

## WINDS WELCOME SHEPHERD'S 16TH PRESIDENT HENDRIX

Shepherd University will install its **16th president, Dr. Mary J.C. Hendrix** on Friday, April 8, during a ceremony at 3 pm in the Butcher Center. The installation will be part of a two-day inauguration that will include a **Symphonic Band** and **Wind Ensemble** concert presented by the Shepherd University Department of Music on **Friday, April 8 at 8 pm** in the **Frank Arts Center Theater**. The concert is free and open to the public.

**Dr. Scott Hippensteel**, director of bands and instrumental music, adjunct music professor **Dr. Charles Reader**, and graduate student **Wendy Zepeda**, will conduct the Inauguration Concert program.

For the first time in its 144-year history, Shepherd University will be led by a Shepherd graduate. A 1974 alumna of Shepherd, and a native of Shepherdstown, Hendrix is a nationally recognized leader in cancer research.

After graduating from Shepherd with a B.S. degree in pre-med/biology and a minor in English, Hendrix received her Ph.D. from George Washington University in Washington, D.C., and then was awarded a post-doctoral fellowship to train at Harvard Medical School. Her decorated career in higher education and academic medical centers also includes faculty and leadership positions at the University of Arizona, University of

California San Francisco, St. Louis University, and the University of Iowa.

"The concert will offer a wide variety—from a march called "Colossus of Columbia" by an American composer, it's kind of a circus march, to a chorale from a 15th century Spaniard that's been reset from keyboard for band, to a piece by Howard Hanson called "Chorale and Alleluia," Hippensteel said.

The Wind Ensemble will perform a special request from Hendrix, "Eternal Father, Strong to Save," also known as the "Navy Hymn," in honor of her father, Charles Nelson Grant Hendrix, a retired U.S. Navy captain and World War II Silver Star recipient who died in 1976. Hendrix chose April 8 for her inauguration because it is her father's birthday. The original words were written in 1860 by William Whiting of Winchester, England, as a poem. The melody was composed by fellow Englishman, Rev. John Bacchus Dykes, an Episcopalian clergyman, and was published in 1861. The hymn is known as the "Navy Hymn" because it is sung at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

"The piece we're going to end the concert with, which is really exciting, is a piece called 'Jazz Schizms,'" he said. "It's a collection of different jazz styles and it's going to feature some of our jazz faculty with the Wind Ensemble that is very upbeat and



celebratory, a really interesting piece that's only just been done a couple of times."

"Jazz Schizms" will include performances by Shepherd faculty **Dr. Kurtis Adams** on tenor saxophone, and **Dr. Mark Andrew Cook** on piano, guest artist **David Detwiler** on trumpet, and Shepherd music students **Dan Dunn** on bass and **Sawyer Gaydon** on drums.

For Dr. Hendrix's inauguration concert, Dr Hippensteel said, "It's very exciting to put it all to together and try to find a variety of styles—things that I think the audience will enjoy, as well as the performers."

For more information about the concert and other inauguration events, visit <http://www.shepherd.edu/inauguration>.

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## CUBA ON THE HORIZON

As one of 23 professors selected from schools that belong to the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC), **Dr. Robert Tudor**, Associate Professor of Music and Chair of the Department of Music, spent part of the holiday break learning more about Cuba and exploring the possibility of creating an exchange program with the island nation.

The December 13-19, 2015 COPLAC-Cuba trip was sponsored by the Instituto Cubano de Investigación Cultural Juan Marinello (Cuban Institute of Cultural Research). The group stayed at the Casa Sacerdotal Juan María Vianney in Havana, a retreat center run by the Catholic Church. The program focused on economics, cultural influences, politics, science, art, and the socioeconomic situation facing Cubans today.

"When you look at Cuba you have to look at the last 200 years, and you cannot look at the last 200 years without looking at the United States' influence," Tudor said. "This was an incredible opportunity because we met for five days with people from the government and talked about these things. It was very transparent. That was one of the things that was so interesting about this. I was hoping to get a deeper understanding about the Cuban experience and I did get that."

Tudor said there were discussions about what Cubans have dealt with since the 1953-59 revolution, how the U.S. embargo and losing support of the Soviet Union have affected the country, and what Cubans are doing to try to deal with the adversity they've faced.

"Just being there with 22 other professors who specialize in everything from international business, to literature, Latin American studies, and politics and to have that conversation for a week in Cuba was amazing," Tudor said.

Tudor said the trip changed his perceptions of Cuba. Before he went,

Tudor had the expectation that he would meet people who are unhappy, who would be desperate to leave and who would possibly revere America as the land of opportunity. He also didn't expect the Cubans to warmly welcome visitors from the United States. He said he was wrong on all counts.

"I met people who have a deep love for their country," Tudor said. "I met people from the government who have come to America many times and who would look me in the eyes and say 'I love your country, but I love my country more.' I learned that Americans are very much welcome there and that the struggle between our two governments isn't embodied in the people that you meet."

Before the trip, Tudor did a lot of reading and watched documentaries, especially those made outside the United States, to gain a better understanding of what issues Cubans face. Tudor and the other professors were asked to bring over-the-counter medicines and toiletry products because these items are not readily available to the average Cuban. The priests at the monastery gave the items to their parishioners.

"Here in the states we don't even have an experience like that," Tudor said. "We have poverty, but you and I and our colleagues don't really sit at home with a raging headache or flu and say 'there is no answer for me to deal with this.' That's what people in Cuba have to deal with."

Tudor said he most shocking part of the trip was seeing a billboard about the American embargo.

"This billboard had the island of Cuba with the noose around it," he said. "The translation was 'the longest genocide in history.' That was shocking."

Tudor was able to have conversations with the priests at the monastery and he interviewed two musicians who had been to the United States—a

guitarist/composer named Eduardo Martin and a young pianist who went through the conservatory system there, Fidel Leal.

On the last day a panel of recent college graduates discussed what it is like to be a young person in contemporary Cuban society.

"We heard everything from them," Tudor said. "We heard one person saying 'it's wonderful, I love the Cuban government,' and somebody at the other end of the table saying 'well, yes it's wonderful but here's what we're challenged with—the fact that we have no mobility, we have very few opportunities, we have very low wages here, and we are very hopeful about the future.'"

Tudor said in many ways, visiting Cuba is like stepping back in time. "They have these beautiful cars that sort of stop in 1960s and those are the open-air cabs. You see these hotels that are not as modern looking as our hotels here because everything kind of stopped in 1960. There are massive renovations happening in Old Havana and there is a lot of investment coming in right now."

Tudor is working with a committee to create a class for the fall semester that will include a trip to Cuba in December that would also be open to the community. He also hopes Shepherd can bring Cuban scholars, writers, and musicians to campus.

"It's the largest Caribbean nation closest to us and it's a culture that has been so closed to us," he said. "We have much to learn from it."



## NOTES FROM THE CHORAL AREA

Greetings! I first wanted to extend my thanks for the warm welcome that I have received since joining the Shepherd music community. I am so excited to be starting at Shepherd and am looking forward to the spring semester! Here is some information about some of the upcoming concerts and activities in the Choral Department at Shepherd.

The **Chamber Singers** and **Women's Camerata** joined together with

special guests, the **Jefferson High School Chamber Choir** on **Friday, April 1 at 8 pm** for our **Spring Choral Concert** in the **Frank Arts Center Theater**. The Jefferson High School Chamber Choir, under the direction of Shepherd alumnus **Mr. Joel Ziler**, performed *Daemon Irrepat Callidus* by György Orbán, *Alleluia* by Randall Thompson, and "I Got Shoes" as arranged by Alice Parker and Robert Shaw. Mr. Ziler graduated from Shepherd University in 2010 with a

BME in Choral Music. The Chamber Singers featured Debussy's famous *Trois Chansons*, among other works, and the Women's Camerata performed works by Mendelssohn and Eleanor Daley.

The **Masterworks Chorale** will be presenting Mozart's last composition, and one of his most popular and respected works, the **Requiem**, on **Saturday, April 23 at 8 pm** in the **Frank Arts Center Theater**. The Masterworks Chorale will be joined by a fantastic orchestra and Shepherd faculty soloists, soprano **Brooke Evers Moore**, mezzo-soprano **Melanie Regan**, tenor **Dr. Joseph Regan**, and baritone **Dr. Bobb Robinson**. Free with admission to the concert is a **pre-concert lecture** at **7:15 pm** by Shepherd University's **Dr. David Gonzol**, Director of Music Education.

We hope you can join us!

— Dr. Rachel Carlson



## DR. RACHEL CARLSON

**Dr. Rachel Carlson** is the Visiting Director of Choral Activities at Shepherd University and conductor of the Shepherd University Chamber Singers, Women's Camerata, and Masterworks Chorale. In addition to conducting, she teaches choral methods and conducting classes. She founded and serves as Artistic Director of Six Degree Singers, a community choir based in Silver Spring, MD, and serves as Assistant Conductor of the Washington Master Chorale. In 2014, Dr. Carlson was nominated for a Wammie (Washington Area Music Award) for best Classical Conductor/ Director.

Dr. Carlson has toured extensively with professional choirs across the country, appearing as a soprano soloist with the Washington Master Chorale, Washington Bach Consort, Santa Fe Desert Chorale, Oregon Bach Festival, True Concord Voices

and Orchestra, Vox Humana, and Washington Revels and as a professional choral singer with Conspirare and the Manhattan Chorale.

Carlson holds bachelor's degrees in Vocal Performance and Music Education from the University of Maryland, a master's degree in Choral Conducting from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a DMA in Choral Conducting from the University of Maryland.



## STUDENT NEWS

**Hannah Wardell** attended the CCM summer opera program two summers in a row and has already auditioned and been accepted at Boston Conservatory, University of Michigan and University of Houston, among other top tier music graduate schools.

**Blair Boscolo** published an article in the December 2015 *SPARKS, Journal of Undergraduate Research and Creative Works*, on Chopin's Mazurka Op. 33 No. 4. The article can be found online at <http://www.sparksjournal.org/chopins-mazurka/>

The **Shepherd Ram Band** traveled to Kansas City in December as the Shepherd Rams football team pursued its first National Championship in school history, bringing their popular half-time show, *Sheptown Funk*.

## JAZZ NOTES

Local regional high school and middle school bands had the opportunity to perform and to work with guest clinicians throughout the day on **Saturday, February 27th** as Shepherd University Department of Music hosted the **Shepherd Jazz Festival** at the Frank Arts Center. The day featured master classes and clinics with guest faculty trumpeter **Mike Kamuf**, pianist **Brian Dean**, and Shepherd faculty bassist **Kevin Pace**, and a jam session with Shepherd University jazz students. The Shepherd Jazz Ensemble performed in concert at 4:00 pm on the stage of the Frank Arts Center Theater with the guest clinicians as featured soloists.

The Jazz Program at Shepherd University has an outstanding faculty including **Dr. Kurtis Adams**, **Kevin Pace**, **Anthony Pirog**, **Ronnie Shaw**, and **Dr. Mark Cook**. Each year the ensembles work with major jazz performers in clinics and concerts.



The group has worked with Kenney Werner, Bill Watrous, Paquito D'Rivera, Alan Vizzutti, Ingrid Jensen, Claudio Roditi, Tim Hagans, Hal Galper, Juanita Williams, Chris Vadala, John Fedchock and Maria Schneider.

The Shepherd University Jazz Ensemble has performed throughout the East Coast and Europe and has participated in Jazz Festivals around the globe. Invited to the world-renowned Montreux Jazz festival in 2003, the Jazz Ensemble played throughout Switzerland and Italy on a 9-day concert tour. In 1999, the band took their Ellington Tour to England and France, and toured England in May 2007. In the United States they have been featured at the Longwood, the Blue Ridge, and The East Coast Jazz Festivals, as well as regional festivals throughout Virginia,

West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland, Delaware and New Jersey.

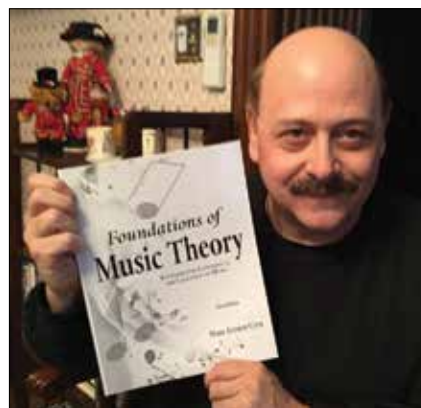
The Shepherd Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of **Dr. Kurtis Adams**, most recently traveled to Charleston, WV on **March 10th** to perform at the **West Virginia Music Educators Association (WVMEA) Annual Conference**.

On **Sunday, April 17th at 7:00 pm** in the **Frank Arts Center Theater**, the Shepherd Jazz Ensemble concert will perform works by Charles Mingus, Billy Strayhorn, Duke Ellington, Mark Taylor, Radiohead, and Horace Silver. "A Tisket, A Tasket" by Ella Fitzgerald and Al Feldman, and "A Flower is a Lovable Thing" by Billy Strayhorn will feature Shepherd Senior **Jordan Bushong-Taylor** on vocals.

## FACULTY NEWS

**Dr. Mark Andrew Cook**, Associate Professor of Music Theory and Composition, is very pleased to announce the publication of ***Foundations of Music Theory: Fundamental Concepts in the Language of Music*** and ***Dicta Musica***, an aural skills manual, through BVT Publishing.

The **Mark Andrew Cook Jazz Group** performed Sunday, February 28, 2016, 7:00 pm, as part of the St. John's Episcopal Parish Music concert Series. The group featured special guests **Chris Vadala** (woodwinds), **Mike Kamuf** (trumpet) **David Marsh** (bass) and **Ronniw Shaw** (drums).



Jazz standards as well as Dr. Cook's compositions were performed and the concert was recorded as a "live" CD/DVD.

Shepherd music faculty **Dr. Yu-Hsuan Liao** (piano) and **Jeremy Koch** (saxophone) have performed duo recitals regularly around the region every year. In Fall 2016 they were featured in both Carroll Community College and Springfield Presbyterian Church Concert Series 2015-2016. This year they opened the performance at International Saxophone Symposium in January, and performed a recital as part of Hartford Community College's concert series on February 21.

**Dr. Kurtis Adams** and wife Kristen welcomed a son, Wilder Gray Adams, born October 4, 2015.

## ALUMNUS SPOLIGHT: MARK MCCOY NAMED DEPAUW UNIVERSITY'S 20TH PRESIDENT

DePauw University's Board of Trustees unanimously selected **Dr. D. Mark McCoy**, dean of the DePauw School of Music since August 2011, as president of DePauw, effective July 1. He succeeds Brian W. Casey, who leaves at the end of the current academic year to become president of Colgate University in New York.

An 18-member presidential search committee—led by Kathy Patterson Vrabec '85, assisted by Isaacson, Miller, a premier search firm in the higher education and non-profit industry, and consisting of DePauw alumni, students, faculty and administration—after months of work, came to the conclusion that the top candidate was already on campus. That committee sent the choice of Dr. McCoy to the Board of Trustees.

Noted Vrabec. "Of all of the talented and dedicated individuals we considered, Mark McCoy was the clear choice to lead DePauw as our twentieth president. He knows and loves this institution, shares our community's ambitious vision for our future, and is a dynamic leader who will be an immediately effective advocate and ambassador for this place we love."

A native of West Virginia and the son of a coal miner, Mark McCoy holds a B.A. in music education from Shepherd University, a master's degree from the Peabody Conservatory, and a Ph.D. in fine arts with a concentration in music composition from Texas Tech University.

"As a first generation college student, I believe the undergraduate experience should be inspirational, aspirational, and transformational," McCoy said.

McCoy began his career in education teaching elementary, middle and high school music in West Virginia and Maryland. He taught theory and

jazz at Texas Tech University before serving 16 years as a faculty member and the music department chair of Shepherd, where he oversaw 300% growth in the music program, a revitalization of facilities and a community-based "Friends" group that raised money and community support for department initiatives.

At DePauw, McCoy led the 2013 launch of the 21st Century Musician Initiative (21CM). Unique to American higher education, it is an extensive re-imagining of the professional music school curriculum and student experience with the aim to create flexible, entrepreneurial professionals prepared for the challenges of today's music world. During McCoy's tenure as dean, he raised \$23 million for the University and positioned the music school and DePauw as a major cultural destination for the region. Music on the Square has created an innovative musical "communiversity" providing early childhood music, applied lessons and life-long learning courses to the community. Attendance at School of Music events doubled in his five years as dean, and McCoy partnered with Yo-Yo Ma to create the Silk Road Global Musician Workshop, which brings musicians from around the world to perform in Greencastle with the world renowned Silk Road Ensemble each June.

Adds Brad Kelsheimer, vice president for finance and administration at DePauw, "Dr. McCoy has an advanced understanding of and demonstrated passion for addressing access and affordability concerns in higher education. Throughout the search process, it became clear that Mark will make affordability a high priority in resource allocation decisions and fundraising efforts and that his skill set is ideally suited to addressing this important issue."

Greencastle Mayor Bill Dory. "As dean, Mark McCoy has celebrated and built upon the campus-community connections and I



am very excited about what his presidency will do to carry these important bonds to higher levels."

He has been selected for several executive leadership development programs including the Executive Leadership Academy of the Council of Independent Colleges, the "Advancing to the Presidency" Workshop sponsored by the American Council on Education, and the Harvard Kennedy School on Executive Education's Crisis Leadership in Higher Education Institute. He is a regular visitor and contributor for the National Association of Schools of Music and served on the National Commission on Accreditation.

"Mark McCoy's leadership of the DePauw School of Music has demonstrated that he is a person of vision and energy," said Reavis, a Management Fellow at DePauw who is founder and president of SVM.

"My time as a Shepherd student prepared me for my entire career," says McCoy. "Whether a public school teacher, a college professor, chair of Shepherd's Music Department, Dean of DePauw's Music School, or even President of DePauw University, my Shepherd education was the basis for each step of my career. Shepherd was a life-changing place for me as student, faculty and administration. I think of it fondly and often."

## PREPARATORY DIVISION NEWS

The Shepherd Music Preparatory Division, fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music, serves over 300 students annually. The Prep Division, made up of ensembles, private lessons, and summer music study for students aged 18 months to 80 years and beyond, offers private applied lessons, a **Junior Strings Ensemble**, **Senior Preparatory Orchestra**, a **Preparatory Chorus**, **Early Childhood Classes**, and summer **String Orchestra Camp** and a **Summer Jazz Camp**.

Private lessons with music faculty members or collegiate music students are offered in strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion, piano, voice, guitar, and harp, for students of all ages, on all instruments, at all levels. Admission is rolling, and students can join at any time through out the year! Lessons can be 30, 45, or 60 minutes in length and always take place in the comfort of the Frank Center facility. At the end of each semester, students have the opportunity to share their hard work at our **Preparatory Division Recital**, which will take place at **10:00 am on April 30th** this spring.

In addition to taking private lessons, string students have the opportunity to participate in the Shepherd Preparatory Orchestra, which is made up of our Junior Strings Ensemble and the Senior Preparatory Orchestra. The senior ensemble continues its seventeenth season this spring semester, and the opportunity to work with three conductors, **Dr. Charles Reader**, **Dr. Scott Hippensteel**, and **Ms. Kari Edge**.

The Preparatory Orchestra is guided by an exceptional string faculty who serve as sectional coaches and teachers, including **Heather Austin-Stone**, violin 1; **Justin Newberger**, violin 2; **Kathy Shrader**, viola; and **Camilo Perez-Mejia**, cello and bass. The orchestra rehearses on Wednesday evenings, with the junior ensemble meeting from 6:00-7:00 pm and the senior orchestra rehearsing from 7:30-9:00 p.m. each week. The

spring Preparatory Concert will take place in the Frank Center for the Arts on **Wednesday, April 27th**, at **7:30 pm**. The concert will include repertoire composed over the span of nearly 138 years, involving the student performers and the audience in a vast cultural experience of music, history, and passion! The ensemble will be performing Sergei Prokofiev's rousing "Montagues and Capulets" from his *Romeo and Juliet, Suite No. 2, Op. 64*, Steven Bryant's beautiful *Bloom for Orchestra*, Hungarian Dance No. 5 by Johannes Brahms, and a piece to celebrate our Appalachian heritage, *The Creaking Tree* by Darol Anger. The orchestra will round out their performance with the always-intriguing *Danse Macabre* by Camille Saint-Saëns, and with the third movement of Edvard Grieg's beloved Piano Concerto in A minor, with special guest soloist **Jackie Liu**, winner of the Siegel-Hoffman Piano Concerto Competition.

The Preparatory Division **Early Childhood Music Classes**, taught by our very own **Frauke Higgins**, for children ages 18 months to three years of age. Ms. Higgins is an experienced early childhood music educator, who has actively been teaching students of this age group since 1990. For the Spring 2016 term, Ms. Higgins is offering a course she created titled **Musical Discoveries** (18 months to 3 years with parent/caregiver)—This interactive class for children and parents introduces the young student to the rudiments of music. The class explores folk songs, echo songs, rhythm instruments, rhymes, finger-play, and creative movement. Children are given foundational techniques for the study of music that will transition easily to private study and continued musical learning as they grow and mature. The classes also help to encourage language and verbal development and improve spatial-temporal skills.

The Shepherd Preparatory Chorus, continues under the direction of **Dr. David Gonzol**, Director of Music Education. The chorus performed

repertoire celebrating the beauty of other languages and pride in the unique qualities of one's own culture for the fall 2015 concert, including Rafael Ortiz's *Uno, dos y tres*, Hortense Bonaparte's *Partant pour la Syrie* and *Sweet and Low: A Lullaby* by Joseph Barnby, with beautiful text by Alfred, Lord Tennyson. 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 pm at the Frank Center. The chorus will once again join the Preparatory Orchestra for the concert presented on **April 27th at 7:30 pm** in the Frank Center Theater.

The Preparatory Division will once again offer a **Summer String Camp** and a **Jazz Camp** during the week of **June 20-24, 2016**. The string orchestra camp, open to students in grades 8-12, includes string orchestra rehearsals, master classes, chamber music coaching, faculty performances, and a final concert to close the week. Middle school and high school students will also have the opportunity to study jazz this summer with some of the region's top jazz performers. The camp will also meet the week of June 20-24, and will include a junior jazz level for students in grades 6-8 and a senior jazz level 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. Outside of their music studies, students also enjoy recreational time at the University Wellness Center, swimming or playing basketball and racquetball, or during their meal times at the University Dining Center.

For information regarding the Shepherd University Preparatory Division and any of its programs, please contact **Kari Edge** at **304-876-5555** or email her at **kedge@shepherd.edu**. Visit our web site at **www.shepherd.edu/music/preparatory**.

## SECOND SHEPHERD INTERNATIONAL GUITAR FESTIVAL



Shepherd University's Department of Music is hosting the second annual **Shepherd International Guitar Festival**—the only one of its kind in the region—**Thursday, May 12** through **Sunday, May 15**. The festival is sponsored by Integrity Home Mortgage Corporation, making it possible to bring internationally acclaimed artists to the region and to offer several concerts to the public free of charge.

The four-day festival includes master classes, guitar lessons, guitar ensemble rehearsals, workshops, and five concerts by international artists and pedagogues, and a concluding concert featuring participants. Concerts and events will take place in the Frank Arts Center and churches in historic Shepherdstown, WV. Festival participation is open to adults, college students, and high school and middle school students of all ability levels.

Festival headliner **William Kanengiser**, recognized as one of America's finest classical guitarists and founding member of the **Los Angeles Guitar Quartet** will offer two master classes and a concert, featuring *Concierto de Los Angeles* for solo guitar and guitar orchestra, written for William by Shingo Fuji. Festival guitarist participants will make up the orchestra.

A master class and concert will be offered by award-winning multi-genre artist **Michael Chapdelaine**—

the only guitarist ever to win first prize in the world's top competitions in both the classical and fingerstyle genres—the Guitar Foundation of America International Classical Guitar Competition and the National Fingerstyle Championships at the Walnut Valley Bluegrass Festival in Winfield, Kansas.

Husband-and-wife guitar duo, **Nataša Klasinc** and **Miroslav Lončar** have been featured at numerous music festivals and concert series across the United States, Canada, the Caribbean, and Europe. Klasinc and Lončar's concert programs often blend baroque, classical, and romantic compositions with Lončar's original works, transcriptions, and arrangements of Croatian and other Mediterranean folk styles and music of the Viennese tradition. The duo will offer a concert, and Miroslav Lončar will conduct the *Concierto de Los Angeles* in William Kanengiser's concert.

The festival will also feature the **D'Amore Duo**, with oboist **Emily Tsai** and guitarist **William Feasley**. Investigating the little known wealth of chamber music for oboe and guitar, the D'Amore Duo has toured internationally and domestically to enthusiastic reviews. They have released three critically-claimed recordings, and performed at St. Martin in the Fields in London; the Yale Centre for British Art; the National Cathedral; the Arts Centre in Christchurch, New Zealand; the

Spanish Institute in New York; the Smithsonian Institution; and live on ABC International Radio out of Sydney, Australia. The Washington Post referred to the Duo as a "perfect partnership of sound" and lauded their performance as "one of the most uniquely satisfying concerts of the season."

Workshops for participants include "Inventing the American Guitar: The Pre-Civil War Innovations of C.F. Martin and His Contemporaries" with historian **David Gansz**, "Arranging pop tunes for fingerstyle/classical guitar" with Michael Chapdelaine, and a guitar technique workshop with William Feasley.

"The residents of this region have varied and sophisticated musical tastes that include classical, traditional, and jazz, just to name a few," said Music Department chair Dr. Robert Tudor, "Our guitar festival will offer several styles of music, workshops and master classes, and even historical presentations that will engage people in our community."

Observation of master classes will be free and open to the public. Admission will be charged for some concerts, and others will be free. For more information, or to register as a participant, visit [www.shepherd.edu/music/shepherd-international-guitar-festival-2016](http://www.shepherd.edu/music/shepherd-international-guitar-festival-2016).

## ALUMNI NEWS

**Jessica Adkins** (BA-Performance, 2014, voice) started graduate studies at University of Central Oklahoma.

**Allyson Bayer** (BME-Choral, 2015) a Fulbright Teaching Assistantship in Austria.

**Emily (DeTroye) Donaldson** (BME-Choral, 2011) and **Scott Donaldson** (BA-Musical Theater, 2012) welcomed Emmett James Donaldson on February 27.

**Hannah Geerlings** (BME-Instrumental 2015, flute) is an upper division instructional assistant for Carroll Creek Montessori Public Charter in Frederick, MD.



Emily and Scott Donaldson present their son Emmett

**Jeff Martin** (BME-Choral, 2009) on the faculty at University of Minnesota, flew to Detmold, Germany to sing Jesus in Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*.

**Shannon Mendoza** (BME-Instrumental and BA-performance, 2015, organ)

recently accepted a position as the general music teacher at Stonewall Elementary School in Clear Brook, VA, beginning in January. She is also the Pianist/Organist at Nineveh Presbyterian Church, Front Royal, VA.

**Lisa Oswald** (BME-Instrumental 2008, flute) is Company Manager for the Houston Grand Opera, where she is primarily responsible for overseeing production and rehearsal scheduling, and artist services.

**Christina Schirf** (BME-Instrumental, 2013) accepted a job teaching high school music at an American international school in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates.

## THE TWO RIVERS TRIO

The **2015-2016 Shepherd Music Salon Series** closed to a packed audience on **Thursday, March 10**, with **The Two Rivers Trio**. Their Salon Series program included their own transcription of the Bach Double Violin Concerto, a Mozart Serenade and a Haydn London Trio along with Viennese waltzes, Joplin rags, The Beatles, Michael Jackson and Taylor Swift.

Identical twin violinists **Matthew** and **Michael Polonchak**, and their father, Shepherd Bassoon professor **Richard Polonchak**, form the Two Rivers Trio and have performed together since 1995. Originally based in Alexandria, Virginia, later in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, and now in Baltimore, Maryland, the trio has performed concerts and recitals throughout the mid-Atlantic area and is in the process of recording their first CD.

Matthew and Michael both began studying the violin at age five. By age six, they were members of the DC Youth Orchestra. Moving to Harpers Ferry in 1997, they were the first "concertmasters" of the newly-formed Potomac Valley Youth Orchestra (now the Shepherd University Preparatory Orchestra) at Shepherd College. Richard says, "To the best of our knowledge, there is nothing written

specifically for two violins/bassoon -- everything we play is actually written for other instruments—often two violins and cello or violin/flute/cello and we make adjustments for our instrumentation. Also, to the best of our knowledge, we are the only 'two violin/bassoon trio' worldwide!"

The father-son theme is also carried through in the instruments. Matthew's violin was made in Paris in 1879 by Justin Derazey. Richard: "We had many violins sent during the next year so that we could find one that matched the Derazey. A year later, one of their conductors in Maryland knew of an instrument in New York that he thought would match—he didn't know who made it. When it came, it did match the Derazey in sound and in other ways, too. We didn't know the maker or the age of the instrument at the time. When the papers finally came, we learned it was made around 1850 by Justin's father, Honore Derazey in Paris!"

The last time The Two Rivers Trio performed on the Shepherd campus was in December, 2000, for the Reynolds Hall Recital Series. Dr. Scott Beard accompanied Michael and Matthew on individual solos and the



trio played the remainder of the concert.

Michael currently lives in Baltimore. He is Principal Violist of the Loudoun Symphony and section viola in the Fairfax Symphony and teaches in the Chamber Music Seminar at Goucher College. Matthew lives in Philadelphia and is a freelance musician active in the region. Together, in 2014, they formed Two Rivers Chamber Music, which has quickly become one of the premier classical music agencies in the greater DC/Baltimore metro area.

Richard is the former principal bassoonist of "The President's Own", United States Marine Band and White House Orchestra and has been professor of bassoon at Shepherd University since 2005.



## A FINAL NOTE—PROFESSOR EMERITUS JAY STENGER

Former Shepherd University music professor emeritus and founder of the Masterworks Chorale, **Jay Neil Stenger**, 83, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, November 10, 2015 at Berkeley Medical Center.

A Memorial service was held on Saturday, November 21, 2015 at Shepherdstown Presbyterian Church with Rev. Randy Tremba officiating.

He was a professor of music for Shepherdstown University. A consummate musician, Stenger was a pianist, organist, singer, and conductor. He was director of choirs at Shepherd University for 28 years, during which time he established the Masterworks Chorale.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara Buck Stenger; two sons, Jay N. Stenger, Jr. and wife, Corinna of Bunker Hill and Richard "Lee" Stenger and wife, Rayne November of Christiansburg, VA; two

grandchildren, Mariah and Audrey Stenger; and sister, Kay Stenger Huffman of Williamsport, PA.

Born April 15, 1932 in Lewisburg, PA, he was the son of the late Benjamin Luther Stenger and Mary Lenora Zimmerman Stenger.

Kate Coleman wrote about Mr. Stenger when he retired from then Shepherd College in 1997 in the Herald Mail:

*"Jay Stenger grew up in a musical family. His father was a preacher, and the family moved several times during his youth. He studied music at Lycoming College in Williamsport, PA, and taught at a junior high school for 11 years.*

*Jay Stenger spent 15 summers as a professional singer, pianist, choir librarian and assistant choir director at Chautauqua Institution in Chautauqua Lake, N.Y. A tenor, he toured the United*

*States with the acclaimed Robert Shaw Chorale for two years.*

*He met his wife, Barbara, and says she put him through graduate school at State University of New York at Fredonia. He came to teach at Shepherd in 1969.*

*Jay enjoyed a rich and varied life in music, teaching at Shepherd for twenty-eight years. His students praised his seemingly tireless supply of encouragement and high expectations of personal achievement. He and his singer and educator wife, Barbara, influenced many generations of artist-educators."*

Memorial contributions may be made to Shepherd University Music Department through the Shepherd University Foundation, P.O. Box 5000, Shepherdstown, West Virginia, 25443-5000. <http://shepherduniversityfoundation.org/>

## HONORS RECITAL

A select group of student musicians and ensembles from Shepherd University performed in the **Annual Honors Recital on Sunday, March 6**, at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts in Hagerstown, Maryland.

This is the fourteenth year the recital has taken place at the museum and the sixteenth 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 student performers were selected and nominated from the numerous recitals, juries and other performances at Shepherd each semester. The program featured solo and ensemble works for voice, piano, guitar, flute, viola and percussion, encompassing works by American and European composers.

This year's selected performers were: **Louise Campbell** (Frederick, MD), percussion; **Melissa McKay** (Monrovia, MD), flute; **Ashleigh Stottlemeyer** (Frederick, MD), horn; **Chase Remsburg** (Boonsboro,

MD), saxophone; **Hannah Wardell** (Ellicott City, MD), mezzo-soprano; **David Browne** (Martinsburg, WV) and **Andrew Oswinkle** (Baltimore, MD), guitar duo; **Lucas Peterson** (Rockville, MD) and **Matthew Jefferson** (Jefferson, MD), piano duo; **James Townsend** (Romney, WV), piano; **Adrielle Mills** (Martinsburg, WV), viola; **Shepherd Jazz Combo** featuring **Mary Granofsky** (Franklin, WV) piano, **Dan Dunn** (Ranson, WV) bass, and **Sawyer Gaydon** (Martinsburg, WV), drums.

## SPRING 2016 SENIOR RECITALS

**Andrew Oswinkle, Guitar Recital**  
Saturday, April 2 at 3:00 pm  
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

**Louise Campbell, Percussion Recital**  
Sunday, April 3 at 5:00 pm  
McCoy Rehearsal Hall

**Hannah Wardell, Voice Recital**  
Sunday, April 10 at 5:00 pm  
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

**Melissa McKay, Flute Recital**  
Sunday, April 3 at 3:00 pm  
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

**Sarah Kunemund, Horn Lecture Recital**  
Sunday, April 10 at 3:00 pm  
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

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



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For information on how to contribute to a Music Scholarship Fund, a capital campaign, a concert sponsorship or concert playbill advertising, please contact Dr. Robert Tudor, Music Department Chair at 304-876-5237 or [rtudor@shepherd.edu](mailto:rtudor@shepherd.edu). Contributions may also be made through the Shepherd University Foundation, P.O. Box 5000, Shepherdstown, WV 25443-5000. [shepherduniversityfoundation.org](http://shepherduniversityfoundation.org) Contributions are tax-deductible.