several concerts in area schools, and a live appearance with Dean Dalton, of KUHf radio's *On the Front Row*. As part of the live radio appearance, Mr. Dalton interviewed both Mr. and Mrs. Gawthrop and Dr. Yarrington. Finally, Schola Cantorum sang Four Longfellow Settings by Gawthrop. The Friday evening concert was sponsored by KUHf with on-air personality, Elaine Kennedy. The entire evening was devoted to the music of Mr. Gawthrop, featuring the Southwest premiere of *In Quiet Resting Places*, for

soloists, chorus and orchestra. Joining the combined choirs were soprano, Lynda McKnight and baritone, Rick Piersall. Two premieres were also a part of the evening: *First Light*, with text by Jane Griner and music by Dan Gawthrop was commissioned by the Schola Cantorum, and *Come, O Thou Traveler, Unknown*, commissioned by the School of Music. Joining the choral and orchestral forces was the Ft. Bend Boys Choir under the direction of Mr. Bill Adams.

During the summer, 14 HBU students joined the First Presbyterian Chancel Choir on a Mission Tour to Romania and Hungary to assist churches. Two of the concerts were given in churches where the First Presbyterian Church had been instrumental in starting congregations and an offering was given by the choir to the host churches. HBU students who participated were Megan Yarrington, Carrie Lelsz, Breanna Richardson, Anival Aleman, Dusten Melear, Ryan Yarrington, Michael Rowell, Dominique Royem, Chip Colvin, J.J. Worthen, Donnie Stubblefield and Jason Peguero.

Ninety singers from 25 area schools converged on HBU's campus the week of July 19 to begin the learning process for All-State auditions. Four area high school directors assisted each vocal section in the learning process: Amy Lewis, Janwin Overstreet-Goode, Joe MacDonald (HBU grad.) and Rob Phillips. HBU students assisted in singing and accompanying with Dr. John Yarrington as musical director. The final day, a short concert was offered for parents and friends in the Hinton Center. This is the fourth All State Choir Day Camp held at HBU. Mrs. Debbie Tidwell has been the Camp Manager for all four years.

VOCAL STUDIES

— Ms. Lynda McKnight

A banner year for the department began with our annual Pizza Kickoff Party. This event gave our returning students a chance to meet the "New Crew," an incoming class that was not only exceptional in quality, but of a record size!

Our fall NATS meeting was held in October in Abilene, hosted by Abilene Christian University. The conference was attended by the entire voice faculty, two of our fine accompanists, and 19 students. Several students advanced to the semi-finals, including Erika Zieschang, Freshman Women; Matthew Parker, Graduate Men; and Mike Rowell, Freshman Men. In addition, the annual Singer of the Year competition (in which last year's top honors were taken by our own faculty baritone Rick Piersall) was won by a former student of Lynda McKnight's, Laurie Domingue Lester. In February, Ms. Lester was featured in a guest artist recital on the HBU campus.



MUSIC EDUCATION

— Dr. Richard Fiese

Houston Baptist University is proud of the continuing contribution that our graduates make to the musical education of the children of Texas. Our cadre of graduates during this academic year have all accepted positions providing an education in, for, and through music to area children. HBU has a strong tradition and legacy of quality music teachers who develop the musical gifts of each succeeding generation and our newest graduates are wonderful additions to the profession. Our graduates include: Kenny Borak, who has accepted a teaching position at Wharton Intermediate School and Wharton High School in their band program; Thomas Lynn Bridgmon, who accepted a position in the band program at Colmesneil High School in Colmesneil, Texas; Sharon (Hagy) Parrish who has accepted a choral teaching position at Thompson Intermediate School; and Brian Moreno, who has joined the band program at Cypress Ridge High School.

The HBU Opera took on a major project this year, a fully-stage period production of Mozart's comic masterpiece *The Marriage of Figaro*, with orchestra! This program has grown tremendously in the past few years: in 2000-2001, there were four participants in the group, and this season featured over 25 singers, as well as the talents of all of our faculty. Robin Roewe made a masterful operatic conducting debut, leading a 16 member orchestra. Rick Piersall not only performed the role of Figaro, but also designed and constructed a magnificent set that transformed the limited space in Mabee Theatre into a delightful (and highly functional) 18th century castle, complete with an orchestra pit. Lynda McKnight served as director of the project and also stepped in at the eleventh hour to sing the role of Susanna in one of the casts. Another exciting aspect of the program this year was the use of student crew chiefs for much of the technical and production work associated with the performance. This gave the students valuable experience in the backstage work involved in producing an opera or musical. Students and faculty also sold ads for the program to raise some of the funding for the production, augmenting the funds generously donated to the Opera Theatre budget by the Friends of the School of Music, Mr. John Gibson, Sr. and Halliburton.

We are offering prayers of thanksgiving this fall for the return of our chief accompanist, Steve Jones. Steve suffered a heart attack during the spring quarter, and was out of commission for several months. It is a joy to report that he is back at work with us and feeling just fine. Steve will be especially busy this fall, as our other staff accompanist, Dr. Joby Bell, is a visiting professor at Appalachian State University in his home state of North Carolina.

We are looking forward to the new year and exciting new projects. The year will be full of student recitals, beginning with six in the fall semester alone. And the HBU Opera has plans to mount a special production entitled *Once Upon an Opera*, a collection of children's operas that will not only be performed on campus, but also toured to area elementary schools. In addition, the voice faculty will continue to share their gifts in a variety of performances. What an exciting season is before us!

KEYBOARD

— Mr. John Hendrickson

It was a banner year for the piano department at HBU. Four students in the School of Music were graduating Seniors. Congratulations to Sharon (Hagy) Parrish, Brittany and Justin Jacobson and Chip Colvin. Mr. Colvin and the Jacobson sisters were all performance majors and each student graduated with honors. Mr. Colvin was accepted at USC in Los Angeles to pursue his Masters degree in accompanying and chamber music. Ms. Parrish is already gainfully employed with the Clear Lake Independent School District.

Our Hamburg Steinway in Mabee Theatre, one of the finest instruments in Houston, was further enhanced after Forshey Piano Company completely refurbished the instrument with new strings, new hammers, and regulation to the action. It plays like a dream!

Faculty Update



ANN GEBUHR, professor, returns to full-time teaching this year after 10 years as Director of the School of Music and Associate Dean in the College of Arts and Humanities. During the past year, she was invited to present papers at two international symposia on Krzysztof Penderecki, one in Leipzig and another in Krakow. She is organizing and will host for Houston Baptist University an international symposium, *American Perspectives on Penderecki*, in October 2004. Her symphonic work *Voyage d'Anima* won the Louisville Orchestra prize and was performed by that orchestra in October 2003, and in April 2004 the Indianapolis Philharmonic performed *In Memoriam Dietrich Bonhoeffer* on one of its subscription concerts. Also in April, the outstanding faculty and alumni of the HBU School of Music presented a faculty recital of her works. She has been commissioned by the Foundation for Universal Sacred Music to write a choral work, *Pax Vobiscum*, which will be premiered in New York in the Fall of 2005. She won the Texas Composer commission from the Texas Music Teachers Association, for which she is writing a trio, *Prayers of Hildegard*, which will be premiered in San Antonio in June 2005. The Amarillo Symphony will perform *In Memoriam Dietrich Bonhoeffer* on the 60th anniversary of his death, 9 April 2005, and her opera, *Bonhoeffer*, will be performed by the Center for Contemporary Opera in New York City in the Spring of 2006. Her Concerto for Violin, "Luceafarul," commissioned by Rodica Weber, will be premiered in Romania in the summer of 2005. She will be on sabbatical leave during the Spring Quarter 2005, writing *A Mass for Peace*.



RHONDA FURR, professor, presented an organ recital at Christ Church Cathedral featuring works by J.S. Bach, Mendelssohn, Cornet, Böhm, Rinck, and Reger. The recital also included two of her own original compositions on *Hymn to Joy* and *Be Thou My Vision*. In addition, she has accompanied numerous performances throughout the Houston area. She served as interim organist at First United Methodist Church, Houston, and has served in several area churches throughout the year. She is currently serving as organist at First Presbyterian Church, Houston. Her greatest joy of the year was the homecoming of her son, Devin, an army Specialist, who was stationed in Iraq for 15 months.

RICHARD FIESE, professor, conducted over 20 band clinics and other school visitations for music programs in the 2003-2004 academic year. Additionally, he conducted adjudication for concert band, jazz ensemble, and orchestra at various venues. During November of 2003, Dr. Fiese performed with the Katy Wind Symphony. Dr. Fiese attended the Texas Music Educators Clinic-Conference in San Antonio during February 2004 and he continues to serve on the Research Committee for TMEA. March 2004 saw the publication by Halcyon Press of the second edition of *Writing Graduate Papers in Music* co-authored with Dr. J. David Boyle and Nancy Zovac. *A Systematic Approach to Error Detection for Conductors*, co-authored with Dr. Nicholas DeCarbo is in its fourth printing. Also, an article entitled *Turning Point: If not you, who?* was published in the May 2004 Southwestern Musician. Dr. Fiese also recently completed arrangements of *Lead on O King Eternal* and *Bringing in the Sheaves* for symphonic band.

JOHN HENDRICKSON, assistant professor/artist-in-residence, battled a case of tendonitis in his left hand, coming back in February to play a recital of Schubert, Schumann and Debussy. In April, his wife Patricia, soprano, collaborated in Dr. Ann Gebuhr's quartet *Veris Adventus* with flute, bassoon and piano in a concert honoring Dr. Gebuhr as she stepped down from the leadership of Director of the School of Music. In October, this quartet will travel to Indiana University to perform the same work in a concert honoring Dr. Gebuhr's mentor Dr. Alfonso Monticino. John and Patricia also performed in Mabee Theatre on September 17, 2004.



Mr. Hendrickson traveled to upstate New York in June to perform with his friend of twenty-five years Mr. Don Lucas, trombonist, at the International Trombone Festival. This was their third such appearance at this festival over the last decade.

DAN KRAMLICH, associate professor, spent part of the summer teaching, part traveling and part writing (no pun intended). The travel included driving from Houston to Hokendauqua, PA, stopping for a short stay at Mammoth Cave National Park in Kentucky. The trip to Pennsylvania was a much-needed several weeks spent with family.



Dr. K is presently working on a choral/orchestral setting of a poem by fellow HBU faculty member James Ulmer. The poem is entitled *Ease*, and the setting reflects the quiet subject of the very evocative poem, that is, waking up in the morning.

Faculty Update



ROBERT MCELROY, assistant professor, pursues an extensive career as a conductor, clinician, adjudicator and educational consultant in addition to his primary responsibilities at HBU. He is a consultant for Warner Bros. Publications and for “aha! Process, Inc.” This past academic year, McElroy judged numerous concert, sight-reading, solo/ensemble and marching contests throughout Texas and Louisiana as well as a Concert Band and Orchestra Festival at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado. He also presented clinics and/or workshops for 67 different school band programs (for teachers but primarily for students) in Texas and Louisiana.

McElroy conducts the Katy Wind Symphony — an ensemble whose membership includes the finest professional musicians in the greater Houston area. This group performed a concert in November of 2003. In December, McElroy was a guest conductor for the Houston Holiday Brass Concert sponsored by the International Women’s Brass Conference. The Houston Symphonic Band (McElroy as founder/artistic director) is a group of some 85 Houston-area volunteer musicians who this year received the prestigious Sudler Silver Scroll Award ... an award presented by the John Philip Sousa Foundation to the finest community bands in the world. The HSB was one of only two groups to be so honored. During this past June, McElroy was invited guest conductor for several concerts in Beijing, Tian-Jen and Xian in the People’s Republic of China.

As part of a wonderful close to the year, the announcement was made by the University that McElroy had been elected to serve the permanent position of Director of Instrumental Activities.



ROBIN ROEWE, assistant professor, was a soloist in performances of Mendelssohn’s *Lobgesang* with Grace Presbyterian Church, Houston, and in conjunction with the American Guild of Organists convention in San Antonio. He also conducted the HBU Opera Theater production of *Le Nozze di Figaro*. This production marked his debut as an opera conductor as he is more accustomed to performing from the other end of the baton.

He continues to serve at Kingsland Baptist Church in Katy as Music and Worship Associate and has assumed the role of overseeing the Church Music Internship Program at HBU. Mr. Roewe was also an adjudicator at the Texas Private School Music Educators Association choir festival and the National Association of Teachers of Singing auditions. During the summer he participated in a mission

trip to the United Kingdom with other members of the music ministry at Kingsland Baptist Church. Upcoming performances include Haydn’s *Creation* on October 17, 2004 with the Houston Chamber Choir.



JOHN YARRINGTON, professor, led the First Presbyterian Chancel Choir on a 16 day tour to Romania and Hungary in June, 2004. Fourteen HBU students were invited to go with the choir, all expenses paid, and made a significant difference both musically and in the community which the choir fosters. Dominique Royem (HBU grad.), the Choral Intern at First Presbyterian Church conducted the choir in several European venues. Her internship was sponsored by a member of the choir.

Dr. Yarrington’s second book with Abingdon Press, *Somebody’s Got My Hymnal* was published in the spring of 2004. Two pieces for children’s choirs were also released from MorningStar Press. Three SATB octavos, by Dr. Yarrington are in process in the new James Jordan Choral Series with G.I.A. and will be released in the fall of 2004. A chapter on *Ethics for the Musician* will be part of a new book by Dr. Jordan to be published in the fall of 2004 by G.I.A. Yarrington’s tune, for the Brian Wren text, *Give us a New Song* was published with Hope Publishing Company in a collection of Wren’s texts.

A new gift to the University is the Fellowship in Choral Music which goes to a conducting student at HBU, and pays one-third tuition for the year. This gift is also provided by a member of the First Presbyterian Church Choir. The formal announcement reads as follows: *It is the desire of the donor to establish a fellowship in choral conducting in the music department of the College of Arts and Humanities.* This position is intended to honor Dr. John C. Yarrington and to benefit the students he inspires. It will be named the John C. Yarrington Fellowship in Choral Music. Dusten Melear is the first recipient of this Fellowship.

HBU School of Music Concert Schedule

2004 – 2005

Sunday, September 12	8 p.m., <u><i>Houston Symphonic Band Concert</i></u> Foundry United Methodist Church, 8350 Jones Road
Friday, October 22	4-10 p.m., <u><i>American Perspectives on Penderecki</i></u>
Saturday, October 23	8 a.m.-6 p.m., Mabee Theater
Friday, October 29	8 p.m., <u><i>Fall Choral Concert</i></u> Grace Presbyterian Church, 10221 Ella Lee
Monday, November 1	8 p.m., <u><i>HBU Symphonic Band Concert</i></u> Glasscock Center, HBU
Friday, November 12	8 p.m., <u><i>HBU Symphonic Band Concert</i></u> Kinkaidd School, 201 Kinkaidd Drive
Friday, Dec. 10	8 p.m., <u><i>Christmas Concert</i></u> with HBU Symphonic Band Foundry United Methodist Church, 8350 Jones Road
Sunday, Feb. 13	4 p.m., <u><i>Winter Choral Concert</i></u> with HBU Choirs Grace Presbyterian Church, 10221 Ella Lee
Friday, Feb. 18	8 p.m., <u><i>HBU Instrumental Chamber Music Concert</i></u> HBU Mabee Theater
April 15, 16, 17	7:30--Fri/Sat, 2 p.m.--Sun, <u><i>HBU Spring Opera Production</i></u> HBU Mabee Theater
Friday, April 30	8 p.m., <u><i>Spring Choral Concert</i></u> with HBU Choirs
Friday, May 10	8 p.m., <u><i>HBU Symphonic Band and Chamber Orchestra</i></u> Spring Concert HBU Glasscock Center

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or e-mail <rfurr@hbu.edu>