

## SHEPHERD INTERNATIONAL GUITAR FESTIVAL

Manuel Barrueco



William Feasley



Marcelo Ferraris



José Manuel Lezcano



This spring, Shepherd University Music will premier the **Shepherd International Guitar Festival**, featuring **Manuel Barrueco**, internationally recognized as one of the most important guitarists of our time. The four-day festival—the only one of its kind in the region—will be held **Thursday, May 14 through Sunday, May 17, 2015**, in and around the Shepherd University campus in Shepherds town, WV. Open to professional adults, college students, and high school and middle school students, the festival will include master classes, individual guitar lessons, guitar ensemble rehearsals, and concerts by international artists and guest instructors **William Feasley, Marcelo Ferraris** and **José Manuel Lezcano**. Nightly concerts by guest artists, as well as a culminating concert by the festival participants, will be the centerpiece of the festival, and are free and open to the public.

Manuel Barrueco's unique artistry

has been continually described as that of a superb instrumentalist and a superior and elegant musician, possessing a seductive sound and uncommon lyrical gifts. During three decades of concertizing, he has performed across the United States from the New World Symphony in Miami to the Seattle Symphony, and from the Hollywood Bowl with the Los Angeles Philharmonic to New York's Lincoln Center. He has appeared with such prestigious orchestras as the Philadelphia Orchestra and with the Boston Symphony under the direction of Seiji Ozawa, in the American premiere of Toru Takemitsu's "To the Edge of Dream." In addition, he appears regularly with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and with San Francisco Performances. His international tours have taken him to the Royal Albert Hall in London, Musikverein in Vienna, Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Philharmonie in Berlin, Teatro Real in Madrid, and Palau de la Musica in

Barcelona. In Asia he has completed close to a dozen tours of Japan and made repeated appearances in Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, China, and Hong Kong. Barrueco's tours of Latin America have included performances in Mexico, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, and Puerto Rico. He has also performed as a guest soloist with other international orchestras such as the Russian State Symphony, Helsinki Philharmonic, Royal Philharmonic, NHK Symphony, New Japan Philharmonic, Auckland Symphony in New Zealand, and the radio symphonies of Munich and Frankfurt.

Manuel Barrueco began playing the guitar at the age of eight, and he attended the Esteban Salas Conservatory in his native Cuba. He immigrated with his family to the United States in 1967, as political refugees. Later, he completed his advanced studies at the Peabody Conservatory of Music, where he now shares his love for music with a small number of exceptionally

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## FROM THE CHAIR

Dear friends,

This message brings with it many wishes for a joyous and warm spring. What began as a relatively mild December winter soon transformed into months of record snowfall in some regions of the east coast, and long stretches of days with temperatures below freezing. While weather like this is not unusual in our region, our recent, more temperate winters have lulled us into believing otherwise. Perhaps because of that, our current music students and faculty have been prodigiously productive at their craft.

**Dr. Yu-Hsuan Liao** has travelled extensively throughout the United States giving recitals as a solo pianist and collaborator. **Dr. Kurtis Adams** has busied himself performing in the region and recording a new album. Walton Music just accepted **Dr. Erik Jones's** arrangement of "I'll Tell My Ma" to publish in their 2016 choral catalog. **Dr. David Gonzol** is busy editing his latest journal submission. **Dr. Scott Hippensteel** is preparing to attend a collegiate band festival next week, and is working on an article on David Maslanka. **Dr. Mark Cook** continues to arrange and perform in notable venues throughout the mid-Atlantic region, and has enjoyed visits from his most recent composition students now pursuing composition in graduate school. This year, I have been fortunate to appear as guest soloist with the Maryland Symphony Orchestra in their *Salute to Independence* and Holiday concerts, and am preparing for two concert engagements in Montana in March and June, a recital with **Dr. Bobb Robinson** at the Alba International Music Festival in Italy, and another in South Carolina in the fall. This is just the tip of the proverbial iceberg (which I may have seen floating down the Potomac last week). The work of the part-time faculty is featured within the pages of *On the Move*, and I continue to be grateful for the professional experience and

expertise provided by my colleagues in this region.

Our students have been busy preparing for their concerts and recitals, which have been extraordinary as of late—especially the composition recitals. Many of our students are preparing to perform solo and chamber works at the Alba International Music Festival in May, including instrumental movements from Kurt Weill's *Three Penny Opera*, which should be a refreshing and challenging addition to the music we'll provide.

In the curricular area, we admitted our first class of Bachelor of Music (BM) in Performance majors this fall, prepared our self-study for our accreditation visit by members of the **National Association of Schools of Music (NASM)**, and worked collaboratively in a two-day assessment retreat to explore how to increase specific music skills in our students earlier in their college careers. We await the formal results of the NASM visit, but are encouraged by the high praise we received for the skills our students demonstrated at all levels of development, superb classroom and applied instruction, and careful attention paid to career guidance, just to name a few factors. We are planning future developments in our curricular offerings. Our goal is evolve into a program that clearly features what Shepherd Music does best, not to be a smaller version of what one finds in the larger schools in the mid-Atlantic region. Evidence of this can be found by our re-focus on undergraduate music education with the elimination of our Master of Music in Music Education, launching the new BM in Performance, and the programs we are exploring now—more about this in the fall newsletter.

The close relationships we build with our students remain the hallmark of music education at Shepherd University. If you visit us on any



weekday between the hours of 8 am and 5 pm, you'll see our doors open, and students sitting down with us. Amid the cacophony of instrumentalists and singers spilling down the from rehearsal and practice rooms, you'll see students and faculty discussing Kodály or practicing solfège exercises, conducting pieces, examining music, or engaged in discussions about the music life in general. It is a vibrant, creative atmosphere from which future professionals in music emerge confident in their ability to create, affect, and inspire. This activity, this energy keeps us warm in the chilly months of winter.

If you are in the region, we want you and your family to be a part of this vibrant, *evolving* creative educational environment. If you do not have our concert calendar, please contact me to receive one. Please do contact me in advance if you'd like a tour of our facility or to visit with our teachers. As usual, we keep ourselves very busy, and delight in any opportunity to reconnect with Shepherd alumni. I wish you and your family a bright and prosperous spring. You are always welcome to return home.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert W. Tudor".

Robert W. Tudor, DMA  
Chair, Department of Music

## NOTES FROM THE CHORAL AREA

The fall 2014 semester was a very exciting one in the choral area at Shepherd University. We had some wonderful performances. The guest handbell choir from Charles Town Presbyterian Church, under the direction of **Ceil Frazier**, did a brilliant job and we were thrilled to have them as our guests. Most exciting of all, the Masterworks Chorale sang for over 1300 people in two nights at St. James Catholic Church and the Frank Center. Eighteen student soloists, a fantastic orchestra, a chorus of 130 strong... it was a terrific weekend, and I hope you were able to be a part of it.

These next two semesters, we turn our focus to the 20th century, as for the past three semesters we have concentrated on the Baroque and Romantic eras. We start with one of the most celebrated pieces of the 20th century, the **Durufié Requiem**. A beloved and tender work, this is the creation of a man at the height of his powers, and yet at the very end of the Impressionist period that inspired his (admittedly small) compositional output. Durufié crafted both organ and choral lines of astonishing color. He wrote the Requiem expressly for

the organ, as that was his primary instrument, and only added the orchestral parts at the insistence of his publisher. After his death, Durufié's widow, Marie, worked hard to convince anyone she spoke to the organ version of the **Requiem** was the only way to truly hear the greatness of the work.

The **Chamber Singers** will perform this piece on **Tuesday, March 31 at 8 pm**, the perfect time to hear this work, as the next day is Ash Wednesday and Christians begin their preparation for Holy Week and Easter Sunday. We are privileged to have **Gary Penkala**, music director of Saint James Catholic Church and master organist, join us for this special concert. And of course, that's not all! The **Men's Choir** and **Women's Camerata** will also bring you music by Eric Whitacre, Gwyneth Walker, Moses Hogan, Stephen Hatfield and more.

The **Masterworks Chorale** ends the year with a concert of modern masterpieces on **Saturday, April 25 at 8 pm** in the Frank Center. The centerpiece of this concert is Stravinsky's **Symphony of Psalms**,

one of my favorite works by this ingenious composer. Written for the 50th anniversary of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, this challenging and astonishing work has delighted and inspired listeners for almost a century. Beginning the concert are two lesser-known but equally wonderful pieces, Howard Hanson's **"Song of Democracy"** and Persichetti's **"Celebrations,"** both on texts by Walt Whitman. Continuing the recent tradition of guest conductors with the Masterworks Chorale, our own **Dr. Scott Hippensteel** takes the podium to conduct **"Celebrations."** And closing this concert is a song that is a perfect way to end this year, Aaron Copland's **"The Promise of Living."**

We look forward to seeing you there!

— Dr. Erik Jones



## ANNUAL HONORS RECITAL

A select group of student musicians and ensembles from Shepherd University will perform on the annual **Honors Recital** to be held **Sunday, April 19, 2015 at 2:30 p.m.** at the **Washington County Museum of Fine Arts** in Hagerstown, Maryland.

This will be the thirteenth year the recital has taken place at the museum and the fifteenth year the Music Department at Shepherd has honored its outstanding student performers. Established in 2000 by Dr. Scott Beard, the first recital took place as part of the Reynolds Hall Recital Series. The Honors Recital was seen as an additional performance opportunity for students, as well as a chance to showcase the talented musicians in the music department.

The students performing on the recital were selected and nominated from the numerous recitals, juries and other performances at Shepherd each semester. The program on April 19 will feature solo and ensemble works for voice, piano, strings, trombone, clarinet and percussion, encompassing works by American and European composers.

The selected performers are:  
**Rachel Bani**, trombone, Camp Hill, PA  
**Allyson Bayer**, voice, Inwood, WV  
**Sawyer Gaydon**, percussion, Martinsburg, WV  
**Mary Granofsky**, piano, Franklin, WV  
**Ian Karraker**, violin, Boynton Beach, FL  
**Justin Loizos**, saxophone, Inwood, WV  
**Ryan McClure**, bassoon, Chambersburg, PA

**Melissa McKay**, flute, Frederick, MD  
**Adrielle L. Mills**, viola, Martinsburg, WV  
**Dakota Slay-Vincent**, guitar, Shepherdstown, WV  
**Ryan Stewart**, violin, Hagerstown, MD  
**Kirstie Wooten**, voice, Hagerstown, MD  
**Jazz Combo: Alvaro Silva**, trumpet,  
**Justin Loizos**, tenor saxophone,  
**Mary Granofsky**, piano, **Dan Dunn**,  
bass and **Sawyer Gaydon**, drums

For more information about this concert and other Shepherd University Music events, visit [www.shepherd.edu/musicweb](http://www.shepherd.edu/musicweb). For directions to the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts go to [www.wcmfa.org](http://www.wcmfa.org).

## INSTRUMENTAL AREA NEWS

Instrumental Music at Shepherd University is thriving during the 2014-15 year. The **Ram Band Blues Brothers Revue** was a big hit this fall as the Ram Band toured four states, performed at the Collegiate Marching Band Festival in Allentown, and represented Shepherd excellence to the Mid-Atlantic region in all 17 performances. SU Homecoming featured several **Ram Band Alumni** in the first annual **RAM BAND REUNION!** Thanks to those who performed and attended the game. We hope you will be able to join us next fall for this annual homecoming event. Twelve student conductors graced the stage at the Wind Symphony concert in November and the Wind Ensemble played to packed houses on both Holiday Gala performances.

The new year started off strong with the **11th Annual Honor Band** weekend **January 17-19, 2015**. In addition to the great clinics, faculty master classes, and Shepherd ensemble performances, Honor Band participants may now audition for the first ever Jazz Ensemble!

Under the direction of **Dr. Kurtis Adams**, Director of Jazz Studies at Shepherd University, the Honor Band Jazz Ensemble performed on the final Honor Band Concert at 1:00 pm on January 19th in the Frank Center Theater. Guest Conductor, **Dr. Charles Reader** joined Director of Instrumental Studies, **Dr. Scott Hippensteel** as co-conductors of the Honor Band Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band as over 125 high school musicians from 35 regional schools perform together after two intense days of rehearsal on the Shepherd campus.

The **Shepherd University Wind Ensemble** and **Symphonic Band** will present two concerts this spring, on **Friday, February 20** and **Friday, April 10 at 8:00 pm**. Each concert will be preceded by a pre-concert lecture at 7:15 pm. Dr. Hippensteel offers insight into the themes and stories behind the music with the bands providing live demonstration and an engaging power point display. The February concert featured guest performer and SU adjunct faculty **Richard Polonchak** on bassoon. **Dr. Matthew Shipes**, low brass adjunct

faculty, will perform on euphonium in April.

Two Shepherd University students were selected to perform in the Small College Intercollegiate Band at the College Band Directors National Association's National Conference held at Vanderbilt University in March 2015. **Ashley Walizer**, clarinet, and **Adreille Mills**, horn, will travel to Nashville, TN for the four-day event. Three additional students were chosen as alternates: **Rachel Bani**, trombone, **Michelle Shockey**, bass clarinet, and **Jonathan Myers**, horn. Congratulations to all of these fine musicians who will represent Shepherd University at CBDNA National Conference!

The Wind Ensemble is teaming up with the **Masterworks Chorale** to present four works: "**The Promise of Living**" by Aaron Copland, "**Celebrations**" by Vincent Persichetti, **A Song of Democracy** by Howard Hanson, and **Symphony of Psalms** by Igor Stravinsky. Don't miss this exciting collaboration on **Saturday, April 25** in the Frank Center Theater.

## SPRING 2015 SENIOR RECITALS

**Ryan Stewart, Composition Recital**  
Friday, February 6 at 5:00 pm  
McCoy Rehearsal Hall

**Patrick O'Grady, Voice Recital**  
Friday, March 27 at 7:00 pm  
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

**Walker Williams, Composition Recital**  
Sunday, April 12 at 3:00 pm  
McCoy Rehearsal Hall

**Matthew Rothenberg, Voice Recital**  
Sunday, February 15 at 3:00 pm  
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

**Thomas Collins, Guitar Recital**  
Sunday, March 29 at 3:00 pm  
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

**Alvaro Silva, Trumpet Recital**  
Sunday, April 12 at 5:00 pm  
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

**Ian Karraker, Composition Recital**  
Friday, March 6 at 5:00 pm  
McCoy Rehearsal Hall

**Madeline Zayas, Voice Recital**  
Sunday, March 29 at 5:00 pm  
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

**Ryan Stewart, Violin Recital**  
Friday, April 24 at 7:00 pm  
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

**Kirstie Wooten, Voice Recital**  
Friday, March 6 at 7:00 pm  
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

**Michael Kincaid, Percussion Recital**  
Friday, April 3 at 5:00 pm  
McCoy Rehearsal Hall

**Yanira Diaz, Voice Recital**  
Sunday, April 26 at 3:00 pm  
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

**Shannon Mendoza, Organ Recital**  
Sunday, March 8 at 3:00 pm  
St. John's Episcopal Church,  
Hagerstown, MD

**Ron Rowlett, Percussion Recital**  
Friday, April 3 at 7:00 pm  
McCoy Rehearsal Hall

**Dakota Slay-Vincent, Guitar Recital**  
Sunday, April 26 at 5:00 pm  
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

**Rachel Bani, Trombone Recital**  
Sunday, March 22 at 5:00 pm  
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

**Ross Tamaccio, Voice Recital**  
Friday, April 10 at 5:00 pm  
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

*All senior recitals are free and open to the public.*

## DR. JAMES PANTLE HONORED

On October 31, 2014 many friends, family, and students gathered in the Frank Arts Center to dedicate room 125, known by us as the Music Education Room, to Dr. James E. Pantle. The event was scheduled to complement our Founders Day Celebration and a weekend of celebrations surrounding Homecoming.

The celebration included remarks and remembrances of Jim Pantle from President Suzanne Shipley, music faculty members Drs. David Gonzol, Laura Renninger, Scott Beard, and Robert Tudor, and longtime friend and colleague Mrs. Barbara Stenger. All speakers shared accounts of Jim's dedication, passion for music and nature, and quiet but invaluable encouragement of students and colleagues throughout his career. The founding of Dr. James E. Pantle Music Scholarship was announced, and a bronze plaque was unveiled, which included the inscription, "This room is dedicated in honor of Dr. James E. Pantle (1939 – 2012), Professor Emeritus of Music and Coordinator of Music Education. A beloved colleague, passionate musician, and mentor to many." The dedication concluded with refreshments and conversation among friends. Photographs



L - R: Dr. Laura Renninger, Dr. Scott Beard, Dr. David Gonzol, Barbara Stenger, Nan Pantle, Dr. Rob Tudor, Sherrill Pantle and David Pantle

provided by family and friends were projected throughout the event, which prompted many fond remembrances of him in the classroom, on the stage, and at the farm.

Contributing to the Dr. James E. Pantle endowed scholarship enables donors to provide critical tuition support for Shepherd music students in perpetuity. Our goal to endow this scholarship is \$25,000. The principal of endowed funds is never invaded and scholarship awards are made from earnings in accordance with Shepherd University Foundation guidelines. Once we have reached our goal, we can award scholarships. Since the dedication, we have been

honored to receive contributions, which total \$18,100! We are just \$6,900 away from completing the endowment target. Donations have ranged from \$100-5,000, and every donation, no matter how large or small is combined to invest in our future.

Please consider honoring Dr. Pantle by investing in the program to which he dedicated 36 years of his life. A donation of any amount will be added to the endowment, and will make a difference in the lives of students for generations to come. Checks may be made payable to the Shepherd University Foundation with the memo "Dr. James E. Pantle scholarship".

The **Ram Band Blues Brothers Revue** was a big hit this past fall as the Ram Band toured four states.



## TUXEDO JUNCTION

The Friends of Music held its annual Tuxedo Junction Gala fundraiser, **WELCOME TO THE SPEAKEASY!**, on Friday, March 13 at the Bavarian Inn. It was a thrilling evening set in a 1920's speakeasy!

Patrons attired in evening wear could try their hand at the various casino games on site for the evening, and dance the night away to the sounds of the internationally famous **Shepherd University Jazz Ensemble** under the direction of **Dr. Kurtis Adams**, while enjoying fine cuisine at the many culinary stations. Proceeds from the event support the Shepherd University Department of Music.

## GUITAR FESTIVAL

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gifted young guitarists from all over the world. In 2011, Manuel Barrueco received the United States Artist Fontanals Fellowship for Artistic Excellence.

College level and professional guitarists who are registered for the Shepherd International Guitar Festival are eligible to apply for participation in the Manuel Barrueco master class by recorded audition. To apply, submit an unedited DVD recording of yourself performing two contrasting works on solo guitar. The recording should begin with the applicant clearly stating his or her name, years of study, names of teachers, and the name of each piece that follows. The recording must be clearly labeled with applicant's name, address, phone number and email. Selected participants will be notified by May 1, 2015.

**William Feasley**, director of Shepherd's guitar program, was the first guitarist to be awarded the Peabody Conservatory's coveted Artist Diploma. He has since been the recipient of numerous prizes and awards, including a gold medal in the 1987 PanHellenic Guitar Competition in Athens, the 1990 and 1995 Baltimore Chamber Music Awards and a 1996 Governor's Citation for Outstanding Achievements in the Arts in Maryland. Selected to play for Andrés Segovia at the master's historic last class at the University of Southern California in 1986, he was later featured on the CBS special, *Eulogy of Segovia*. Since making his debut in 1980 with the San Francisco Ballet, where he performed Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez* for Lou Christianson's ballet, *Don Juan*, Mr. Feasley has concertized extensively in the United States and abroad. He has been featured at the Marts International Guitar Festival in Bratislava, the Stramberk Guitar Festival in the Czech Republic, the Sarajevo winter Festival, the Forfest New Music Festival in the C.R., as a soloist with the Moyzes

String Quartet (principals from the Slovak Philharmonic), the Amalfi Coast Festival in Italy, the Prague International Book Fair opening concert, at the US embassies in Ljubljana, Sarajevo and Bratislava, the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, S.C., on a tour of the US Virgin Islands and across the US both as a soloist and member of the D'Amore Duo with the Russian oboist, Vladimir Lande.

Argentine guitarist and composer **Marcelo Ferraris** graduated from the Conservatorio Manuel de Falla in Buenos Aires. He studied classical guitar with maestro Victor Villadangos, jazz guitar with Juan Barrueco, tango guitar with Antonio Troici, popular music repertoire and composition with Mario Valdes, harmony and composition with maestro Juan Carlos Cirigliano (pianist of Astor Piazzolla's electronic octet). He has actively participated in guitar courses with the teacher Miguel Angel Girolet and Roberto Aussel. He has recorded and performed with great figures of the local and international scene. For over fifteen years he has participated in International Festivals of Guitar in the United States, Chile, Peru, Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia, forming part of prestigious juries and teaching master classes. He has been awarded with the Cantuta of gold in the 2006 International Guitar Festival in Tacna, Peru. In September of 2005, he recorded his first CD of his own compositions, *Zamba de Cuna*, to critical acclaim under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Republic of Argentina. In November 2007, he recorded his second solo album, with his own arrangements of tangos and milongas of the popular Argentine repertoire, *El Arañazo*. In 2008, he recorded in a tango quintet album released by Aqua Records label, *La Bagayera*. In August 2010 he premiered his work for guitar and oboe three-piece at the Museum of Art in St. Petersburg Florida. In August 2011, he recorded his third solo album, *Matt Suite*.



Manuel Barrueco

Cuban-born guitarist, composer, educator, and folklorist **José Manuel Lezcano** has captivated audiences on four continents. His programs of traditional and South American guitar repertoire, and his own solo, concerto, and chamber works, have taken him from Carnegie Recital Hall in New York City to major venues and festivals in the US, Ecuador, Colombia, Peru, Brazil, China, Spain, Greece, Germany, and the Czech Republic, appearing as recitalist, collaborative musician, concerto soloist, and composer. Described in 2012 by *Fanfare Magazine* as "an excellent guitarist as well as an imaginative composer," José has earned numerous professional recognitions, the NH State Council on the Arts Individual Artist Fellowship, twice NHMTA Composer of the Year, and a Fulbright Award to Ecuador where he performed as orchestral soloist and pursued research on indigenous guitar traditions. He premiered his second guitar concerto, "Concierto Cubanero," in 2011 in New York City and in Quito, Ecuador. In 2012, José's "Tango-Overture" for strings, conducted by Max Lifchitz, received its debut recording on the North-South label as *Cross-Currents*.

For more information about the **Shepherd International Guitar Festival** or to receive registration information, contact Dr. Robert Tudor at **304-876-5237** or [rtudor@shepherd.edu](mailto:rtudor@shepherd.edu).

## 2014-2015 SALON SERIES

The Shepherd University Music Department's **2014-2015 Salon Series** continued on **Thursday, January 22nd, 2015**, in W.H. Shipley Recital Hall of the Frank Arts Center with Shepherd faculty **Heather Austin-Stone** on violin, **Jeffrey Newberger** on viola, **Stephen Czarkowski** on violoncello, **Edward Leaf** on bass, **Scott Beard**, piano, as they presented a dynamic program featuring Schubert's famous Piano

Quintet in A Major, known as the "*Trout Quintet*."

On **Thursday, February 28, 2015**, pianists **Yu-Hsuan Liao** and **Maggie Chen** "read" an exciting book of music throughout the evening, which included movie and showbiz-like *The Silent Flickers* by American composer Jack Gottlieb, a story of a little spider, *Once Upon A Spider* by Taiwanese composer Mei-Chun Chen,

colorful Spanish flavor *Rapsodie Espanole* by Maurice Ravel, and the rarely performed but extremely fun composition written for two prepared pianos *A Book of Music* by John Cage.

Salon Series performance are free and open to the public. For more information about the series or other Music Department events call 304-876-555 or visit [www.shepherd.edu](http://www.shepherd.edu).

## THE PREPARATORY CHORUS

In her fifth year in the chorus, seventh-grader Elena Scheerer keeps voicing her regrets that next year will be her last. The other seventh-grader, Sophia Smith, who moved away for a while but returned, speaks the same way. Both joined the **Shepherd Preparatory Chorus** in third grade, and, like the other young choristers, they love it. But there is a limit: Only third- through eighth-grade children may sing in the Shepherd Preparatory Chorus, now in its seventh season. The present balance of children does indeed extend to third grade, and the mix is always healthy.

"The young ones have such fresh voices, but the older children are already developing a mature sound," said David Gonzol, chorus director. "It's a wonderful blend, and the younger and older children get along so well with each other." For not only does the chorus learn pieces to sing in concert, but to read music as well, and to play singing games, too. "They love the games," he added, "and they're learning classic melodies almost forgotten by so much of our culture." One game, "Sailor, Sailor" was made up, melody and all, by Jean Ritchie, perhaps Kentucky's foremost folk singer and one of the leaders of the folk song revival.

And the chorus always learns a folk or so song for the concert, often in an arrangement. But for this December 10's concert opener, it was "Father Grumble," that British jig that tells of the farmer who complained that "he

could do more work in a day than his wife could do in three." He learns his lesson, and the song fit right in with the concert theme, "Travels in the Countryside." Assistant director Angela Weaver conducted, and she decided to have some of the phrases sung as solos, while Dr. Gonzol strummed his guitar. Directing is part musicianship and part psychology: Mrs. Weaver considered carefully about which lines could be solos, and then which children could handle it; all the children were pleased by the results.

Next in the concert was the east coast premiere of three of Dr. Gonzol's folk-song-like settings of poems from J. R. R. Tolkien's epic novel, "The Lord of the Rings." "Melody only with no accompaniment is a departure from so much of today's music," said Dr. Gonzol, "But that way it stays true to the most common way folk songs have always been sung." Besides Gandalf's re-singing of old Middle Earth lore, "Tall Ships and Tall Kings," and Bilbo Baggins's wistful "The Road Goes Ever On"—the song that seems to summarize the entire novel—the children enjoyed ringing out the hobbits' exuberant bath song, "Sing Hey! for the Bath," complete with brief readings from the places where those songs occurred in the novel.

Last came two world premieres from Dr. Gonzol's "Four Wendell Berry Settings." Professor of English Sylvia Bailey Shurbutt has long wanted to have Mr. Berry as an Appalachian

Heritage Writer-in-Residence, but that has not happened yet. During Dr. Gonzol's sabbatical this past spring, he chose four of Mr. Berry's poems to set for children's chorus and piano. "The Woods" is a brief, observant muse on birds at a winter feeder, while "Can I See?" is about an extreme noticing of the very slightest of first glimpses of spring. It struck Dr. Gonzol as such an extraordinary poem that he thought it deserved extraordinary music. "It starts off at a run and doesn't let up until the end. Only someone who has lived for decades in the mountains, like Wendell Berry, could learn to notice the very tiniest change in the light in the sky. And the piece really stretched the chorus."

This spring semester, the next concert will include all four Berry settings in a full premiere—and more music besides. We hope that more children can join us. For more information, please contact Kari Edge, Preparatory Division Coordinator for the Shepherd University Department of Music, at 304-876-5555 or [kedge@shepherd.edu](mailto:kedge@shepherd.edu) or Dr. Gonzol at 304-876-5225 or [dgonzol@shepherd.edu](mailto:dgonzol@shepherd.edu).

Encourage your third- through eighth-grader to sing with the Shepherd Preparatory Chorus! All are welcome to audition, and there is nothing to prepare. Come join us! The other children will tell how much they love it.

—David J. Gonzol

## PREPARATORY DIVISION NEWS

The Shepherd University Department of Music Preparatory Division continues to serve its mission of providing excellent music study for our community and region in 2015! We offer private music lessons, early childhood music classes, the Shepherd Preparatory Orchestra, the Shepherd Preparatory Chorus, and summer String and Jazz Camps!

Students of all ages can take private lessons in strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion, piano, voice, and guitar with music faculty members or collegiate music students. We are also very excited to announce the opening of a harp studio, with our new instructor **Dr. Tula Ruggiero**, who has just completed her doctoral studies at Florida State University. Private lessons are available to students of all ages, on all instruments, at all levels; with rolling admission, students can join at any time throughout the year!

String students also have the opportunity to participate in the **Shepherd Preparatory Orchestra**, under the direction **Dr. Scott Hippensteel**, Director of Instrumental Activities. Now in its sixteenth season, the fall 2014 concert opened with the bold and dramatic Overture to *Coriolanus*, Op. 62, by Beethoven, and continued through the intricate harmonic language of the Intermezzo, Ballade, and March of Jean Sibelius's *Karelia Suite*, Op. 11. The audience enjoyed the sheer beauty of Pietro Mascagni's "Intermezzo Sinfonico" from his otherwise tragic opera *Cavalleria Rusticana*, and the concert closed with a rousing performance of Reinhold Glière's *Russian Sailor's Dance*. **Kari Edge** serves as Assistant Conductor for the Preparatory Orchestra, which is also very fortunate to enjoy the guidance of an exceptional string faculty serving as sectional coaches and teachers. This year's current string faculty members include **Heather Austin-Stone**, violin 1; **Jeffrey Newberger**, violin 2; **Kathy Shrader**, viola; and

**Camilo Perez**, cello and bass. The orchestra rehearses on Wednesday evenings, with the junior ensemble meeting from 6:00-7:00 p.m. and the senior orchestra rehearsing from 7:30-9:00 p.m. each week. The spring Preparatory Concert will take place in the **Frank Arts Center Theater** on **Wednesday, April 29 at 7:30 p.m.** The concert will include Copland's *Outdoor Overture*, Elgar's beautiful *Serenade for Strings*, and the exhilarating "March to the Scaffold" from Hector Berlioz's *Symphonie Fantastique!*

The Preparatory Division will also continue to offer early childhood music classes for children ages 18 months to three years of age, throughout the spring 2015 term. Classes will be taught by **Frauke Higgins** and will meet in the Frank Arts Center. Ms. Higgins is an experienced early childhood music educator, who has actively been teaching students of this age group since 1990! For the spring 2015 term, Ms. Higgins will be offering a course she created titled "**Musical Discoveries**" (18 months to 3 years with parent/caregiver)-- This interactive class for children and parents will introduce the young student to the rudiments of music. The class will explore songs, echo songs, rhythm instruments, rhymes, finger-play, and creative movement. In this class, students will be given foundational techniques for the study of music that will transition easily to private study and continued musical learning as the child grows and matures!

The Preparatory Division is also very pleased to continue the work of our **Shepherd Preparatory Chorus**, under the direction of **Dr. David Gonzol**, Director of Music Education. The Preparatory Chorus membership is comprised of both male and female vocalists who are currently in grades 3-8. The chorus meets Wednesday evenings from 6:10-7:30 p.m. at the Frank Center. The chorus will once again join the Preparatory Orchestra for the April 29 concert.

The **Shepherd String Orchestra Camp** will take place during the week of **June 15-19** at the Frank Arts Center. String players in grades 8-12 are invited to participate in the day camp. Camp highlights will include string orchestra rehearsals, master classes, chamber music coaching, faculty performances, and a final concert to close the week. Dr. Scott Hippensteel, Director of Instrumental Activities and the preparatory orchestra here, will direct the orchestra for this year's camp at Shepherd. String instructors for the camp will also include members of the Shepherd University faculty and professionals from the surrounding Washington D.C. metropolitan area.

Middle school and high school students will also have the opportunity to study jazz for a week with some of the region's top jazz performers. The **Shepherd Jazz Camp** will take place the week of **June 22-26** and will include a junior jazz camp for students in grades 6-8 and a senior jazz camp for students in grades 9-12. During the week, students will participate in jazz band rehearsals, receive individual and group lessons, study improvisation and theory, and have the opportunity to hear outstanding faculty performances. Directors and instructors for the camp will include Shepherd University Department of Music faculty members **Dr. Kurtis Adams** and **Dr. Mark Cook**. Other camp faculty will include applied jazz instructors from Shepherd Music and professionals from the Baltimore and Washington, D.C. area.

For more information about the Shepherd University Preparatory Division and its programs contact Kari Edge at **304-876-5555** or email [kedge@shepherd.edu](mailto:kedge@shepherd.edu). Visit [www.shepherd.edu/musicweb/preparatory](http://www.shepherd.edu/musicweb/preparatory).



## OPERA DOUBLE FEATURE

For Valentine's Day weekend, Shepherd's Department of music presented an operatic double feature, with Henry Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*, directed by Dr. Rob Tudor, and Pergolesi's *La Serva Padrona*, directed by Dr. Bobb Robinson. Musical direction was by Barbara Irvine, and Dr. Erik Jones conducted the orchestra for the performances.

*Dido and Aeneas*, based on a tale from Virgil's *Aeneid*, tells of the tragic romance between the hero Aeneas and Dido, Queen of Carthage. Seniors Jordan Bushong-Taylor and Patrick O'Grady portrayed the doomed lovers, with junior Hannah Wardell as the villainous sorceress who works to keep them apart. In addition to preparing their roles musically and dramatically, the students were tasked with incorporating period dance and movement into the production. "I found the movement [aspect] of being The Sorceress very difficult,"

Wardell says. "As someone who is not very coordinated, the slow, precise dance-like movement was very difficult. But our director, Dr. Tudor, just makes the whole experience a great time! He makes you want to totally encompass your character and do your best to show the story!"



*La Serva Padrona*, originally written as "filler material" to be played in between acts of a larger work, presented a more light-hearted look at love. Seniors Ross Tamaccio and Madeline Zayas played Uberto and Serpina, and bachelor and his

maid who start out at odds with one another, but end the opera in each other's arms. The opera is unique in also featuring a mute character, the butler Vespone, played with comic zeal by junior Henry DeBuchannane.

To link the disparate stories together, directors Tudor and Robinson worked with the production team to highlight the stagecraft itself. *Dido and Aeneas* was presented as if by a troupe of Renaissance actors, hastily setting up on the village green, while *La Serva Padrona* took place on 1930's Hollywood soundstage.



## 2014-2015 FRIENDS FELLOWS

The Friends of Music of Shepherd University announced the 2014-2015 Friends Fellows awards at the Annual Holiday Gala on Saturday, December 6, 2014. Each Fellow received a \$1,000 scholarship to assist their academic and financial needs. The seven Shepherd University music majors selected to receive scholarships from the Friends of Music as 2014-2015 Friends Fellows fellowship recipients are **Rachel Bani, Sawyer Gaydon, Melissa McKay, Adrielle Mills, Patrick O'Grady, Alvaro Silva** (music education) – the Scott Beard and Alan Gibson Fellowship, and **Walker Williams**.

The Friends of Music Fellowship Program were established in 2008 in partnership with the Shepherd University Department of Music to support talented music majors who demonstrate the highest standards of music excellence at Shepherd University. Fellows are selected

through an application process and nominated by Department of Music Faculty, who work with them daily and recognize their work ethic and dedication to their education.

The cash awards can be used to help with studies within the music department at Shepherd or other music-related financial needs of the students. The Friends Fellowship program would not be possible

without the continuing support of the community. Thanks to the many supporters who make this scholarship program possible each Community members interested in sponsoring a Friends' Fellow or who wish to make a tax-deductible donation towards the program should contact the Friends of Music at 304-876-5765 or friends@sufom.org.



Dr. Rob Tudor with 2014-2015 Friends Fellows, L - R: Patrick O'Grady, Adrielle Mills, Alvaro Silva, Melissa McKay, Walker Williams, Sawyer Gaydon and Rachel Bani.

## FACULTY NEWS

With the generous support in the form of grants from both Shepherd and Fordham Universities, **Dr. Kurtis Adams** and **Dr. Nathan Lincoln-DeCusatis** recently produced and recorded an album of their original compositions for a jazz nonet. The recording made at Blue House Productions in DC is scheduled for release this spring. Additionally, the two performed a duo recital at the U.S. Navy Band's International Saxophone Symposium on January 10, 2015 at Shenandoah University. The recital included arrangements of Baroque vocal works by Purcell and Bach performed as jazz tunes. Drs. Adams and DeCusatis are pursuing performances for the ensemble in both New York and the

D.C.-Baltimore areas. Members of the jazz ensemble are Kurtis Adams, Bobby Muncy and Jason Hammers, woodwinds; Brent Madsen, trumpet;

Charlie Dougherty, trombone; Matt Butterman, guitar; Nathan Lincoln-DeCusatis, piano; Nathan Kawaller, bass; Larry Ferguson, drums.



Dr. Nathan Lincoln-DeCusatis and Dr. Kurtis Adams

## ALUMNI NEWS

**George Ferenz** (BME-Instrumental 2014) is Band Director at Bennett Middle School in Salisbury, MD.

**Trevor Rowland** (BA-Performance 2010) is Director of Music and Liturgy at St. Mary Catholic Church in Hagerston, MD.

**Emily (DeTroye) Donaldson** (BME-Choral 2011) is a Choral Teacher at Springbrook High School in Silver Spring, MD.

**Christina Oliver** (BME-Instrumental 2013) is Band Director at Clear Spring and Conococheague Elementary Schools in Washington County, MD.

**Brian James** (BME-Choral and BA-Musical Theater 2013) made his Off-Broadway Debut at The June Havoc Theatre in New York City through THE ACTORS PROJECT (TAP) NYC! February 2-4. He has been coaching and working with contemporary musical theatre composers Sam Carner and Derek Gregor and will performed their music. In June he was cast as a Computer Tech guy in a Anne Hathaway and Robert Deniro film titled *The Intern*, filming for

seven weeks. Now a member of the Screen Actors Guild (SAG-AFTRA) and Actors Equity, Brian has been on set for several movies and television shows including *The Mysteries of Laura*, *Law and Order: SVU*, *The Blacklist*, *Blue Bloods*, among others. His best moment this year was working on Meryl Streep's new movie *Ricki and the Flash!* standing in for Adam Shulman (Anne Hathaway's husband). While setting lights and such Meryl introduced herself and asked, "Would you mind running lines with me, while Adam is getting changed."

**Johnna Leary** (BA-Musical Theater 2014) since graduating has played Cosette in *Les Miserables* at Way Off Broadway Theatre in Frederick, MD, and Diana Bingley in *I Love You Because* at the Washington County Playhouse. She had a small featured role on *Deadly Affairs* as the 13 year old girl who was murdered later on, and has done background work on *VEEP*, *House of Cards* and a documentary airing next year on National Geographic called *American Genius*. She will be playing Princess Briar Rose/Sleeping Beauty in *Enchanted Sleeping Beauty* at the Pumpkin Theater in May.

Brian James



## FRIENDS OF MUSIC CONCERT SERIES

The Friends of Music **2014-2015 Concert Series** continued this spring on **Saturday, March 7** with the world-renown U.S. Air Force Band's **Airmen of Note**, the premier jazz ensemble of the United States Air Force. From its 50+ year history of having strong leaders, distinguished writers and arrangers, and 18 of the finest jazz musicians in the country, the ensemble has remained on an innovative musical course to continually challenge the frontiers of contemporary big band jazz.

Maestro **Jed Gaylin** will lead the Eastern Panhandle's very own professional chamber orchestra in a dynamic program of classical music, titled *Salt of the Earth*, on **Saturday, March 28**, featuring clarinetist **David Drosinos** in Paul Ben-Haim's *Pastorale Variée*, and John Williams's *Viktor's Tale*, along with Bartok's *Roumanian Dances*.

David Drosinos, Professor of Clarinet at Shepherd University, received his diploma from the Peabody Conservatory of Music. He studied clarinet with Loren Kitt, principal clarinetist with the National Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Drosinos won the Sidney Jensen Memorial Award for outstanding clarinet performance and has been a guest artist at the Greek Embassy in Washington and the Taj Mahal in Atlantic City. The Washington Post praised him for "playing with an unusually smooth and agile touch." His rendering of the Finzi concerto



The Airmen of Note

prompted this from the Baltimore Sun, "He played the idyllic score with technical security, tonal warmth and exceptionally eloquent phrasing." His performance of the Copland concerto was deemed "unmatched by any in Baltimore.... the Copland concerto had a confident and dynamic protagonist in David Drosinos. He spun the lyrical lines with considerable warmth."

Mr. Drosinos was the principal clarinetist and soloist with the Peabody Symphony Orchestra on their tour to Russia and a featured soloist with the Concert Artists of Baltimore. He has performed in Greece, Ireland, Moscow, Finland, the Bahamas and all over the continental U.S. His Greek Band Zephyros was featured at the International Clarinet Association annual convention in Washington, DC. In 2010 David traveled to St Petersburg, Russia where he did the International premiere and recording of the Sowash Clarinet Concerto with the St Petersburg Symphony. Drosinos is a versatile and seasoned clarinetist who has enchanted audiences from 'Maryland to Moscow.'

The internationally acclaimed string trio **Time For Three**—Zachary De Pue, violin, Nicolas Kendall, violin, and Ranaan Meyer, double bass, will perform on **Tuesday, April 14**. According to the Wall Street Journal, the trio is "A self-described 'classically

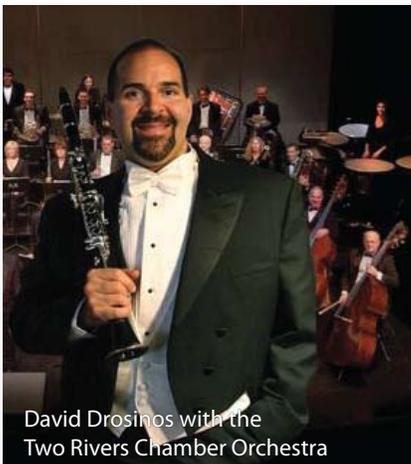
trained garage band,' the group blends classical themes and bowing techniques with blue-grass-style fiddling, jazzy bass lines, and the occasional hip-hop riff."

The season closes with a singular performance on **Saturday, April 25**, of the **Masterworks Chorale**, the Eastern Panhandle's premiere vocal ensemble under the direction of **Dr. Erik Reid Jones**, presenting Stravinsky's *Symphony of Psalms*, often considered Stravinsky's greatest choral work. **Dr. Scott Hippensteel**, Director of Instrumental Studies, conducts the Persichetti *Celebrations*, for wind ensemble and choir. The concert will also include Howard Hanson's *Song of Democracy* and Aaron Copland's "The Promise of Living" from *The Tender Land*.

### FOM Concert Series At A Glance

- **Airmen of Note**  
3/7/15 at 8:00 p.m. (Free Concert)
- **Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra**  
3/28/15 at 8:00 p.m.
- **Time for Three**  
4/14/15 at 8:00 p.m.
- **Masterworks Chorale**  
4/25/15 at 8:00 p.m.

The Friends of Music is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that supports and promotes musical excellence at Shepherd University and throughout the region. For concert tickets and information visit [www.sufom.org](http://www.sufom.org), call **304-876-5765**, or email [friends@sufom.org](mailto:friends@sufom.org).



David Drosinos with the Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra



Time for Three

EXPECT THE  
*Extraordinary*

## MUSIC STUDENTS PREPARE FOR ITALY TOUR

Shepherd Music students are preparing for the Northern Italian Medley Tour in May of 2015. The tour includes an artist residency for the Shepherd Music students at the Alba International Music Festival.

The trip begins with a tour and overnight stay in Milan, and continues with the four-day residency in Alba. The **Alba International Music Festival** features world-renowned artists and ensembles, who join to create a festival of between twenty and twenty-five orchestral, chamber, and solo concerts throughout the city and surrounding region. While there, students and fellow music lovers will enjoy the music and culture of Alba and the surrounding region of northern Italy. The picturesque town of Alba is nestled the foothills of the Alps in the Piemonte region. A 12th-Century town with 21st-Century amenities, Alba is conveniently located in the center of a triangle whose points are Turin, Milan, and

Genoa. Famous for its 290 wineries and thriving white truffle industry, Alba is also the world headquarters of Ferrero Chocolates. It is in a region of Italy that Italians regard as a prime destination for the best in food and wine.

Our Northern Italian Medley Tour includes overnight stays and tours of Milan, Torino, Pisa, Cremona, Cinque Terre, and Rome. The two days in Rome will include touring the Piazza Navona area—built on the foundation of Domitian's Circus—the ruins of the Roman Empire, and gathering in St. Peter's square to attend the weekly Papal audience with the Pope.

Shepherd music students have been presenting recitals to raise funds to help with the cost of travelling. The January recital at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Shepherdstown raised just over \$1,200. The concert at **Shepherdstown Presbyterian**

**Church** was cancelled recently due to inclement weather, and has been rescheduled for **7:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 18, 2015**. All money raised at the concerts is divided equally among participants. Our students will truly benefit from your support. If you know the value of experiencing international culture and performing abroad, and understand the challenge it can present to our students, please consider attending one of our concerts or donating to help our students. All donations are welcome and appreciated. Contact Dr. Robert Tudor at (304) 876-5237, or [rtudor@shepherd.edu](mailto:rtudor@shepherd.edu) for more information.

