Newberry Singers Excel at NATS Auditions

Two Singers Advance to NATS Regional Auditions, One Wins in Her Division

For the first time in the history of Newberry College, two voice students, Katie Worthy and Caitlin Andrews, qualified for the Mid-Atlantic Regional Student Auditions of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS). The April 14, 2007, event was held at the University of Maryland in College Park, MD. Katie and Caitlin both scored very high in their soprano categories. Caitlin won third place in her category—another first for a singer from Newberry College.

Katie and Caitlin qualified for regional competition when they received superior ratings and very high scores in their categories at Student Auditions of the South Carolina Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing, March 9, 2007, at the University of South Carolina. Five other Newberry voice students, Frances Ancona and Bianca Marini, Sopranos, and Betsy Burriss, Kayla Chase and Jenice Pleasant, Mezzo-Sopranos received Excellent and Superior ratings in their auditions.

"I am excited that the hard work and professionalism of our Newberry voice students is being recognized at the state and national levels," said Dr. Chuck Neufeld, who is the voice teacher for all of Newberry's 2007 NATS auditions participants. "Katie and Caitlin were at the top of a field of hundreds of singers in their categories; but I think the best indicator of our vocal success is that nobody from Newberry scored less than an Excellent at the state level. Our voice students are truly among the best around," said Neufeld. Newberry voice students plan to participate in upcoming South Carolina NATS Student Auditions, March 14-15, 2008, at the University of South Carolina.

1940s Radio Hour

Newberry College Music Students Star in All-School Musical

Music students at Newberry were featured in the cast of The 1940s Radio Hour at the Newberry Opera House, November 15-18, 2007. Voice students Bianca Marini, Betsy Burriss, Kayla Chase, Hannah Aurand, and John Long were joined in singing roles by Robbie Madison, Jennifer Wingate, Ivan Covington and Andrew Worthy, who are instrumental music majors but had important singing roles in the show.

Band members for the show played unique roles, since the band was on stage and an integral part of the storyline. Band members included faculty member Dr. Barry McGinnis, woodwinds; Newberry alumnus Junior Eargle, trombone; and music majors Shannon Pinkney, piano; Katie Justice, bass; Russell Powell, percussion; and Travis Smalls, percussion.

This all-school musical production also featured Raine Padgett and Jessica Takach, Mezzo-Sopranos, as well as Kirby Minninar, Bart Mayers, Daniel Buttre, and Lx Stogden. Students in the cast won their roles through competitive auditions. Betsy Burriss also served as assistant scenic designer for the production.

The 1940s Radio Hour was a Broadway hit in 1979-1980 for which Stephen James received the 1980 Theatre World Award for his role as B.J. Gibson in the original Broadway production.
Gershwin Program Big Success

Launch of New Composer Series

The music of George and Ira Gershwin filled the West Recital Hall on April 13, 2007, as Newberry College piano and voice students performed a recital of all Gershwin repertoire. Several piano works by Gershwin were brilliantly performed by Olga Kuzmenkova Warren. Vocal works that ranged from Gershwin’s early popular music to his later Broadway music were beautifully sung by Sopranos Bianca Marini and Frances Ancona; Mezzo-Sopranos Kayla Chase, Rachel Rentz, Hannah Aurand, Betsy Burris, and Emmely Standley; Tenors Chuck Neufeld and Joseph Schroer; Baritone Daniel Inman; and Basses Andrew Skagged and Rob Duffy. Becky Smith and Judi Neufeld accompanied the singers at the piano.

The success of the program has led Drs. Laurel Larsen and Chuck Neufeld to establish a new Composer Series of recitals at Newberry. Back and Friends: Music of Baroque Masters, the second recital in the series, was Friday, November 2, 2007, in the West Recital Hall in the Alumni Music Center. The third concert in the Composer Series will be 8:00 pm, Friday, April 11, 2008.

A “Grand” Donation

The music department would like to thank Trinity Lutheran Church in Columbia, S.C., and their pastor, the Reverend Dee Watson, for their generous contribution to the college. The congregation has decided to close, and upon the sale of the building, has donated a substantial sum of money to the college. This includes funds for the purchase of a six-foot Yamaha C-3 conservatory grand piano for Wiles Chapel. The instrument has been on loan for the past year from the Hannah Piano Company and the Yamaha Piano Corporation, and has a beautiful sound and sensitive action. Students, faculty, staff, and visitors will enjoy the sound of this wonderful instrument for many years. We are deeply appreciative of the tremendous generosity of the congregation at Trinity Lutheran! Thanks also to Pastor Todd Cutter, our campus minister, for all of his help in facilitating this donation. The gift will be commemorated by a plaque that will be displayed in Wiles Chapel.

Audition Dates

Audition Dates for Admission in Fall of 2008.

- Friday, 2/22/2008
- Saturday, 3/15/2008
- Friday, 4/18/2008

For audition requirements or to set up an audition date, please call Georganna Enlow at (803) 321-5633.

New Musical Newberrians

The Newberry College Department of Music welcomes the following students as music majors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>City/State</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caston Beatty</td>
<td>Voice</td>
<td>Clovis, S.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carly Bell</td>
<td>Flute</td>
<td>Fort Mill, S.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marah Bomar</td>
<td>Clarinet</td>
<td>Taylors, S.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demetria Chapman</td>
<td>Voice</td>
<td>Pemoria, S.C.</td>
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<td>Amber Chavis</td>
<td>Bass Clarinet</td>
<td>Pellon, S.C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Josh Clayton</td>
<td>Trumpet</td>
<td>Pellon, S.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caleb Craigo</td>
<td>Trombone/Guitar</td>
<td>Gray Court, S.C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dallas Epperson</td>
<td>Percussion</td>
<td>Pellon, S.C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Fulmer</td>
<td>Alto Saxophone</td>
<td>Prosperity, S.C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robbie Garthber</td>
<td>Bass</td>
<td>Pellon, S.C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katie Hazel</td>
<td>Voice</td>
<td>Columbia, S.C.</td>
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<td>Lawrence Kelly</td>
<td>Tenor Saxophone</td>
<td>Branchville, S.C.</td>
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<td>Robert Lambert</td>
<td>Flute</td>
<td>Elgin, S.C.</td>
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<td>Tim Lawson</td>
<td>Tuba</td>
<td>Whitmire, S.C.</td>
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<td>John Long</td>
<td>Voice</td>
<td>Pawley's Island, S.C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Josh Matlack</td>
<td>Music Theory</td>
<td>Lillburn, Ga.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caroline Meiler</td>
<td>Oboe</td>
<td>Elgin, S.C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aran Nelson</td>
<td>Piano</td>
<td>Niceville, Fla.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Nelson</td>
<td>Alto Saxophone</td>
<td>Gray Court, S.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Wingate</td>
<td>Alto Sax/Voice</td>
<td>Gainesville, Fla.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Worthy</td>
<td>Percussion</td>
<td>Roebuck, S.C.</td>
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This year’s incoming class of music majors is twice the size of last year’s class!
Band activities began on August 17th, when Band Director Bill Long, and Drum Major Robbie Madison, welcomed a large and highly talented group of musicians to the Scarlet Spirit Marching Band's pre-season band camp. This year's show was entitled "Motown" and featured that record label's colossal hits. Last year's Drum Major, Christopher Wofford, has written the show as he did last year. Other students are writing drill and assisting with percussion writing and sectional teaching.

The Jazz Big Band presented its Winter Concert on December 4th in Wiles Chapel and worked on a special program in November at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Lexington. The traditional Big Band tour will be in early February and will have the band appearing at Christ Lutheran Church in Hilton Head, S.C.; St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Summerville, S.C.; Shepherd of the Sea Lutheran Church in Garden City, S.C.; as well as Walterboro High School, West Ashley High School, and St. James High School in Murrell's Inlet, S.C. The Jazz Big Band will once again host the Newberry College Tuba Christmas performance each year and this year's event was scheduled for Saturday, December 8th. Newberry's Tuba Christmas is one of two in our state and features tubas and euphoniums playing traditional carols for the audience's listening and sing-along enjoyment. This year we set a record with 41 performers.

Jazz musicians in our department took advantage of a new program which was centered at JezeBelle's. "Jazz In the Afternoon at JezeBelle's" gave jazz and pop soloists a chance to perform in a legitimate cabaret setting. Three of our students participated, and played to enthusiastic crowds in this downtown setting.

Spring semester will see the concert band in Eleazer Arena on Tuesday, April 15. The program will include the entire "Lord of the Rings" symphony by de Mijs and the Grieg "Concerto in A minor."

Bill Long was selected to be the guest conductor for the Horry County Senior Honor Band and was engaged in that capacity on the 4th and 5th of January in Myrtle Beach, S.C.
Newberry College’s 150th Anniversary Celebration was alive with the sound of music! The Department of Music provided performances for every anniversary event, from convocations to worship services to the 150th anniversary weekend.

The culmination of the musical year was the Anniversary Festival on April 20-22. On Friday night, music at the Gala Reunion and Party was provided by Endless Summer, a group led by John Halloran, ’73.

Saturday was the musical climax of the Anniversary celebration. From 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., a kaleidoscope of half-hour concerts, improvisational drama, and readings by alumni writers were presented. The outstanding musical presentations included “A Gershwin Songbook” by the vocal students of the music department; an organ recital by alumnus and former faculty member Dr. J. Michael Grant; a set by the College Street Jazz Connection; and performances by the Percussion Ensemble and Brass Quartet.

Saturday evening the fireworks began! Setzer Field was the unlikely setting for a fabulous concert which combined alumni and current students. An enthusiastic group of alumni from the Singers joined the current Newberry College Singers to form a rousing choir of over 100 inspired vocalists. Under the baton of Dr. Chuck Neufeld, Director of Choral Activities, they performed three selections which included the traditional “Beautiful Savior” arrangement by F. Melius Christiansen, as well as the beloved “The Lord Bless You and Keep You” by Peter C. Lutkin. The current Singers also sang several spirituals and concluded with a sensational gospel number.

Marcie Blanchard, class of ’96, formed an Alumni Children’s Choir for the event which sang beautifully. Ms. Blanchard teaches music in the Newberry Schools.

Benny Ferguson, class of 1970, took charge of the Alumni Band. Dr. Ferguson is the Director of Visual and Performing Arts for the Savannah Chatham County Board of Education, and president of the Georgia Music Education Association. Under his leadership, alumni combined with members of the current band and played several exciting selections.

For the grand finale, the Alumni Band and Alumni Festival Choir combined for a moving performance of the Newberry College alma mater.

Sunday morning marked the close of the Anniversary Festival with a service in Wiles Chapel. Metoka Galeda provided pre-service music, while Dr. Sally and several students provided music during the service. Special thanks go to Jim and Sarah Ingram and Julie McLeod, who donated many hours of time to updating our music alumni lists and helping coordinate the events. We hope to host more of these alumni performing events in the near future!

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**Students Jazz Up Conference**

Students from the Newberry College Department of Music performed for Lutheran faculty from around the country at the Association of Lutheran Colleges conference held at Newberry College on October 5 and 6. Newberry’s strong jazz program was featured as students Shannon Pinkney, piano and Robbie Madison, trumpet and vocals, entertained at the Friday night banquet. On Saturday night, the Jazz Combo entertained at the closing reception. All musicians received great acclaim from the attendees!

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**Dr. Julie McLeod**

Julie Hamiter McLeod, Professor of Music Emeritus and Newberry College alumnus (class of 1959), has been awarded an Honorary Doctor of Music degree. Dr. McLeod was an outstanding and enthusiastic member of the Music faculty for 39 years, until her retirement in 2000. She was Secretary of the Faculty for 11 years and is a former president of the Bachman Honor Society. She continues to serve the college as a member of the Board of the Newberry College Women’s League. Congratulations, Dr. McLeod on a well-deserved honor!
# Calendar of Events 2008 Winter/Spring Season

## JAZZ BIG BAND TOUR EVENING CONCERT
- **2/3/2008** 4:00 PM Christ Lutheran Church, Hilton Head, SC
- **2/4/2008** 7:00 PM St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Summerville, SC
- **2/5/2008** 7:00 PM Shepherd of the Sea, Garden City, SC

## JAZZ BIG BAND TOUR HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMANCES
- **2/4/2008** 1:00 PM Colleton County High School, Walterboro, SC
- **2/5/2008** 9:15 AM West Ashley High School, Charleston, SC
- **2/6/2008** 10:00 AM St. James High School, Murrells Inlet, SC

## SINGERS & MADRIGALS TOUR PERFORMANCES
- **3/26/2008** 7:00 PM Trinity Lutheran Church, Greenville, SC
- **3/27/2008** 7:00 PM St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Charleston, SC
- **3/28/2008** 7:00 PM Ebeneezer-Jerusalem Church, Rincon, GA
- **3/30/2008** 9:15 AM & 11:15 AM Prince of Peace Church, Fayetteville, GA
- **3/30/2008** 7:00 PM Resurrection Lutheran Church, Augusta, GA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>NEWBERRY COLLEGE EVENT</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/24/2008</td>
<td>Andrea Novak, Senior Horn Recital</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>AMC Recital Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/26/2008</td>
<td>Faculty Trumpet and Piano Recital featuring Jens and Laurel Larsen</td>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>AMC Recital Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/2/2008</td>
<td>Katie Worthy, Junior Voice Recital</td>
<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>AMC Recital Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/6-8/2008</td>
<td>Newberry College 51st Annual Jazz Festival</td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>Campus Wide Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/11/2008</td>
<td>David Spell, Senior Trombone Recital</td>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>AMC Recital Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/18/2008</td>
<td>Jared Poole, Junior Euphonium Recital</td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>AMC Recital Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/2/2008</td>
<td>NC Singers &amp; Madrigals Home Concert</td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>Wiles Chapel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/7/2008</td>
<td>Barry McGinnis, Faculty Saxophone Recital with Sally Cherrington Beggs and Laurel Larsen</td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>Wiles Chapel</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/11/2008</td>
<td>Composer Series: <em>Pearls of Music</em></td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>AMC Recital Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/13/2008</td>
<td>Jason Davis, Senior Horn Recital</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>AMC Recital Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/15/2008</td>
<td>NC Concert Band Spring Concert</td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>Eleazer Arena</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/18/2008</td>
<td>NC Madrigals Spring Concert</td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>AMC Recital Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/22/2008</td>
<td>Brass Ensemble Concert</td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>AMC Recital Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/2/2008</td>
<td>NC Jazz Big Band Graduation Concert</td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>AMC Recital Hall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Alumni Relations**
2100 College Street
Newberry, SC 29108

*Address Service Requested*

James Ingram
1401 Corley Mill Road
Lexington, SC 29072-7636
Conducting and Vocal Performances Keep Neufeld on the Move

Like his faculty colleagues in the Newberry College Music Department, Chuck Neufeld wears many musical hats as he teaches students, conducts choirs, performs, and pursues other professional activities in South Carolina and the Southeastern United States.

"The art of balancing my roles as choral conductor, voice teacher, and music educator may be my biggest performance task," joked Neufeld. "It's a stretch to keep up, but making great music with students here at Newberry is very worthwhile."

In the past year Neufeld conducted over 20 performances by Newberry College Singers and Madrigals. "Each performance is special to me," said Neufeld. "The choral performances in the last year's Newberry College Singers Home Concert and Madrigals Spring Concert were stunning." He was also privileged to conduct the Alumni Choir in the Newberry College 150th Anniversary Celebration in late April 2007.

Neufeld sang tenor roles in performances of Bach's *Gloria in excelsis* and Saint-Saëns's *Christmas Oratorio* by the Augusta Choral Society. He sang with Broadway singing star Nat Chandler in Dubois's *Seven Last Words of Christ* at First Baptist Church, Greenwood, S.C. He also performed in *A German Songbook: The Music of George Gershwin* on the Newberry campus.

Neufeld gave choral clinics in several high schools last year. He adjudicated at the South Carolina Solo and Ensemble contest in Spartanburg and at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Student Auditions of the National Association of Teachers of Singing at the University of Maryland, College Park, MD.

As part of his position as Webmaster for the South Carolina Chapter of the American Choral Director's Association (ACDA) Neufeld attended several state meetings and the National Convention of ACDA in Miami, Fla., last spring.

In Neufeld's largest project in the Fall of 2007 he played multiple roles in Newberry College's production of *The 1940s Radio Hour*. As musical director of the show he was responsible for all of the vocal and instrumental music in the show. Because of the many story lines it included the production of a live radio show, he also played the role of Zoot Doubleman, the bandleader for the radio program.

Music Making with Dr. Sally

2007 was another fun and challenging year of music-making for Dr. Sally Cherrington Beggs, Chair of the Music Department. On February 20, Dr. Sally played a thrilling concert with the Chicago Brass Quintet at the Newberry Opera House. In addition to performances in Chicago, this is the second time that Dr. Sally and the Chicago Brass have joined forces at the NOH, and there was an enthusiastic packed house. Dr. Sally performed a solo piece for pedals only, the challenging "Variations on a Theme by Paganini" by G. Thalben-Ball, which was particularly well-received.

In April, Dr. Sally was a guest organ recitalist at the Cathedral of All Angels in Gary, Ind., a beautiful Gothic structure in the Chicago suburbs. Later that month, she returned to her undergraduate alma mater, Susquehanna University, an ELCA college. Her undergraduate organ teacher, Dr. Susan Hegberg, retired at the end of the school year. Dr. Sally was chosen as one of three students from throughout Dr. Hegberg's teaching career to play a recital for the event and teach at a masterclass in her honor.

This summer, Dr. Sally was a guest artist at a Music and Arts Festival in Macon, Ga. In the fall she was happy to have a musical excuse to visit the Isle of Palms, S.C., where she played the dedication recital for a large new three-manual organ at the First United Methodist Church. She continues to turn up on the organ bench in a wide variety of churches from Newberry to Columbia as an organ substitute on Sunday mornings.

In the spring semester of 2008, Dr. Sally will be getting out more in the Midwest and southeast. She is presenting a workshop on performance injuries for organists at the American Guild of Organists chapter in Peoria, Ill., in January. Throughout the rest of the semester, she will play recitals at Fourth Presbyterian Church, a large downtown church in Chicago, Ill., as well as recitals in Savannah, Ga.; Aiken, S.C.; Manning, S.C.; and Columbia, S.C.

To close out the semester, she and Dr. McGinnis will perform a difficult contemporary work for organ and saxophone at the 2008 International Biennial Conference of the North American Saxophone Alliance, which will be held at USC in Columbia.
Newberry College is pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Diane Haslam as Adjunct Professor of Voice in the Department of Music. Diane brings a vast array of vocal performance studio teaching experience to her new position. A native of Nottingham, England, Diane studied at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, England before pursuing her career in vocal performance.

Diane's career began as a member of the BBC Northern Singers. She made her London debut as alto soloist in Handel's Messiah at the Royal Albert Hall under the baton of Sir David Willecocks. While in London she sang principal mezzo-soprano roles in the touring opera company Opera Roundabout. She later moved to Amsterdam, Holland where she was a full-time member of the Nether-lands Opera Company, including solo performances on Dutch television and radio the Netherlands Opera Studio. Diane has also appeared with Opera Den Haag and the Cincinnati Opera.

Her operatic roles include Siebel in Faust, Cherubino and Marcellina in Le Nozze di Figaro, Dorabella in Così fan Tutti, Hansel in Hansel and Gretel, Duchess in A Dinner Engagement (Lennox Berkeley), Isabella in Italiana in Algieri, Hortense in Not in Front of the Waiter (Offenbach), Klin in the Making of the Representative for Planet 8 (Philip Glass), Sophie in Die Fledermaus, Djamileh in Djamileh (Bizet), and Madame Popova in The Bear (William Walton).

Diane also brings a great deal of oratorio and choral experience to her work at Newberry. She has appeared as featured soloist with orchestras including the English Sinfonia, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, English Chamber Orchestra, East of England Symphony, the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra, and the Hamilton (Ohio) Symphony Orchestra. Her repertoire includes major works by Bach, Handel, Vivaldi, Duruflé, Mozart, Pergolesi, Saint-Saëns, Berlioz, Canteloube, de Falla, Bizet, and Purcell.

When she is not performing, Diane spends most of her time teaching privately in her Aiken, S.C., voice studio Vocal Dimensions. She leads workshops and seminars in holistic singing, voice development, performance, and choral singing technique. Diane has taught masterclasses across the United States and England. She is also the Music Director of the Aiken Singers community choir.

Newberry Choirs Reach Thousands

Over 20 choral performances reached an audience of thousands during the Newberry College Choirs 2006-2007 season. In December 2006 the Madrigals sang to an audience of over 100,000 during their WLLX News 19 television broadcast. The station specifically invited Madrigals to return to the Christmas choral event after their terrific performance in December 2005.

A performance by the Newberry College Singers Alumni Choir was a great contribution to the Newberry College 150th Anniversary Celebra-

tion in April 2007. Future Alumni Choir events are in the planning stages.

The Newberry College Madrigals performed two significant choral works in their 2007 Spring Concert: Bach, Brahms, and Berkeley Square. The Madrigals' performance of J.S. Bach's motet "Lobet den Herrn, alle Heiden" and Johannes Brahms's Liebeslieder Waltzes represented a milestone in choral music at Newberry.

"I don't believe Madrigals have ever performed a more beautiful program," said conductor Chuck Neufeld. "The students know that I reserve the descriptive word "stunning" for only their very best performances. I honestly thought that the Bach and Brahms were stunning."

The Newberry College Singers and Madrigals 2007 Spring Tour was another milestone for Newberry College Choirs. "The tour was great!" said Newberry College Singers president Bianca Marini. "And working with Dr. Nelson was very special." Marini was referring to a choral clinic at Emory University where Newberry College Singers worked directly with Dr. Eric Nelson. Nelson is Director of Choral Activities at Emory and is nationally recognized for his choral conducting excellence. Newberry College singers worked with Nelson on several pieces from their repertoire, including Nelson's arrangement of "How Can I Keep From Singing?"

Newberry College Choirs launched their 2007-2008 Season called Ancient Elements at their October 23 Parents Concert in Wiles Chapel.
Newberry College’s jazz combo, the College Street Jazz Connection, had a very productive and exciting spring 2007 semester and has had a busy fall 2007 semester. The group is a traditional small jazz combo consisting of trumpet, saxophone, piano, bass, and drums that performs a mix of various jazz styles, including swing standards, bebop, cool jazz, blues, and Latin. During the spring semester of 2007, the College Street Jazz Connection attended the Downhome Jazz Festival in Dothan, Ala., where they were recognized with a plaque awarded for a “Superior” rating. In addition, two of the ensemble’s members, Ivan Covington and Shannon Pinkney, received Outstanding Soloist awards. The Downhome Jazz Festival is an event sponsored by the International Association of Jazz Educators in which ensembles perform several pieces and are rated by a panel of three judges on their performance. The festival included jazz ensembles from Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, and South Carolina. “The Downhome Jazz Festival was the first jazz festival in which this group has ever participated. To achieve a superior rating and have two of our students recognized as outstanding soloists is an outstanding achievement which speaks volumes for this ensemble’s ability. They have brought Newberry College and the music department some well deserved recognition,” said Dr. Barry McGinnis, associate professor of woodwinds and music history and director of the group.

The ensemble has been steadily performing since the beginning of classes in August. This semester they have already performed for the Lowman Homes Annual Jazz Flavor and Flare Festival, a First Community Bank social function, the Association of Lutheran College Faculty conference held at Newberry College, at First Baptist Church in Lexington, and their semester campus concert. They are currently raising funds to attend the Elmhurst College Jazz Festival held in February. The College Street Jazz Connection has gained an excellent reputation in the region.

The members of the College Street Jazz Connection are:

- Ivan Covington.............. trumpet
- Shannon Pinkney ............ piano
- Travis Smalls ................ drums
- Kacie Justice ................. bass
- Dr. Barry McGinnis ........ saxophone and director

If you would like to make a donation to assist in our fund-raising or if you have any questions about the College Street Jazz Connection, please contact Dr. Barry McGinnis at (803) 321-5178 or Barry.McGinnis@newberry.edu.

Laurel Larsen Awarded Doctorate of Musical Arts

Laurel Larsen, Assistant Professor of Music Theory and Piano, received her Doctorate of Musical Arts degree from the University of South Carolina School of Music on August 11, 2007. Dr. Larsen’s degree is in piano pedagogy with a minor in music theory. While a student at USC, she worked as a teaching assistant in the music theory department, and received a William H. Nolle Graduate Assistant Teaching Award in 2005. Recently Dr. Larsen was the only music student to receive a Centennial Graduate Fellowship from the Graduate School for her scholastic achievements. Dr. Larsen’s other degrees are in piano performance from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University.

Woodwind Studio Growth

The woodwind studio has seen remarkable growth this year. This large group of incoming students has allowed us to form multiple chamber ensembles.

“These students are certainly a welcomed addition to the department,” said Dr. Barry McGinnis.

Accomplished Pianist Joins Faculty

The Music Department welcomes pianist Kimberlee Turnbough to our faculty.

A sensitive chamber musician as well as an accomplished teacher, she will be teaching secondary piano lessons and accompanying both instrumentalists and vocalist. In addition to studying piano with Dr. Charles Fugo at USC, Kimberlee studies early childhood music education and works in the Edwin Gordon Archives at the School of Music Library.

Kimberlee has recently been awarded a Master of Music degree in piano performance from the USC School of Music and is currently beginning a Doctorate of Musical Arts degree at USC. Her Bachelor of Music degree is from Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn.

Kimberlee performs throughout the Columbia metro area in addition to her church. She and her husband live in Columbia.