

Music Alumni Newsletter – Fall 2014

A Message from the Editors

E-Mail: MusicAlumni@txstate.edu

Web: <http://www.MusicAlumni.net>

We understand “alumni” broadly: whether you received your degree from (Southwest) Texas State as a music major, whether you studied here for one semester, or whether you were a non-music major but participated in band, choir, or any other ensemble – you are a Music Alumnus!

We invite everyone to submit their updates and stories to us for inclusion in the newsletter. For easy communica-

tion, please join our [Facebook Group](#) or our [LinkedIn Group](#), or send us an e-mail so we can add you to our e-mail distribution list.

We also invite our alumni to stay informed about new and exciting events in the School of Music by reading its newsletter *Somos Músicos* at somosmusicos.wp.txstate.edu.

This Fall 2014 issue of our Music Alumni Newsletter contains several pictures taken at the 2014 Homecoming with its Music Alumni Band performance.

The Editors

Prof. Charles Hurt, Dr. Lynn Ledbetter, and Dr. Nico Schüler



FLTR: Gabriel Gallardo (attended Texas State 1988-93), Nela Gallardo (B.M. in music education '95), Denise Hudson (former coordinator of flags for the Bobcat Marching Band), and James Hudson (former director of the Bobcat Marching Band)

E-Mail & Internet Links:

Texas State Music Alumni E-Mail: MusicAlumni@txstate.edu • Texas State's School of Music: <http://www.music.txstate.edu/>
Texas State Music Alumni Website: <http://www.MusicAlumni.net> • Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/46231268458>

Alumni Information & News

Rick Astorga (B.M. in music education '10) is the Associate Director of Bands & Director of Percussion at William H. Taft High School in San Antonio.

Nickolas Conte (B.M. in music education '09; M.M. in music education '14) is now an assistant band director at Paredes MS in Austin ISD and performs with Cinematic Symphony, a local community band which plays film scores, and a vintage swing band called Snorky's Rhythm Kings.

Julie Payne Davis (M.M. in composition '10) is now the Education and Production Coordinator for the Corpus Christi Symphony Orchestra. She is very excited about this opportunity to positively represent Texas State University.

Ed Gibson (B.A. in music '04) went on to earn his Masters in Sacred Music from Southern Methodist University (Dallas, TX). Upon graduating from SMU, Mr. Gibson continues to lead a successful career in church music. He spent six and a half years as Director of Music at First United Methodist Church in Waxahachie, Texas. He currently serves as Director of Music and Fine Arts at Christ Church United Methodist, a 4,000 member congregation in The Woodlands, Texas. His hobbies include playing the flute and cooking.

Lindsey (Beemer) Johnson (B.M. in music education '03) is the head choir director at Roosevelt HS in North East ISD, San Antonio, Texas.

Mark Moore (B.M. in guitar performance '92) teaches guitar at Bellaire High School in Houston, Texas. He recently performed at the Lincoln Center Festival in NYC with the Houston Grand Opera. He performs regularly with the HGO as well as the Houston Symphony.

Chuck Moon (M.M. in music education '03) is the band director at Duncanville HS.

Amy Puett (M.M. in music history & literature '09) has been teaching as a TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) instructor. She taught in South Korea, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Hungary. She is currently a TESOL instructor in Daejeon, South Korea, and pursuing an M.A. in TESOL at the School for International Training in Vermont. She writes: "I definitely benefited from my studies at TSU, especially in writing and music theory. I've composed songs for my younger classes to aid in instilling language concepts, and I also am proficient in grammar and writing after going through the process of writing a thesis under the supervision of Nico Schüler. I also got married 2 two years ago if that's news worthy..."



Lee Elliott (B.M. in music education '85) & Terri Elliott (B.M. in music education '86)

Flute Alumni News

Recent flute graduates have moved on to very exciting endeavors.

Hilary Janysek (B.M. in music education '11) is in her second year of the Master's program at Ball State University in Muncie, IN, where she is a Flute Performance major. In her first semester at BSU, she was a winner in the graduate division of the Concerto Competition. Hilary is also a Teaching Assistant in the Music Education area, teaching a music class for elementary education majors and has been supervising student teachers. Her previous two years were spent teaching elementary music in Bastrop, TX, where she gained experience that qualified her to pursue this teaching position as a graduate TA.

Lauryn Gould (B.M. in music performance '10) and her husband Ryan are spending this academic year (2014-15) in Ireland studying for a Master's degree in Community Music at the University of Limerick. Since her graduation from the School of Music at Texas State, Lauryn has been very active in an incredible variety of musical pursuits ranging from performing in a flute quartet, a jazz combo with her husband, and the Mishap Marching Band to being an arts advocate and activist forming such organizations as the Sound Bridge Project, which provides performing opportunities for local musicians in unexpected venues in Austin.

Danielle Stevens (B.M. in music performance '14) is in her first year as a Flute Performance major at the University of Cincinnati–College Conservatory of Music. In the summer of 2013, she and Hilary Janysek performed in masterclasses at Flauti al Castello in Tuscany with renowned flutists Sergio Pallottelli and Leone Buyse. In summer of 2014, Dani was a performer in the Panoramic Flutist festival in Boulder, CO, playing in masterclasses with Christina Jennings (flute professor at the University of Colorado) and Carol Wincenc (flute professor at SUNY-Stony Brook and Juilliard).

Valerie Cowan (M.M. in music performance '14) has auditioned for and was accepted into the Army Band pool of flutists, has completed basic training for the Army, graduated from the Army School of Music, has gotten married, and is moving to Ft. Knox, Kentucky, to be stationed there as part of the Army band unit.

After two years as a successful junior high band director, **Christina Wishart** (B.M. in music education '12) will be beginning her Master's in Business Administration here at Texas State. Still active as a flutist, she is the leader of a group of former and current Texas State flute students – Silver Voices – that also auditioned and were chosen to perform at the National Flute Association Convention in Chicago in August 2014.

Daniel Pardo (B.M. in music performance) has completed an M.M. in Flute Performance and is now about to complete a D.M.A. at the University of North Texas, where he is also a graduate teaching assistant for the flute studio. He maintains an active performing career in the Dallas area and can be seen in many Youtube videos and on his incredible website at www.danielpardomusic.com.

Jen McLachlen (M.M. in flute performance '09) completed a D.M.A in flute performance (2013), and a Ph.D. in composition (2014), both from the University of North Texas. She currently teaches ear training at Carleton University, Canada.

Jamie Hunt (M.M. in flute performance '12) performs in Silver Voices and maintains an incredible load of private flute students in Austin.

Briana Dunn (B.M. in flute performance) also performs in Silver Voices and has put her piano skills to good use by accepting a full-time position as a church organist and choirmaster at Windcrest United Methodist Church in San Antonio.

Ana Hernandez (B.M. in music education '11) continues to teach junior band at Clear Lake Intermediate School and writes a blog about her experiences with having braces and her problems and solutions of trying to play various instruments – incredibly well-written and helpful!

Janelle Martin Fisk (B.M. in music education and B.M. in jazz studies '12) received an M.A. in Jazz History and Research from Rutgers University–Newark and is now employed as a Pre-K through 5th grade music teacher at P.S. 198M in Manhattan, NY.

Thearon Landrum (B.M. in flute performance '90) is currently associate pastor of worship arts at the First Baptist Church in Granbury, Texas. After graduating from Texas State, he received a Master's at the Southwest Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth. He is married and has six children and was recently featured in an extensive article in the *Granbury Now* magazine highlighting his musical endeavors associated with his position at the Baptist church.

Alisha Caffalette Gabriel (B.M. in music education '98; M.M. in music education '07) has been teaching at Great Oaks Elementary, K-5, in Round Rock ISD for seventeen years.

After two years of public school teaching, **Carly Boeselt** (B.M. in music education '11) is now in the Master's program at UT for Counselor Education, a great opportunity for her.

MaryJeanne Altura (B.M. in music education '12) continues to teach elementary music in the Killeen ISD and was recently married.

Congratulations, Recent Music Education Graduates! Teaching Positions for 2014-2015

Brian Allmond – Asst. Band Director – BF Terry High School, Lamar Consolidated ISD, Rosenberg, TX

Jillian Attan – Orchestra Director, Irving ISD

Jonah Bahta – Longfellow Middle School, San Antonio ISD

Jack Baker – Pershing MS Assistant Band Director, Houston ISD

Corey Barker – Assistant Band Director, Corbett Junior High, Schertz-Cibilo ISD

Amanda Chapla – Elementary General Music and Assistant Band Director, Harper ISD, Harper, TX

Paul Daniel, Assistant Band Director, South Houston Intermediate, Pasadena ISD

Robert DeLong – Assistant Band Director, Mountain Valley MS, Comal ISD

Nick Conte– Assistant Band Director, Paredes Middle School , Austin ISD

David Eickbusch – Assistant Band Director, Tivy High School, Kerrville ISD

Elena Funk - Assistant Band Director, Oak Run MS, New Braunfels ISD

Hanna Gray – Assistant Band Director, North Mesquite HS, Mesquite ISD

Edgar Lerma – Music Teacher, Palm Elementary School, Austin ISD

Christin McAlister – Assistant Band Director, Peterson Middle School, Kerrville ISD

Antonio Noriega – Assistant Band Director, Yoakum ISD

Collin Pagel – Assistant Band Director, New Braunfels HS, New Braunfels ISD

Amanda Hawkins Rhyne – Assistant Band Director, Leander Middle School, Leander ISD

Jeffrey Salinas – Assistant Band Director, Henry Middle School, Leander ISD

Jose Luis Vara III – LBJ High School, United ISD, Laredo, Texas

Josh Weisbrod-Torres – Reeces Creek & Bellaire Elementary, Killeen ISD

Julie Weller – Assistant Band Director, Travis High School, Austin ISD

Want to Help?

Would you like to help current and future students at Texas State University? You can

- Help us revising our curricula
- Become a mentor
- Establish an endowment
- Contribute to a scholarship fund
- Etc.

For more information, contact MusicAlumni@txstate.edu

Impressions from the Fall 2014 Homecoming / Alumni Band



Robert Petrisky (B.M. in music education '79) is Director of Bands at Clemens High School



Denise Hudson (former coordinator of flags for the Bobcat Marching Band), James Hudson (former director of the Bobcat Marching Band), and Thomas Waggoner (former director of the Bobcat Marching Band)



Donald Lacy (B.M. in music education '12)

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