New Professor of Jazz Studies

The Department of Music welcomes **John Valerio** as our new adjunct Assistant Professor of Jazz Studies. He will be teaching improvisation lessons, courses in the Jazz Studies minor, and classical composition lessons.

Dr. Valerio is a composer, pianist and author from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He earned a doctorate in Music Composition from Temple University and has written numerous works for a variety of voices, instruments and ensembles in classical and jazz idioms. His compositions have been performed by Network for New Music, Temple University's Contemporary Players and Singers, the Charlotte Symphony Youth Orchestra, the Benedict College Community Orchestra and Concert Choir, the University of South Carolina Graduate Chorus, John Dulik, Carol Morgan and many others. He has performed with a long list of outstanding jazz artists. He has published six books on jazz piano for Hal Leonard including *Stride and Swing Piano*, *Bebop Jazz Piano*, and *Post Bop Jazz Piano*, and is currently writing one on Latin Jazz Piano. He was chosen to give a clinic on jazz piano playing at the 2004 International Association for Jazz Education Annual Conference in New York. He has recorded a new CD with Tom Hildreth on bass titled *The Altoona Sessions* that will be released in December, 2006, and his composition *Synthetic Dances* was recorded by Rebecca Nagel, and will be included on her CD featuring music for oboe.

Generous Substantial Gifts Received

In late April, Tony Roof '85, a member of the Columbia chapter of the American Guild of Organists who recently closed a music store in West Columbia, donated approximately 100 boxes of music. The shipment included a great deal of choral music, but also piano and organ music, instrumental music and band methods. In addition, he gave the College music supplies like drumsticks, guitar accessories, music software, and more. His gift is estimated conservatively at a total retail value of $90,000.

Another highly-valued gift came to us from Marilyn Boone Kimbrell, class of 1978. Ms. Kimbrell retired after a career as a very successful music teacher. She donated boxes of wonderful music education materials – all sorts of books, music, listening materials, and teaching aids – which have provided a great enrichment to our music education resource library.

In 2006, the department received the piano library of William B. Moore, and son of famed Newberry College choral conductor Milton Moore. William Moore was a highly successful musician in his own right; he was a Professor of Piano and the Chair of the Department of Music at the University of Regina in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, until his death in 2005. This gift includes six large boxes of valuable piano scores as well as cataloguing information for the material.

New Guitar Instructor at Newberry College

There is a new face around the Music Center and he carries a guitar! **Matthew Smith** is Newberry College’s new guitar and bass instructor. Matthew received his formal training at the University of South Carolina where he studied classical guitar performance with Christopher Berg.

Since graduating from USC, he has opened a private studio in Irmo, played lead guitar in various bands, recorded two albums, and plays classical guitar at weddings and special events. After eleven years of teaching, Matthew's studio has become quite successful. Many of his former pupils have gone on to study music at universities such as The Berklee School of Music in Boston.

Matthew says, “My goal is to establish a respected guitar program at Newberry College where young guitarists can learn to become professional musicians.” Next semester, Matthew will be teaching an introductory guitar class in addition to individual lessons.

Also, watch for his classical guitar recital in the spring. For more information about the guitar program at Newberry College, e-mail Matthew Smith at MSmithGuitarStudio@mail.com.
Three Generations Contribute to New Platforms in Choral Rehearsal Hall

Choral singers are sitting on new, tiered platforms in the choral room. This new equipment for 2006 is due to the work of three generations of the Neufeld family at Newberry College.

When Dr. Chuck Neufeld mentioned to his parents that the choir could use some seating platforms in the choral rehearsal hall, they jumped at the opportunity to help. Before the project was over, Dr. Neufeld's daughters volunteered to help, making it a three-generation service project.

“My parents were visiting us last April. While they were here, they volunteered with Habitat for Humanity. When they found out we could use some platforms, they said they would love to help build them. After a quick planning session, we picked up some plywood the next day and got started,” said Dr. Neufeld. “My girls helped apply five coats of floor finish to the platforms this summer. It was a bona fide family project.” The choir room in the Alumni Music Center was filled with the smell of sawdust and hardwood floor finish from May to July as the project was completed.

“They are so nice,” said April Ballard, a Senior Music Education major at Newberry who is a fourth year member of NC Singers. “It really has improved our rehearsals and our sound.”

Dr. Neufeld's parents are Dr. Orville and Ida Neufeld, of Colorado Springs, CO. They are no strangers to service at the platforms this summer. It was a bona fide family project.” The choir room in the Alumni Music Center was filled with the smell of sawdust and hardwood floor finish from May to July as the project was completed.

“Things are looking UP!”

Newberry College Singers and Madrigals Announce 2006-2007 Season

The 2006-2007 Newberry College Singers and Madrigals will be performing challenging repertoire around the theme How Can I Keep from Singing in several venues around the Newberry campus. Included in the NC Singers repertoire will be Stephen Leek's “Ngana,” Alberto Grau's “Kasar mie la gaji,” Robert Young's “All for Love,” and Hans Leo Hassler's “Cantate Domino.” The Madrigals will perform Palestrina's setting of the Latin hymn “Veni Creator Spiritus,” Orazio Vechi's “Fa una canzone,” F.J. Haydn's partsong “O Wunderbare Harmonie,” and an arrangement of “Can't Buy Me Love” by the Beatles. Check the back page calendar for concert dates.

Two Singers Compete at NATS

Two Newberry College voice majors competed in NATS (National Association of Teachers of Singing) Student Auditions held at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, SC. Juniors Betsy Burris and Frances Ancosta competed against their college peers from across South Carolina with high scores.

Caitlin Andrews Overall Talent Winner in Miss Georgia Pageant

Caitlin Andrews, a Sophomore Vocal Performance major at Newberry, was the New Talent and Overall Talent winner in the 2006 Miss Georgia pageant in Atlanta. Caitlin is from Lawrenceville, GA. Her rendition of “Ness un Dorma” by Puccini was unique, and very expressive.

“When Caitlin wanted to perform the aria for the pageant, I was really a little hesitant,” said her voice teacher, Dr. Chuck Neufeld. “The piece is really a tenor aria, but for pageant work that really doesn't matter. Successful pageant contestants rework the scores to fit the time limits and rules of the contest. Caitlin is a terrific student who works hard on all of her repertoire and performances.”

In addition to her talent awards, Caitlin was a top five finalist. Each of these honors carries special Miss America scholarship awards. Caitlin will be competing in Miss America pageants again in 2006-2007 in hopes of gaining the Miss Georgia crown.

Organ Music - Alive and Well

Dr. Sally began her performance year in early January with a regional workshop for Augsburg Fortress publishers. She previewed their new organ literature in a workshop held for organists from the southeast. She also published an article for their website on organist wellness.

In February, Dr. Sally journeyed to Walhalla, SC playing a recital at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church. This church is a strong supporter of Newberry College. What a great turn-out (and a very tasty reception!). March took Dr. Sally back to Columbia to speak to the chapter of the National Music Teacher's Association on the topic of organ pedagogy – how do we find, teach, and encourage good organ students?

The highlight of Dr. Sally's year was presenting a workshop at the biennial National American Guild of Organists convention in Chicago. Her workshop was entitled Get Ready to Dance: Music Featuring the Pedals, and involved discussing and performing about twenty pieces that emphasized the foot pedals for a large group of organists from various countries. She recently repeated the workshop in Columbia for the A.G.O.

Dr. Sally has also been busy on the writing front. She wrote the extensive article on “Organ Pedagogy” that appears in The Organ: An Encyclopedia, edited by Bush and Kassel and published by Routledge in 2006. She is currently completing her research on the history of organ pedagogy in the United States for her book to be published.
The College Street Jazz Connection performed for the Lowman Homes Jazz Flavor and Flare Festival in September, and played their first campus concert in November. A joint concert is on tap with Newberry High School’s jazz combo, where alumni Travis Kelly is the band director. Also, a copy of our new CD will soon be released. Proceeds from the CD will help to fund a trip for the jazz combo to an educational jazz festival. ~ The woodwind studio has two new freshman saxophonists, Desiray Swinton and Alicia Crockett. They joined Christopher Wofford and Dustin Duckett to form the NC Saxophone Quartet. Their first performance met with rave reviews. Clarinetist April Ballard and saxophonist Christopher Wofford both performed their senior recitals during the fall semester.

Alumni Profile

T. Adam Blackstock entered Newberry College in the fall of 1998. Majoring in Music Education, Adam performed with the marching band, wind ensemble, and jazz big band for four years while instructing and arranging for the Newberry marching percussion section from 1999-2001. He performed a junior recital of classical and contemporary works and a senior recital of jazz improvisations, receiving his degree in 2002. Adam received a Master’s degree in 2005 from Tennessee Technological University. Adam was the instructor/arranger of the TTU marching percussion section and participated in the TTU Wind Ensemble (principal), Bryan Symphony Orchestra (co-principal), TTU Percussion Ensemble, and the Abusua West African Drumming and Dance Ensemble. He also consults with the education teams of the Innovative Percussion corporation and the Remo Corporation and has several articles and compositions under review for publication. Adam is currently a DMA candidate in percussion performance and serves as a graduate teaching assistant at the University of Kansas where he studies with world renowned marimba soloist, Kevin Bobo. As guest soloist at the International Percussion Festival, in Santiago, Chile, and the Percussive Arts Society in Orlando, Florida, he contributed to the successful concert and recruiting trip to Puerto Rico in April 2006. Adam is a proud representative of Newberry College and stated in a recent letter:

“My accomplishments are proof that one does not have to attend the largest or most popular universities to succeed. My experiences and friendships that resulted from my four years at Newberry College are priceless to me; Bill Long, Janet Long, Dr. John Wagner, Julie McLeod, Lavonne Bazemore, Forrest Matthews, and Roy Stenstrom will forever remain in my thoughts as I continue to progress in my life’s journey. These men and women all pushed me to succeed and for this I am eternally grateful."

The 50th Annual Newberry College Jazz Festival will be held on March 1-3, 2007

Featuring saxophonist, “Blue” Lou Marini from the movie, “The Blues Brothers.”

Jazz Big Band

The Jazz Big Band completed a highly successful concert and recruiting trip to Georgia via the I-85 corridor thru South Carolina. After the spring tour, the band hosted the 49th Annual Newberry College Jazz Festival which featured Newberry graduate Scott Crump and the famous Dave Steinmayer on trombones. Crump is the lead trombonist with the Air Force Academy’s Falconairs. The Big Band finished its season with the Graduation Jazz Concert, where Mr. Long presented the prestigious Charles P. Pruitt “Most Valuable Player” award to Junior Eargle and Jeffrey Gaines.

Tubist Bill Long was involved in two unique summer projects. The first saw Long play both the euphonium and tuba as he participated with the Palmetto Brass Quintet and friends in a program of massed brass and organ selections by the Renaissance composer, Giovanni Gabrieli. The concert was held at Ebenezer Lutheran Church, Columbia. Mr. Long is a tubist in the Palmetto Brass Quintet and will play the Ebenezer Lutheran Church Christmas Eve Service in Columbia, SC. (WIS-TV coverage on Channel 10)

Long also joined pianist, Wanda Neese, in what is probably the state’s very first completely Piazzolla concert. Astor Piazzolla is an increasingly popular composer of Argentine classic tangos. They were joined by students Chris Wofford (Alto Sax), Robbie Madison (Flugelhorn), and Junior Eargle (Trombone) playing mostly Mr. Long’s arrangements.

Special Thanks to Cayci Banks for her unique and special photos contributed for this newsletter!
More Gifts to the Music Department

- During the summer, the Department of Music received two financial gifts. One, a gift from Buell and Gaynell Moore, is designated for the Alumni Music Building recital hall. It will go for recording and web-based lecture equipment, as well as much-needed lighting. The other is a generous unrestricted gift from David L. Vorpagel, a member of the Board of Trustees.

- Thanks to a generous gift, the choral music library has recently upgraded to a digital filing system. A new Apple computer and software is a gift from Jim and Sarah Ingram and will allow choral librarians to digitally catalogue the choral library holdings.

- Bill Long and Chuck Neufeld have raised over $7,000.00 on behalf of the music department for a new acoustic shell. Parts are no longer available for the old acoustic shell, which has gone through several rebuilds, and has been reduced to only a few sections that are in the final stage of life (no pun intended). The music department would like to thank the Newberry College Women’s League and the Student Government Association for their generous support of this project. Substantial gifts from individuals and organizations such as these allow the music department to advance with equipment that is vital for excellent student performance experiences.

If you have phoned the music department since last March you have already encountered the sparkling personality of Georganna Enlow, the secretary of the Department of Music. Georganna is well-equipped for her position here – in addition to her many professional qualifications, she attended Newberry College and has musical background as both a pianist and clarinetist. In fact, in her high school days (as Georganna Shealy) she performed with the Newberry High School Blue Brigade under the direction of Lorraine Paris. Georganna is married and has three children, so she is an adept multi-tasker and superbly balances the myriad of demands her job requires. Georganna can be reached at (803) 321-5633.

PREPARATORY MUSIC at Newberry College celebrates 19 years on campus.

Addressing the need for a community program that offered private musical instruction, Preparatory Music was founded in September of 1988. Throughout the years the program has offered private instruction in both piano, voice, Kindermusik, and other preschool music classes for all ages: infants through senior adults. Students have represented the College in local, regional, state, and national auditions, competitions, and workshops. Several have majored in music and two recently received graduate degrees. Preparatory music serves Newberry families and surrounding counties.

Wanda Neese is in her nineteenth year as part of the Newberry College Music Department. She teaches preparatory piano, secondary piano, preschool music classes, and serves as instrumental accompanist. In the spring of 2006, Wanda made her unexpected debut with the Newberry College Jazz Band. She also collaborated with Bill Long to form what is believed to be the first ensemble group in SC to perform music exclusively written by Astor Piazzolla. Wanda performed with violinist Pamela Frish Benigni of Italy in 2005 and for the past two years, coached intensely with world renowned pianist and master Chopin interpreter, Pawel Checinski of Chicago.

Send a Musician to Newberry College ~ Communicate Directly with the Music Faculty via email or (800) 845-4955.

Dr. Sally Cherrington Beggs ~ sally.cherrington@newberry.edu 
Dr. Barry McGinnis ~ barry.mcginnis@newberry.edu 
Dr. Chuck Neufeld ~ charles.neufeld@newberry.edu 
Laurel Larsen ~ laurel.larsen@newberry.edu 

Audition Dates

Friday, January 26, 2007 
Saturday, March 24, 2007 
Friday, February 23, 2007 
Friday, April 27, 2007

The Music Department offers the following degree programs:

Bachelor of Music in Performance 
Bachelor of Music Education (Choral or Instrumental) 
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Music, Church Music, or Music Theory 

New Musical Newberrians – Fall 2006

Kayla Chase, voice 
Ivan Covington, trumpet 
Alicia Crockett, saxophone 
Monica Hyde, clarinet 
Dante Williams, voice 
Daniel Anm, trumpet

Bianca Marini, voice 
Ike Pitts, organ 
Desiray Swinton, saxophone 
Katie Worthly, voice

Imo, SC 
Camen, SC 
Mt. Pleasant, SC 
Roebuck, SC

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February
20th ~ Chicago Brass Quintet with special guest Dr. Sally Cherrington Beggs @ 8 PM – Newberry Opera House 
11th-14th ~ Jazz Big Band Tour

March
1st – 3rd ~ NC Jazz Festival -- 50th Anniversary Celebration 
10th - 15th ~ NC Singers & Madrigals Tour
20th - NC Singers & Madrigals Home Concert @ 8 PM - Wiles Chapel

April
3rd ~ Faculty Saxophone Recital @ 8 PM - Wiles Chapel
13th ~ A Gershwin Songbook: Vocal Chamber Music @ 8 PM - AMC Recital Hall
17th Concert Band ~ Spring Concert @ 8 PM – Eleazer Arena
20th - 22nd ~ 150th Anniversary Celebration (Music & Arts) Alumni Band and Singers Reunion and Concert
24th ~ Madrigals Concert @ 8 PM – Newberry Opera House

May
11th ~ Jazz Big Band Graduation Concert @ 1 PM - AMC Recital Hall

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