

# Take Note!

Noteworthy Headlines from the  
College of the Ozarks Music Department



## Chorale Performs in KC

The College of the Ozarks Chorale has just returned from their first performance weekend of the semester. They left from the college early on October 16 to head for the Kansas City area, where they spent three days performing, recruiting, spending time with host families, and exploring the downtown KC area.

Their first stop was North Platte High School, where C of O graduate Kristin Walker teaches K-12 vocal music. There they put on their madrigal program for the student body and also listened to the North Platte Junior High Choir to help them prepare for an upcoming concert. The Chorale students stayed with host families from the school and met back in the morning to head for the main event of the weekend—the Kansas City Renaissance Festival.

The Chorale gave three performances at the festival, and for the remainder of the time, the students got to walk around and enjoy the sights, sounds, food, and fun of the Renaissance. One artisan who was selling her goods near where the Chorale performed said that in the 31 years she had worked at the festival, the Chorale was “the best madrigal act [she’d] ever seen!”

After the festival the Cho-

rale drove to Savannah, MO, north of Kansas City, to the First Baptist Church where they would participate in worship the next morning. The director of the church choir, Mickey Miller, was a classmate of Lynda Jesse, Chorale director, back in the days of School of the Ozarks, and the church is also the home congregation of current Chorale member, Zak Konyha. After a short rehearsal and a lasagna dinner at the church building, the students went home with another set of host families and returned for the Sunday morning service.

The Chorale joined the congregation in their traditional worship hymns, and they also joined the church choir for the anthem “Well Done My Child.” In addition, the Chorale sang the call to worship, the offertory, special music, and the benediction. They also featured a duet by Faith Grimes and Leslie McCullough, and a solo by Dominique Bennett. The music was well received and both the Chorale and the congregation were blessed by the service.

After the service, the Konyha family hosted the entire Chorale for lunch at their home. After a delicious meal and some great fellowship, the

Chorale finished the weekend with free time in the Country Club Plaza to enjoy the many shops and eateries in downtown Kansas City before returning home.

Next on the agenda for Chorale is the Yuletide feasts on December 3 and 5 at Dobyans Dining Hall at the Keeter Center. Watch our next newsletter for more information or contact the music department with your questions.



## Singers Compete in Annual Competition



**NATS competitors from left to right: Ashley Pack, Megan Campbell, Dominique Bennett, Brooke Lemon, Stephanie Fitzgerald**

It's that time of year again... changing leaves, hayrides, pumpkins, and of course, NATS. No, not the annoying little creatures we'd all like to smack in the summertime, but the National Association for Teachers of Singing Vocal Competition! This year six students from the C of O Music Department spent hours in practice and preparation before traveling to Evangel University to compete in NATS on Tuesday October 13, 2009. Freshman Megan Campbell, along with sophomores

Dominique Bennett, Brooke Lemon, and Ashley Pack, as well as junior Stephanie Fitzgerald, prepared three pieces to perform for the judges. One selection had to be an opera aria from the Baroque or Classical period, the second an art song from the Romantic period, and the last piece a 20th century composition. The singers stood up against competitors from area schools such as Drury University, Evangel University, Southwest Baptist University, Missouri State University

and others. In the midst of some tough competition, two of our students came out on top. Megan Campbell placed first in the Freshman Women's Division and Dominique Bennett placed first in the Sophomore Men's Division. Both singers won cash awards and they each performed one of their pieces during the winner's recital. Congratulations to both competitors, along with the rest of our student participants for all their hard work!

## STUDENTS LEARNING TO TEACH

Music students always like opportunities to learn about practical ways they can use their music de-

field, Missouri, to visit the home of Mrs. Donna Carlin. Carlin operates an educational business out of her home called Children's Music Academy in which students, age 4-9, come to the studio to learn all about music.

two other teachers. The CMA curriculum includes singing, piano playing, percussion playing, and movement as part of each class. Graduates of the academy routinely go on to become musicians or other types of performers.

One of the things which makes CMA unique is that the parents of the children are required to attend class with the kids. It creates a special learning environment in which the parents are learning right alongside their child. Carlin teaches over 100 children out of her home with the help of

Lora Guerin said that what impressed her most about this trip was how "the kids were always doing something; they were always busy moving around, never sitting and getting bored," and Joel Miller added that he loved how "the parents were learning right along with them!"

Students who accompanied Dr. Huff to the CMA studio; from left to right: Aaron Richardson, Caleb Lawson, Joel Miller, Grant Allen, Kasey Gaar, Lora Guerin, and Betsy Wilson.



grees. On Monday, October 5, students in Dr. Dwayne Huff's Introduction to Piano Pedagogy course got to have one of those experiences. They made the short drive to Spring-

## DOWN THE HALL: *Opinions from Ethan*



When I walked into the grocery store the other day I noticed that the decorations to promote the NFL had vanished and been replaced with spider webs, candy, a whole lot of orange and black, and of course a scary witch that makes noise when you clap for it. Halloween is upon us? Already? Oh yeah; it IS October. It seems we've been so preoccupied with homework, midterms, recitals, concerts, re-

cordings...well, I guess we kind of lose track of time. Sometimes I get so caught up in my workload I fail to notice all the changes going on around me, like the leaves on the trees that are exploding in color, or the wonderful people around me and the happenings in their lives. I'm not at all interested in witches, goblins, or any other popular image associated with the Halloween holiday, but I am excited for the hayrides and pumpkin carving that this season always

brings. I guess to me Halloween really marks the beginning of fall, and serves as a reminder to step out of the practice room for a minute, breathe in the cold, crisp air, and maybe even start a leaf fight with some friends.

—Ethan Hall, Senior Music Education Major



## Handbell Choir Lends a Hand

The Handbell Choir had a busy first half of the semester. They partnered with Grace Lutheran Church in Branson preparing and presenting a concert at the end of September. Grace Lutheran recently purchased a set of handbells and requested our choir to help train them in the art of

handbell ringing. Their goal was to learn to play "Phantom of the Opera," which is not an easy piece! C of O's Handbell director and music adjunct, Mrs. Marilyn Droke, conducted several rehearsal sessions with the church, and then the choirs combined for rehearsal and presented an hour long concert.

Each choir played several pieces individually, then rang four songs together with "Phantom of the Opera" as the finale. The audience was amazed and thrilled upon hearing their church Handbell Choir perform for the first time.

## Concert and Jazz Bands Stay Busy



On Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, the College's Concert band had their first big performance at the Branson Landing where they performed a 45 minute Program. They played works by Smith, Holsinger, Holst, King, and many others. The Concert Band left at 11:00 am from the college, and Dr. Bruce Gerlach, the director, gave the down beat just after the noon fountain show. A Large and growing audience enjoyed the sounds of marches, hymn songs, overtures, and

even a solo work by brass professor, Bob Smither. The concert was a great success, and the event coordinators at the Landing plan on having the band back very soon!

The Concert Band has certainly kept a busy schedule since then. They gave a wonderful performance in Chapel on October 11, and they have several events coming up very soon. First, they will be performing a free concert at the square in Eureka Springs on Friday, October 30, and on November 11, they will be playing a convocation here on the C of O campus

in the Williams Memorial Chapel at 7:00 pm. The convocation will be open to the public as well as to the students.

The Jazz Band has also been lining up several performances, especially in November. The jazz combo will stay busy doing many private gigs on campus and around the community, and the main jazz event will be the Jazz Band concert on November 3. The concert will be held in the Music Building Band Hall at 7:00 pm and will feature both the big band and the jazz combo. It certainly will not be a concert you will want to miss!

# Keeter Center Performers

## Dobyns Dining Hall

Thursday Oct. 29:

Amy Ziler/Leslie McCullough  
Piano/Vocals

Friday Oct. 30:

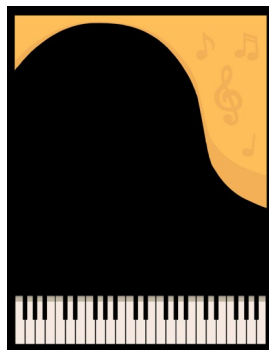
Caleb Lawson, Piano

Saturday Oct. 31:

Amanda Kull, Violin

Sunday Nov. 1:

Amanda Brinkmann/Amanda Kull  
Piano/Violin



Thursday Nov. 5:

Betsy Wilson/Dominique Bennett  
Piano/Vocals

Friday Nov. 6:

Grant Allen/Ethan Hall  
Piano/Saxophone

Saturday Nov. 7:

Amanda Kull, Violin

Sunday Nov. 8:

Betsy Wilson/Dominique Bennett  
Piano/Vocals

Thursday Nov 12:

Amanda Kull, Violin

Friday Nov. 13:

Betsy Wilson/Dominique Bennett  
Piano/Vocals

Saturday Nov. 14:

Grant Allen, Piano

Sunday Nov. 15:

Amy Ziler/Leslie McCullough  
Piano/Vocals

**Thursdays:**

6:00-8:00pm

**Fridays & Saturdays:**

5:30-8:00pm

**Sundays:**

11:00-2:00pm

Thursday Nov.19:

Amanda Brinkmann, Piano

Friday Nov. 20

Caleb Lawson, Piano

Saturday Nov. 21:

Amy Ziler/Leslie McCullough  
Piano/Vocals

Sunday Nov. 22:

Betsy Wilson/Dominique Bennett  
Piano/Vocals

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### November 3

Jazz Band Concert  
Music Building  
Band Hall  
7:00 pm

### November 9\*

Sylvia Coats Piano  
Master Class  
Newman Recital  
Hall  
7:00 pm

### November 11

Concert Band Con-  
vocation  
Williams Memorial  
Chapel  
7:00 pm

### December 1

Handbell Concert  
Royal Oak Forum  
(Keeter Center)  
7:00 pm

### December 3 & 5

Chorale Yuletide  
Feast  
Dobyns Dining  
Hall  
(Keeter Center)  
6:00 pm

### December 13

Christmas Card to  
the Community  
Williams Memorial  
Chapel  
7:00 pm



**Go green!** Email us at [music@cofo.edu](mailto:music@cofo.edu) (Attn: Leslie) and give us your email address, and we will send your newsletters to you electronically.

### Contact Us!

Feel free to call or e-mail us with your questions or comments regarding our department or the college.

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