

SCHOOL OF MUSIC
ON THE MOVE! *Newsletter*

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From the Director

On behalf of the faculty and staff of the School of Music, welcome to a new academic year at Shepherd! Each fall brings with it a renewed sense of excitement and optimism as we begin this year's journey with the students.

Though we still face challenges with the pandemic, we are grateful for the opportunity to resume some of our normal activities within the school. Following the latest health and safety guidelines, we are welcoming students fully back to the classrooms and rehearsal spaces of the Frank Center for in-person instruction. Our ensembles continue to follow strict protocols to ensure the safety of our musicians while working toward our shared music-making goals.

We are also excited to welcome audiences back to the Frank Center Theater! This season, we are operating with some capacity limits and following current health and safety guidelines. The School of Music team is also happy to announce that tickets are now available for purchase online in advance of events! Visit our website for more information.

Engagement with music and arts can help to bring about healing. Art and music help us celebrate, grieve, explore, empathize, and more. We look forward to sharing our music with you this year. ■

—Kurtis Adams, D.M.A.

School of Music

Frank Arts Center
260 University Drive
Shepherdstown, WV 254543
304-876-5555
music@shepherd.edu



HONOR MUSIC FESTIVAL

School of Music faculty are excited to welcome students back for the **17th Annual Honor Music Festival** to be held on **January 14 through January 16, 2022**. The festival includes an honor jazz ensemble, choir, and wind ensemble comprised of the finest high school musicians in the four-state region. Each of these students is nominated by their high school director. They spend the weekend making music with each other under the guidance of the Shepherd University conducting faculty and guests. Students also enjoy performances by Shepherd student ensembles and benefit from master classes with faculty.

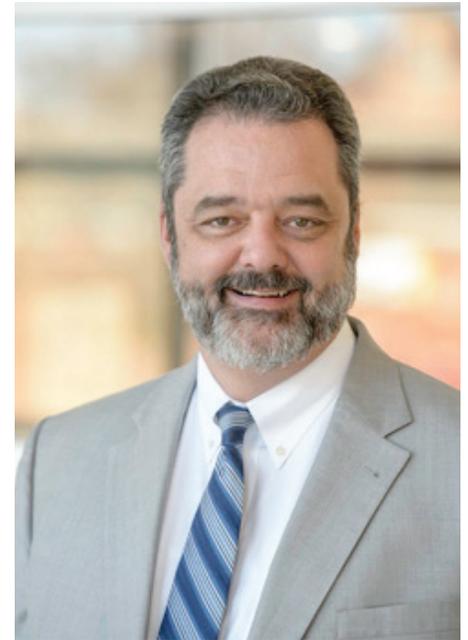
This year's guest conductor for the honor wind ensemble will be Shepherd alumnus and former faculty member **Dr. D. Mark McCoy**. A native West Virginian, Dr. McCoy served as director of instrumental music and chair of Shepherd's vibrant music program for 16 years. In 2011, Dr. McCoy accepted a position at



Kenny Rittenhouse

DePauw University as dean of the School of Music and later as university president. Dr. McCoy has long been an in-demand conductor and clinician for ensembles of all levels.

Working with the honor jazz ensemble this year will be trumpeter **Kenny Rittenhouse**. A mainstay in the Washington, D.C. jazz community, Mr. Rittenhouse is a former member



Mark McCoy

of the United States Army Blues and has shared the stage with jazz artists including Ernie Andrews, Kevin Mahogany, Lou Rawls, Wycliff Gordon, Doc Severinsen, Arturo Sandoval, and Sean Jones. In addition to his active performing career, Mr. Rittenhouse is a dedicated educator currently serving as instructor of applied trumpet at Morgan State University. ■

JAZZ LINES

This semester the jazz area welcomes two new faculty members: **Bob Sykes**, piano, and **Dr. Euan Edmonds**, trombone and improvisation. Professor Sykes is a long-standing member of the four-state jazz scene performing at The Kennedy Center, Blues Alley, Carter Baron Amphitheatre, Lisner Auditorium, The Phillips Collection, The Hirshorn Museum, The Corcoran Gallery of Art, The Hillwood Museum, and at The Barns at Wolf Trap.

A proud alum of Shepherd, Dr. Euan Edmonds studied trombone with Dr. Frank Gazda and Dr. Natalie Mannix and jazz with Fred Hughes, Tom

Williams, and Frank Russo while a student here. He went on to earn his master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Illinois where he studied trombone, composition and arranging, and jazz studies with Jim Pugh and Chip McNeill. He has performed with a wide variety of groups and ensembles such as The Temptations, The Glenn Miller Orchestra, on the national tour of the 2008 revival of the Broadway musical, "The Pajama Game," and at venues and clubs across the world from *Club Zinco* in Mexico City, to *The Venetian* in Macau, China, and at the prestigious *Chicago Jazz Festival*.

After missing spring 2021, Shepherd Jazz will be hosting our annual **Shepherd University Jazz Festival** on **Saturday, February 19, 2022**. The jazz festival is a wonderful educational experience for students performing in high school and middle school jazz bands. In addition to their performance, students in these groups have a half-hour private workshop with one of our clinicians and the opportunity to participate in master classes on a variety of topics. We look forward to seeing you at all of these events. Be there, or be square! ■

Shepherd Music Live!

The School of Music is excited to welcome audiences back to the Frank Arts Center to share in the artistry and musicianship of our talented faculty and students. We will continue to follow the most current safety guidelines to maintain a safe concert-going experience for all.

Please note the policy for attendance of live events in the Frank Arts Center: The university requires all persons on campus, regardless of vaccination status, to wear a mask indoors. Attendees must sit only in designated rows and leave at least two empty seats between unrelated groups of audience members. As the pandemic situation changes, these policies are also subject to change.

New this year! Tickets can be purchased in advance online at www.shepherd.edu/music/event-ticket-and-registrations.



Note: There is a \$1 surcharge for tickets purchased in advance online and for all credit card ticket sales.

FALL EVENTS

Choral Concert

Friday, October 22 at 7:30 p.m.

The Shepherd University Chamber Singers, Camerata Soprano/Alto Choir, and Ramblers Gospel/Pop Choir presented a fabulous fall concert featuring works by Heinrich Schütz, Robert Schumann, Ro Ogura, Amy Beach, Abbie Betinis, William Byrd, Gerald Finzi, Sarah Quartel, Emilio Grenet, Christopher Harris, and more.

Jazz at Shepherd — Jazz Ensemble Concert

Friday, October 29 at 7:30 p.m.

Attendees were treated to a great night of jazz with special guest artist, jazz trombonist Dr. Euan Edmonds, a Shepherd University alumnus and adjunct professor. The ensemble performed works by Juan Tizol and Duke Ellington, Larry Shay, Mark Fisher and Joe Goodwin, Charles Mingus, David Raskin and Johnny Mercer, Victor Young, Neal Hefti, and Luiz Bonfá.

Jazz at Shepherd — Jazz Combos

Thursday, November 4 at 7:30 p.m.

Shepherd Jazz Combos, under the direction of Kevin Pace and Kelton Norris.

Orpheus Explored

Friday, November 12 at 7:30 p.m.

The Greek myth of Orpheus and Eurydice is a tale of intense love, tragic loss, a quest to the underworld, and a test of blind trust. This multi-disciplinary concert performance featured poetry, movement, videos, and performance in the genres of opera, music theater, art song, and popular song. Guests witnessed a unique collaboration of artists in an exploration of this powerful, ancient story of loss and redemption.

Wind Symphony

Tuesday, November 16 at 7:30 p.m.

It was an enjoyable evening of wind band classics featuring four students conductors as well as director of bands Dr. Scott Hippensteel in the Frank Arts Center Theater. Attendees got a glimpse of the conductors of tomorrow!

Piano Ensemble and Studio Recital — Let's Dance!

Wednesday, November 17 at 7:30 p.m.

It's always fun to dance with your friends! Shepherd Piano Ensemble explored dance music from around the world

in six-hands and four-hands formats, featuring works by Manuel de Falla, John Philip Sousa, Aleksandr Ilyinsky, Ulrich Nehis, Jeff Manookian, Arthur Benjamin, and more.

Small Ensembles and Composition Recital

Monday, November 29 at 7:30 p.m.

The best of our small ensembles and a distinguished list of young composers presented their vision of tomorrow's music.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Glad Tidings—A Shepherd Celebration

Saturday, December 4 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, December 5 at 3:00 p.m.

Join us for a warm and inspiring holiday musical tradition featuring Shepherd University's Wind Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, Chamber Singers, Camerata Soprano/Alto Choir, Ramblers Gospel and Pop Choir, and Vocal Quintet, Guitar Ensemble and Piano Ensemble. Wellness Center Arena.

Shepherd Community Orchestra and Shepherd Youth Chorus

Wednesday, December 8 at 7:30 p.m.

The Shepherd Youth Chorus directed by Dr. Austin Showen, and the Shepherd Community Orchestra, directed by Camilo Pérez-Mejía, present their first concert of the season in the Frank Arts Center Theater.

Stay tuned for updated information and our Spring events by visiting www.shepherd.edu/music/calendar-of-concerts. ■

Salon Series



Top row: Robin Rhodes, Scott Patterson, Max Bent, Molly Orlando, Jeremy Koch;
Second row: Dr. Yu-Hsuan Liao, Maksimilian Krzak, David Drosinos, and Laura Kafka-Price.

The **2021-2022 Shepherd Music Salon Series**, sponsored by Jefferson Security Bank, returned this fall to live performances on **Thursday, September 16 at 6:30 p.m.** with the **Shepherd Faculty Jazz Quartet**. Saxophonist **Dr. Kurtis Adams**, director of the Shepherd University School of Music, and Shepherd adjunct faculty bassist **Kevin Pace**, guitarist **Peter Heiss** and drummer **Kelton Norris**, presented a program of music of the great saxophonist, **John Coltrane**, in celebration of what would have been his 95th birthday. The performance, free and open to the public, took place outdoors in the Butcher Center Plaza.

On **Thursday, October 7**, Shepherd University saxophone professor **Jeremy Koch** joined forces with pianist **Molly Orlando** in the Frank Arts Center Theater with a program titled *Revival - Rearrange - Reconsider*. The duo reanimated works for saxophone and piano, displaying their versatility in performing a minimalist Japanese meditation by Somei Satoh, César Franck's aggressively challenging

masterpiece *Sonata in A Major*, the fiery preachings from an evangelical tent revival in "Holy Roller" by Libby Larsen, and a virtuosic Paganini-esque concerto by Antonio Pasculli.

Shepherd adjunct professor and bassist **Robin Rhodes**, pianist **Scott Patterson**, and vocalist **Max Bent** performed selections from Afro House's house concert experimentation, featuring Afrofuturistic music that is disruptive, exuberant, innovative, emergent, and transformative, with beats, noise, and lush harmonies on **Thursday, November 11**.

James Martin and Friends will be featured on **Thursday, January 27, 2022**. Shepherd trombone professor **James Martin** and special guest soprano **Katie Burnham**, accompanied by **Dr. Julianna Hayward**, will perform a recital titled *Sensuality and Eventuality*. The performance, in the Frank Arts Center Theater, is free and open to the public.

On **Friday, March 4, 2022, at 7:30 p.m.** in the Frank Arts Center Theater,

the Shepherd Salon Series will present a special performance of the **Lua Project**, a quartet featuring songwriter **Estela Knott** on vocals, jarana, and zapateado; arranger and composer **David Berzonsky** on bass and requinto; **Matty Metcalfe** on accordion, banjo; and **Christen Hubbard** on mandolin, fiddle, claw hammer banjo. A cultural arts based "Mexilachian" music project that blends original and traditional music of Mexico, Appalachia, and the Atlantic basin, Lua seeks to create, respectfully explore, educate, and build artistic bridges between cultures through performances, community programs, and cultural events. General admission tickets are \$15, \$10 for Shepherd faculty, staff, alumni, senior citizens, active duty military, veterans, and students age 18 and under. Note: There is a \$1 surcharge for tickets purchased online and for all credit card sales. For ticket information, please visit www.shepherd.edu/music/event-ticket-and-registrations.

The final Salon Series concert will be on **Sunday, March 6, 2022 at 3 p.m.** featuring Shepherd adjunct faculty **David Drosinos** on clarinet and **Dr. Yu-Hsuan Liao** on piano, with guest artists Maksimilian Krzak on viola, and soprano **Laura Kafka-Price**. The program will include works of York Bowen, Frank Bridge, Max Bruch, Franz Schubert, and more. The performance, in the Frank Arts Center Theater, is free and open to the public.

Please note the current policy for attendance of live events in the Frank Arts Center. The university requires all persons on campus, regardless of vaccination status, to wear a mask indoors. Please sit only in designated rows and leave at least two empty seats between unrelated groups of audience members. ■



Community Music News



NEW COMMUNITY MUSIC PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Please join the Shepherd University School of Music in welcoming **Anthony Stoika** (*pictured above*), our new Community Music Program coordinator. He will assist students and parents in the community with music education on campus, including the Shepherd Community Orchestra and Shepherd Youth Chorus, early childhood music classes, and private lessons. His office is located in Frank Center 118 and his email address is astoika@shepherd.edu.

Mr. Stoika is an alumnus of Shepherd University, receiving his Bachelor's degree in music performance in 2018,

and an associate's degree in music from Hagerstown Community College in 2015. During his time as a Shepherd student, he participated in Ram Band, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Big Band, Jazz Combos, and various other chamber ensembles. He has taught percussion and music theory through Shepherd's Community Music program for several years, and teaches percussion music and technique for the Washington High School marching band, as well as continuing to actively perform as a musician in the area.

He is excited to facilitate the growth of the Community Music Program.

SHEPHERD YOUTH CHORUS

Directed by **Dr. Austin Showen**, the Shepherd Youth Chorus has returned to meeting in-person on Wednesday nights this Fall semester. Dr. Showen leads students grades 3-8 through fun musical activities including singing, song writing, and group music discussion. They will have a final concert in the Frank Arts Center Theater on **Wednesday, December 8 at 7:30 p.m.**

SHEPHERD COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

Under the direction of **Camilo Pérez-Mejía**, the Shepherd Community Orchestra has returned to in-person rehearsals this fall after 18 months of either virtually meeting or not meeting at all. They are meeting without winds currently. They will have a final concert in the Frank Arts Center Theater on **Wednesday, December 8 at 7:30 p.m.** They will perform the *Corelli Christmas Concerto*, Mozart's *Divertimento in F*, Jenkins' *Palladio*, and other works.

COMMUNITY MUSIC LESSONS

Enrollment continues for all instruments in the Community Music Lessons program. Both online and in-person lessons are available with any of our wonderful teachers.

For more information about Shepherd University's Community Music programs, early childhood music, classes and private music lessons for all ages, please call 304-876-5248, email communitymusic@shepherd.edu, or visit www.shepherd.edu/music/community-program. ■

Did you know?

Many grant-funding applications ask for employment statistics about our graduates.

To help the School of Music qualify for grant funding, consider letting us know the name of your employer.

Please update your record in the Shepherd University alumni database by contacting the Shepherd University Foundation at **304-876-5195** or brugh@shepherd.edu.

Choral Notes

Welcome to the Fall 2021 semester! We are excited to be returning to the building more regularly this semester and perform for live audiences again! We have several exciting performances this fall in the Shepherd University Choral Department.

The **Shepherd University Chamber Singers, Camerata Soprano/Alto Choir, and Ramblers Gospel/Pop Choir** presented its Fall Choral Concert on **Friday, October 22, at 7:30 p.m.** in the Frank Arts Center Theater. The Shepherd University Camerata performed works by Heinrich Schütz, Robert Schumann, Ro Ogura, Amy Beach, and Abbie Betinis. The Chamber Singers performed works by William Byrd, Gerald Finzi, Sarah Quartel, Emilio Grenet, and Christopher Harris. This performance featured student conductors Amber Shayeb and Julia Stonesifer.

The Ramblers gospel/pop choir members

are engaged in a unique project this fall semester. Dr. Tudor worked with them to create a multidisciplinary concert project centered around the Greek myth of Orpheus and Eurydice. This is a tale of intense love, tragic loss, a quest to the underworld, and a test of blind trust. *Orpheus Explored*, a multidisciplinary concert performance, featured poetry, film, and music in the genres of opera, music theater, art song, and popular song. Some of the music was offered at the **Fall Choral Concert on Friday, October 22, at 7:30 p.m.** The full multidisciplinary concert performance of *Orpheus Explored* took place on **Friday, November 12, at 7:30 p.m.**

We had to postpone Masterworks Chorale until we reach a safer time for large choirs to perform together again, but we are continuing to sing together on Zoom and

are hopeful to be able to sing in person again soon.

In December, the **Chamber Singers, Camerata, Ramblers, Wind Ensemble, and Jazz Ensemble** will join for our **annual Holiday Gala** with performances on **Saturday, December 4, at 7:30 p.m.** and our family matinee on **Sunday, December 5, at 3 p.m.**

This year's performance will be held in the Wellness Center Arena and will feature programming that celebrates Shepherd University's 150th Anniversary.

We hope you are staying safe and healthy and hope to see you in our audience again soon!

- **Dr. Rachel Carlson and Dr. Rob Tudor** ■

Notes from the Instrumental Area

After a year off due to the pandemic, we plan to restart the Shepherd Symphonic Band for Spring 2022 with rehearsals moving to Thursday evenings from 7:30-9 p.m. in McCoy Rehearsal Hall at the Frank Arts Center. Symphonic Band welcomes advanced musicians from area high schools, the university, and community to make music as a true communiversity ensemble. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we are observing special safety protocols. All Symphonic Band participants are required to either: 1) register your vaccination with Shepherd University, or 2) provide a negative PCR test within 72 hours of our first rehearsal on January 13, 2022. Additionally, band

members will wear face coverings while inside campus buildings and use bell covers. Despite the challenges of being a musician in a world battling a pandemic, we hope you will join us this spring as we get the band back together and soldier on!

The Shepherd University Wind Symphony performed its annual Student Conductor Concert this fall on Tuesday, November 16, 2021, featuring the works of four students this year in a variety of selections. Ian Walton conducted *O Magnum Mysterium*, a beautiful arrangement by H. Robert Reynold of the famous choral work by Morten Lauridsen. Joe Rupert led the band on an energetic overture by

Rosano Gallante entitled *Mount Everest*. Javier Flores conducted the lush ballad *Sheltering Sky* by John Mackey. Isaac Cheston directed a two-part work entitled *Cumberland Cross*. Dr. Scott Hippensteel opened the concert with a traditional march and closed the concert with *Give Us This Day* by David Maslanka. ■

ALUMNI NOTES

Casie (Rogers) Adams (trumpet, BME-Instrumental, 2013) is making history as Martinsburg High School's first female director of bands. ■



Key Notes

Shepherd University School of Music hosted the annual West Virginia Music Teachers Association (WVMTA) state conference on October 7-9, 2021, in the Frank Arts Center. Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) has been the backbone for a collaborative community of music teaching professionals, connecting both the seasoned educator and those at the beginning of their career. Shepherd School of Music is the home of one of the WVMTA local districts, Eastern Panhandle MTA, where we have about a dozen studio teachers. We also have the Shepherd MTNA collegiate chapter with several music majors participating.

In this year's conference, presentations including topics on "Thinking and Playing Music — Intentional Strategies for Optimal Practice and Performance;" "Lesser-Known Intermediate Repertoire for the Advancing Pianist;" "Leveling Piano Music by Black Composers;" and "How to Foster Wellness and Health in Performing and Visual Artists." The featured guest artist concert featured Andrew Sords on violin and Johan Botes and piano on Friday October 8, 2021, in the Frank Arts Center Theater. A string masterclass, free and open to the public, was offered by Andrew Sords on Saturday, October 9.

Lecture-Recital: *George Crumb's Eine Kleine Mitternachtmusik (A Little Midnight Music)*

Yu-Hsuan Liao presented the following

lecture-recital virtually at the World Piano Conference in October 2021:

In 2001, pianist Emanuele Arciuli commissioned a group of composers to write variations based on jazz musician Thelonius Monk's classic 'Round Midnight.' George Crumb (1929 -) expanded the project into an entire suite. Though the work opens and closes with literal statements of Monk's tune, from the very beginning we know that the music is the incomparable work of George Crumb, with its strummed strings, full usage of resonant inside the piano, typically harmonic language of Crumb, and his hallmark in musical quotations. Crumb cleverly threw quotes from Debussy's Golliwog's Cakewalk, Wagner's Tristan, and Till Eulenspiegel's Merry Pranks by Richard Strauss. The work fuses jazz and Monk's theme with Crumb's harmonic language, but also interacts with European and American idioms and motifs.

Shepherd Piano Ensemble Concert: Let's Dance!

Wednesday, November 17, at 7:30 p.m.
ShIPLEY Recital Hall

It's always fun to dance with your friends! Shepherd Piano Ensemble explored dance music from around the world in six-hands and four-hands formats. Works includes Manuel de Falla, John Philip Sousa, Aleksandr Ilyinsky, Ulrich Nehis, Jeff Manookian, Arthur Benjamin, and more. ■

Fall Master Classes and Workshops

Veronika Jackson Master Class

Veronika Jackson combines acoustic folk music and R&B to generate her own original, authentic and exciting style of music. A rare and unique performer, her smooth and strong interpretive vocals are very expressive, and her clear, simple rhythmic clean way of piedmont blues-style guitar picking compliments her performances. Dynamic, powerful, entertaining and captivating, her music educates and also inspires.

Salon Series Seminar — George Crumb

Dr. Yu-Hsuan Liao presented a lecture-recital on American modern classical and avant-garde composer George Crumb, a Charleston, WV native. W. H. Shipley Recital Hall. This was a live in-person preview of lecture-recital presented virtually at the World Piano Conference in October.

West Virginia Music Teachers Association master class

WVMTA featured guest artist American violinist Andrew Sords gives a string master class in W.H. Shipley Recital Hall. Cited for combining visceral virtuosity with a ravishing tone, American violinist Andrew Sords has a celebrated career as a soloist on four continents, and in performances with his trio and with nearly 300 orchestras.

Jeff Lederer Master Class

NYC-based Jeff Lederer is a saxophonist, clarinetist, composer and educator whose work crosses the genres of jazz, latin and creative improvised music. He has worked for many years in the Matt Wilson Quartet and the Grammy nominated ensembles of Bobby Sanabria and Salsa trombonist Jimmy Bosch, and has performed at numerous major jazz festivals including the Newport Jazz Festival, JVC Jazz Festival, Monterey Jazz Festival, Litchfield Jazz Festival, Pori Jazz Festival, Moldes Jazz, Guimaraes Festival (Portugal), Tiempo Latino (France) and many, many others.

FACULTY NOTES

Dr. Austin Showen, director of music education, had a productive spring and summer teaching in-service music educators and presenting at state and international conferences. In April, Dr. Showen gave a presentation, “Popular Music in the General Music Classroom” at the online West Virginia Music Educators Association conference. In June, Dr. Showen presented a paper, “Living With Our Monsters: Reading Literacy [Kodály] Through Posthumanism” with Dr. Cathy Benedict (Western University, Ontario, Canada) at the joint 32nd MayDay Group Colloquium and 4th Symposium for LGBTQ Studies and Music Education hosted online by the University of Oregon. In July, Dr. Showen taught online Kodály Level III pedagogy, musicianship, and folk song research for the University of Montevallo Kodály Institute in Alabama. In late September, Dr. Showen presented a research poster, “Troubling Emotions: Social Justice and Social-Emotional Learning in Music Education” with Dr. Matthew Fiorentino (Arizona State University) at the Society for Music Teacher Education Symposium hosted by the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Double Trouble—Shepherd Music Faculty Recital at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts

Shepherd adjunct music faculty oboist Gregory Shook and bassoonist Richard Polonchak, accompanied by pianist Dr. Laura Renninger, presented a fun-filled recital at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts on Sunday, October 17. There was a special preview open dress rehearsal of the program in W. H. Shipley Recital Hall on Saturday, October 16.

Shepherd Three, formed in 2006, is comprised of three adjunct faculty



Double Trouble pictured from l. to r. are Dr. Laura Renninger, Gregory Shook, and Richard Polonchak

woodwind instructors – Anne Munroe (flute), Greg Shook (oboe), and Richard Polonchak (bassoon). Laura Renninger, from Hagerstown Community College, has accompanied the ensemble from the beginning. This concert featured the “double reed” faculty and is appropriately called Double Trouble. Greg and Richard performed oboe and bassoon duets along with separate concerto/sonata performances with Laura at the piano.

A native of Hagerstown, oboist Gregory Shook has performed with the Harrisburg Symphony, the Washington Bach Consort, the Washington National Symphony, and the Hagerstown Municipal Band. He is adjunct faculty at Shepherd University and the Barbara Ingram School for the Arts.

Richard Polonchak is the former principal bassoonist of The United States Marine Band, “The President’s Own,” and White House Orchestra, and is the author of Primary Handbook for Bassoon. He currently performs with Shepherd Three and the Baltimore-based Two Rivers Trio with his identical twin sons on violin.

Dr. Laura Renninger previously served on the music faculty at Shepherd University, teaching music history and world music, and accompanying student and faculty recitals. Over the course of her musical career, she has performed numerous times as a soloist with the Toledo Ohio Symphony Orchestra and has worked as a rehearsal accompanist, chamber musician, and church organist. She currently serves as the accompanist for the Shepherd Three. ■



News from the Ram Band

HARLEM 1940

In 2021 we welcome back the vibrant sounds of the Big Bad Shepherd Swing Band! This year's Ram Band show, *HARLEM 1940*, features a nostalgic throwback to jazz classics of the Big Band Swing Era. Our "Harlem Renaissance" show kicks off with a popular favorite from Duke Ellington. Who can tell me, "What's the fastest way to get to Harlem?" That's right, you Take the A-Train! Earle Hagan composed the band's second selection as a tribute to Duke Ellington. We feature senior clarinetist Isaac Cheston in our powerful ballad "Harlem Nocturne." We invite the audience to sing-along with vocalist Jerel Parker and jam with trombone soloist Corwin Neat on "Minnie the Moocher" by Cab Calloway. Billy Strayhorn captured the mood of the 1940's but the Ram Band ratchets this classic chart up a notch in their samba and swing arrangement of "It Don't Mean A Thing If It Ain't Got That Swing."

The Ram Band will be taking their show on the road this year. In addition to our regular Shepherd University home football

games, Founders' Day, Homecoming, and Shepherdstown Christmas parades, the Ram Band performed at Williamsport High School U.S. Bands Regional Marching Band Festival on September 25, the 25th Annual Collegiate Marching Band Festival in Allentown, PA on October 3, Frederick County Public Schools Marching Band Showcase at Oakdale High School on October 4, and Washington County Public Schools Marching Band Showcase at Hagerstown South High School on October 12.

RAM BAND REUNION

Ram Band alumni turned out this year and dusted off their instruments, found their blue and gold attire, and participated in the annual Ram Band Reunion held during the Shepherd University Homecoming weekend. This year the game was on Saturday, October 23, 2021, at noon. All former members of the Ram Band and color guard were invited to come perform with the Ram Band during the pregame show, in the stands, and during the special halftime show. GO RAM BAND! ■

Fall 2021 Senior Recitals

Patrick Anthony Clarinet Recital

Sunday, October 24 at 3 p.m.
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

Ian Walton Bassoon Recital

Sunday, November 7 at 3 p.m.
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

Isaac Cheston Clarinet Recital

Sunday, November 7 at 5 p.m.
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

Isaac Vila Euphonium Recital

Sunday, November 14 at 3 p.m.
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

Javier Flores Euphonium Recital

Sunday, November 14 at 5 p.m.
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

Recitals are free and open to the public and videos will continue to become available on our [YouTube channel](#) following the performances.

School of Music
P.O. Box 5000
Shepherdstown, WV 25443-5000
www.shepherd.edu/music

-  Shepherd University Music
-  @ShepherduMusic
-  Shepherd University Music



SAVE THE DATE! Musical Showcase for Scholarships

Mark your calendars for this year's **Musical Showcase for Scholarships** scheduled for **7:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 2, 2022**. The evening's program will highlight the exceptional faculty, students, and alumni of the Shepherd University School of Music, all in efforts to raise much-needed scholarship funds.

Over the past five years, this event has brought in nearly \$175,000 in funds used

for student recruitment and retention. The phenomenal support from the Musical Showcase for Scholarships is essential to the School of Music maintaining enrollment and reaching the projected enrollment of 120 strategically selected music majors.

The 2022 Musical Showcase committee is being chaired by Dr. Marcia Brand. For more information about the Musical

Showcase and how you can support our students at Shepherd, please contact Christine Meyer, Shepherd University Foundation, at 304-876-5526 or cmeyer@shepherd.edu.

For up-to-date information visit www.shepherd.edu/music/musicshowcase. ■