



Delaware State University Music Department

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Fall 2018

CONCERT CHOIR TO PERFORM WITH PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA



On March 28, 29, and 30 of 2019, the Delaware State University Concert Choir under the direction of Dr. Lloyd Mallory, Jr. will once again be joining the Philadelphia Orchestra. The choir will be performing the world premiere of *Healing Tones*, by the Orchestra's composer-in-residence Hannibal Lokumbe. In November of 2015 the Delaware State University Choir joined the Philadelphia Orchestra to perform the world premiere of Hannibal's *One Land, One River, One People*. About the performance, the

Philadelphia Inquirer said "The massed voices of the Delaware State University Choir, the Lincoln University Concert Choir, and Morgan State University Choir sang with spirit, accuracy and, near-miraculous diction".



Current News



DSU music education students **Chloe Humphrey, Kelsey Oldland, Damien Bluto, and Marcus Trotter** attended the Delaware State Arts Conference on October 5. They attended a variety of sessions on pedagogy and had the opportunity to network with professional music educators from across Delaware.



Music Education major **Michael Wingate** performed in Carnegie Hall with his acapella group Ember. The performance was part of the 2018 International Championship of A Cappella Open Finals, featuring the reigning ICCA and ICHSA Champions and eight a cappella dream teams from across the globe. Ember competed as the Open Northeast Champion. While they didn't win, they made a huge impression and are on to great things! Michael's group also released their first original single, *Bad Romantic*. It is available on all major platforms.



Musician 1st Class Allison Fletcher of the United States Navy Band coaches music major **Tyler Watson** at DSU's 2018 Woodwind Day.



Freshman **Jaden Adkins** has been invited to join The 369th Regimental Band Experience. The 369th Experience is the recreation of the famous Harlem Hell Fighters 369th Regimental Band, originally consisting of 65 African American and Puerto Rican musicians who performed throughout America and Europe during World War I. The 369th Experience Band consists of students from many HBCUs, including Florida A&M University, Grambling State University, Howard University, Jackson State University, Livingston College, Morgan State University, North Carolina Central University, Prairie View A&M University, Southern University A&M College, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, and Virginia State University. Jaden is the first Delaware State University student to be invited to perform with this prestigious organization.



Junior music education major **Casey Artis** was one of only ten winners of a national Conn-Selmer Institute HBCU Scholarship. The scholarship enabled Casey to attend the

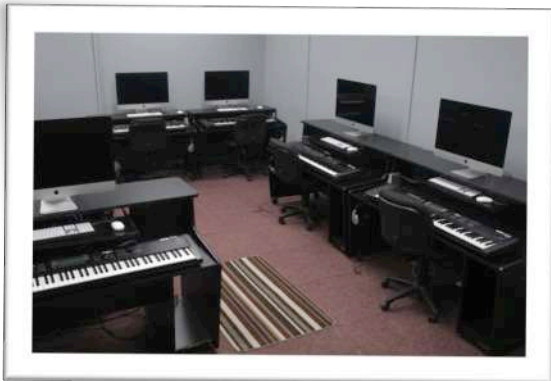
Conn-Selmer Institute, a three-and-a-half day professional development conference for college students, directors, and music program leaders held at Bethel College in Mishawaka, Indiana. The curriculum included workshops led by world-class clinicians and collaborative and interactive sessions led by world-class music educators, as well as access to a network of over 350 administrators, educators, and college students from around the globe.

Current News

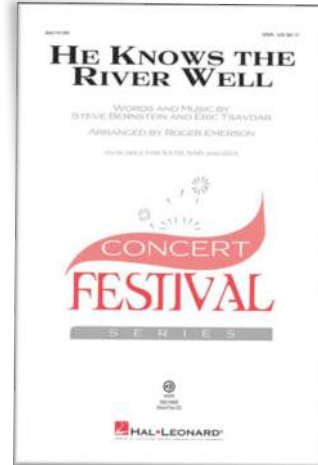


DSU at the Delaware State Arts Conference

Delaware State University music education alumni are a significant presence in schools throughout Delaware. Some alums gathered for a picture at the DSU table at the 2018 Delaware State Arts Conference in Middletown. Clockwise from front: Von Morgan (2016), Sheridan Williamson (2018), Janae Huff (2013), Vincent Adkins (1987), Juanita Clendaniel (1982, 1985), Jazmin Salaberrios (2015), Carlton Cannon Jr. (1998), Kevin Reeves (1997), Jeneé Tyson-Gueh (2012), and Tynisha Hearn (2013).



DSU's Music Technology Lab received a tremendous boost as the department was able to secure funding to upgrade its fleet of software applications used for academic instruction and general student use. The upgrade included many of the leading software programs suited for music training, music recording, music notation, and more. With the latest versions of Finale, Sibelius, ProTools, Logic Pro X, Final Cut Pro X, and Auralia, students have the opportunity to engage in hands-on learning with the industry standards in music and media software.



Eric Tsavdar (BA in Music Education, 2011) teaches chorus and general music at Selbyville Middle School in the Indian River School District, where the choral program has been growing considerably. Eric has also spent much of his time as a songwriter, composing music for three original musicals — currently working on his fourth — as well as original choral music. *He Knows the River Well*, a choral piece which he arranged and for which he composed the piano accompaniment, was published this year by Hal Leonard.



Musician 1st Class Tyler Worosello of the United States Navy Band coaches music education major **Kelsey Oldland** at DSU's 2018 Woodwind Day.



Devin Davis (Tenor, Class of 2020) performed with the Jeremy Winston Chorale and the Eafit Simphonica as tenor soloist in Medellin, Columbia, South America this past August 2018.

Current News



DSU Students and community members join the United States Navy Band Woodwind Quintet for a woodwind ensemble reading session during DSU's 2018 Woodwind Day.



The Delaware State University Popular Music Ensemble will be presenting its fall concert on November 16. The ensemble performs a wide variety of music from all popular genres and the production, including lighting and sound, are run by the students under the direction of Mr. Marty Denson.



The College of Humanities, Education, and Social Sciences presented three performances of the musical *Beauty and the Beast* on November 1st and 2nd. The musical was directed by Dr. Shirlyn Brown with musical direction by Dr. David Tolley. Junior music major **Devin Davis** starred as The Beast, and junior music industry major **Jessica Crawford** served as the musical director of the pit orchestra.



Philadelphia based trumpeter and conductor Kenneth Bean directs a brass ensemble consisting of Delaware State University students and community members at DSU's 2018 Brass Day. Mr. Bean also coached DSU students and performed with The First State Brass.

Faculty News



Dr. Carla Becker was nominated for the Delaware State University Excellence in Teaching Award. She also had a very busy spring and summer, as she presented at six different conferences! In March, she presented “Rasta, Reggae, and Websites” at the Global Reggae Conference hosted by University of the West Indies at Mona, Jamaica. In April, “Freedom, Liberation, and Justice in Creative Arts Education” at the Liberation Education Conference at San Jose State University, CA. In June she presented “High School Students’ Self-Representation through Popular Music” at the Association for Popular Music Education Conference at Middle Tennessee State University. July took Dr. Becker to Germany to present “Hip Hop or Not: Critical Lyricism through a Freedom of Expression” at the International Society for Music Education in Munich. She was a return presenter at the Delaware Music Educators Association Annual Conference, with “Dalcroze Eurhythmics for Performing Groups and General Music”, in October, then she wrapped up with “Implementing Intention: A Semester of Intention Setting, how’d it go?”, a poster presentation at the 10th Annual Association for Contemplative Mind in Higher Education Conference in Amherst, MA.



Dr. Frank Gazda had his arrangements of *The Dreidl Song* and *Oh Hanukkah* for trombone quartet and tuba-euphonium quartet published by Cherry Classics Music in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. He has also been invited to present a clinic, “Recruiting, Retaining, and Developing Your Low Brass” at the National Association for Music Education Eastern Division Conference to be held in Pittsburgh, PA in April of 2019. The NAFME Eastern Division consists of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, and the District of Columbia.



Faculty Members **Frank Gazda**, **Patrick Hoffman**, and **Sara Hoffman**, along with trumpeter Robert Couto, performed as the First State Brass on the concert series at South Coastal Library in Bethany Beach, DE. The concert was standing room only, as audience members lined the walls and even stood in the hallway! The performance received a standing ovation. The First State Brass will be performing throughout Delaware in the coming months including performances at historic Barrett’s Chapel and Bear Trap Resort.



Strings instructor **Lionel Thomas** gave a clinic at the Delaware Music Educators Association Annual Conference titled “Employing Suzuki Method Principals in the String Orchestra Classroom”.

Faculty News *continued*



A jazz quartet consisting of DSU faculty members **David Tolley**, **Carla Becker**, **Patrick Hoffman**, and DSU alumni **Vince Adkins** performed at Dover Downs for the Delaware Women's Hall of Fame ceremony inducting beloved DSU alumna Dr. Reba Hollingsworth.



DSU staff member **Marty Denson** served as a judge for this year's I.B.C. Central Delaware Blues competition held at Johnathan's Landing in Magnolia, Delaware. The competition featured seven extremely talented blues bands from the Delmarva area. The winning band received \$1500 to travel to Memphis, TN to represent the region in the International Blues Challenge held annually along historic Beale Street.



In September Dr. **David Tolley** travelled to China with members of the Delaware State University Gospel Choir. They performed twice at Changchun University as part of the University's anniversary celebration. The second performance was truly international, with Chinese, Russian, Ukrainian, and American musicians all performing on the same stage with a large number of Chinese delegates in the audience. After the performances the DSU cohort visited Shanghai and Beijing.



Dr. David Tolley was nominated for the Delaware State University Excellence in Research/Creative Activity Award.



The Delaware State University Steel Drum Ensemble will be performing as part of the DSU Culture Exhibition on Wednesday, November 14. The exhibition runs from 11:00 AM until 3:00 PM in the MLK Student Center. The steel drum ensemble is recruiting new members! If you are interested, contact Dr. Carla Becker at cbecker@desu.edu.

Contact us

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Get the latest news, photos, and short videos of what's happening in the DSU Music Department on social media. We will announce upcoming student recitals, faculty recitals, special performances, master classes and much more. Be a part of the excitement that is taking place right here in our department.

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Tell us what you have been up to over the years and we will feature you in future newsletters.

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Department Faculty & Staff:

Dr. Donald Becker, Chair, Mass Communications & Performing Arts - dbecker@desu.edu

Dr. Frank Gazda, Professor, Program Director/Low Brass
fgazda@desu.edu

Mr. Nathan Ames, Adjunct Instructor, Guitar
nathanames@aol.com

Dr. Carla Becker, Assistant Professor, Music Education
cbecker@desu.edu

Dr. Harvey Bullock, Director of Bands
hbullock@desu.edu

Ms. Ryane Cheatham, Adjunct Instructor, Music Industry
rcheatham@desu.edu

Dr. LaPointe Davis, Professor, Woodwinds
ladavis@desu.edu

Mr. Marty Denson, Music Technology Specialist
mdenson@desu.edu

Dr. Patrick Hoffman, Professor, Music Theory/Trumpet
phoffman@desu.edu

Mrs. Sara Hoffman, Adjunct Instructor, Music Theory/Horn
shoffman@desu.edu

Mrs. Inger Lawton, Secretary
ilawton@desu.edu

Dr. Lloyd Mallory, Associate Professor, Choral Director
lmallory@desu.edu

Mr. Devin Mercer, Visiting Lecturer, Voice
dmercer@desu.edu

Dr. Mable Morrison, Associate Professor, Piano
mmorrison@desu.edu

Ms. Amy Sterling, Adjunct Instructor, Woodwinds
asterling@desu.edu

Mr. Lionel Thomas, Adjunct Instructor, Strings
violinel440@gmail.com

Mr. Stephen Tipping, Adjunct Instructor, Percussion
stipping@desu.edu

Dr. David Tolley, Associate Professor, Music Industry
dtolley@desu.edu



Music Tech Tip from Marty

If you are a beginner in music and want to improve your abilities in interval recognition, chord structures, rhythms and more, Auralia ear-training software is a great way to start. All of the fundamentals of music are covered and it's easy to use for all ages.