Students Prepare for a Musical Production

In early November, students prepared audition pieces for this year’s musical adaptation of Lousia May Alcott’s timeless tale of *Little Women* by playwright Allan Knee, lyrics by Mindi Dickstein, and composer Jason Howland. Nerves were high as students waited for their names to appear on the cast list.

The four March sisters will be played by Stanna Brown as Amy, Ariel Archer as Beth, Ashley Pack as Meg, and Kelsey Howerton as Jo. Marmee will be played by graduate Angela Holland. Sam Stafford was cast as the youthful Theodore Laurence (also known as Laurie), with Matt Matney as his intimidating grandfather. The handsome John Brooke, Laurie’s tutor, will be played by Luke Elfrink. Kyle Bradley will portray Professor Bhaer. Hannah Mahan will appear as Aunt March, and several other students will fill the chorus.

When asked how she felt about the show, senior Kellsey Howerton said, “I have always identified with Jo. I am the oldest of two siblings and was always creating skits for us, writing stories, dreaming of adventures, and singing. I remember screaming and jumping up and down when I saw the cast list.”

*Little Women* is a riveting depiction of the relationship between the four sisters, and how their lives change as they grow from adolescents to young ladies. This tale overflows with adventure that is sure to make the audience laugh and cry, inspire them to achieve their dreams, and remind them of the importance of love and family.

*Little Women* is under the creative direction of Mark Young. Gregg Busch is the conductor, and is assisted by alumna Danielle Ryan. Lisa Young serves as choreographer. It can be seen March 2-6 in the Jones Theatre Auditorium. You can reserve seats in advance by calling the theatre office at (417) 690-2466.
Students Represent College at MMEA

This year was marked by an all-star performance by the Missouri All-Collegiate Concert Band. Students were selected from various colleges around the state to participate under the direction of Dr. Paula Holcomb. College of the Ozarks was well represented by Seniors Joe McCloud on Euphonium, Amber Holtcamp on flute, and Hannah Mahan on clarinet; they were joined by Juniors Maria Petete on oboe, and Sabrina Elliott on trumpet. Petete was acknowledged for a duet.

Department workers Noah Fry, Elizabeth Clark, and Ashley Pack worked a recruiting booth in the exhibitor’s hall. The workers enjoyed meeting previous and future students, former school employees, and networking with vendors and veteran teachers.

Sarah Westerfield and Gessica Renyer also attended the conference as NAfME (National Association for Music Education, formerly known as MENC) members.

Senior Highlight: Jenna Dunnam

Jenna Marie Dunnam is a General Music major from Marshall, Arkansas. She began taking piano lessons when she was only seven years old. This year, that will make a grand total of 15 years in piano lessons. Jenna was also involved in choir from kindergarten up until her sophomore year of high school, when she switched to private voice lessons.

Jenna is excited that God has granted her the opportunity to work this summer at Lost Valley Ranch in Deckers, CO. The LVR is a family ranch where Jenna will be on staff along with her older brother. There is the possibility that Jenna will be able to use her gifts to help with music and entertainment at the Ranch.

Jenna’s favorite musical experience may be every single time she can lead people in worship. She says that the phrase “Worship is Life” sums up her heart, and while worship comes in many forms, music is where it hits home with her. Jenna’s greatest hope is that she can use what God has given her to glorify Him, and that she can use what she has learned to advance His Kingdom.

Major: Music—General Emphasis

Minor: Christian Missions

Hometown: Marshall, AR

Favorite Food: A Korean dish, “Bibimbap”

Favorite Color: Green
New Faces of the Office

Chris Bennham is a freshman Music Education Major.

Amber McDowell is a sophomore Piano Pedagogy Major.

Workers Bond at Tall Pines

The office workers gathered the first weekend of the semester at Dr. Gerlach’s Tall Pines Resort for a time of bonding and fellowship. They enjoyed playing on the Yamaha baby grand piano, eating fajitas, and getting to relax in the hot tub!

Ein Deutsches Requiem

The College of the Ozarks Chorale under the direction of Lynda Jesse is occasionally asked to join the Springfield Symphony at Juanita K. Hammons Hall. In the past, they have joined them for works such as Beethoven’s 9th. This year, they were asked to sing Brahms’ Ein Deutsches Requiem (German Requiem). This is a great experience for singers to have the opportunity to sing with a professional ensemble, network with students from other local colleges, and work with community members. The community members have a tendency to “raise the bar” so to speak, because they are often alumni who were involved in the music program during their time at the college, have more experience, and more mature voices.

The Chorale is very thankful to have Mrs. Margaret Erickson play vocal lines for them in rehearsal, which is not an easy task! Dr. Dwayne Huff, Associate Professor of Music, has assisted the group with pronunciation since the work is being performed in German. He and his wife will be singing with the group.

Brahms’ requiem mass is unusual in the fact that requiems are generally written for the dead, but his is written to comfort the living. Requiems are also usually written in Latin, but Brahms wrote his in the vernacular for his German audience so that it would be more accessible. Lastly, all of the texts were hand picked by Brahms from scripture relying most heavily on Psalms.

The performance will be March 10 at 7:30 pm. Tickets can be reserved 417-864-6683.
**Keeter Center Performers**

**Thursday, Feb. 16**—Elizabeth Clark  
**Friday, Feb. 17**—Amber McDowell  
**Saturday, Feb 18**—Anna Zachary  
**Sunday, Feb 19**—Noah Fry, Hannah Mahan

**Dobyns Dining Hall**

**Thursday, Mar. 1**—Amber McDowell  
**Friday, Mar. 2**—Noah Fry  
**Saturday, Mar. 3**—Elizabeth Clark  
**Sunday, Mar. 4**—Anna Zachary

**Thursday, Feb. 23**—Anna Zachary  
**Friday, Feb. 24**—Noah Fry  
**Saturday, Feb. 25**—Kourtney Pyle  
**Sunday, Feb. 26**—Amber McDowell, Elizabeth Clark

**Upcoming Events**

- **February 22**—Music Department Student Recital 4:00 p.m.  
  - Newman Recital Hall
- **March 2-6**—Little Women  
  - 7:30 p.m. Jones Theatre
  - 2:30 p.m. on Sunday
- **March 7**—Music Department Student Recital  
  - 4:00 p.m. Newman Recital Hall
- **March 10**—Brahms’ German Requiem  
  - 7:30 p.m. Juanita K. Hammons Hall, Springfield
- **March 11**—Jenna Dunnam Senior Recital  
  - 3 p.m. Newman Recital Hall

The Music Department Newsletter *Take Note* is now being distributed only electronically.

**Contact Us!**

Feel free to call or e-mail us with your questions or comments regarding our department or the college.  
**music@cofo.edu**  
Student Work Office: (417) 690-2244