



Delaware State University Music Program

Volume 2: Issue 2

Spring 2019

11TH ANNUAL BRASS DAY



The United States Navy Band Brass Quintet

The Delaware State University Music Program is proud to present our 11th annual Brass Day on Saturday, April 13, 2019. Events begin at 10:00 AM, and are free and open to the public. Guests include The United States Navy Band Brass Quintet and tubist Andrew Spang of the Lyric Brass Quintet

This year there will be participant ensembles that will be directed by Andrew Spang and DSU faculty members Dr. Patrick Hoffman and Dr. Frank Gazda. These ensembles will rehearse throughout the day and perform prior to the concert by the United States Navy Band Brass Quintet. There will also be a

chamber music coaching session led by Andrew Spang at 10:30 AM. The members of the Navy Brass Quintet will lead brass clinics at 1:00 and present a concert at 3:00. To learn more about our guests, see the complete schedule, and to register online, please visit; <https://www.desu.edu/events/2019/04/13/11th-annual-brass-day>



Andrew Spang

DMEA MUSIC TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOP

On Saturday, May 4, the Delaware State University Music Program will be partnering with the Delaware Music Educators Association to present a music technology workshop. The workshop will be led by Delaware State University's Music Technology Specialist Marty Denson and Assistant Professor of Music Education Dr. Carla Becker. Participants will attend interactive sessions about combining live performances with advanced garage band tracks, and how to develop a popular music ensemble for your music program. Professional development hours are available for DMEA members. For more information, contact Dr. Frank Gazda at fgazda@desu.edu.

Upcoming Events

2019 MUSIC PROGRAM HONORS RECITAL

On April 12 at 12:30 PM in the EH Theater the Music Program will present its annual Honors Recital. The winners of this year's audition were freshman BA in Music major Jaden Adkins, tuba, senior Music Education major Michael Rowland, trumpet, Junior Music Education major Manny Scott, Percussion, Senior Music Education major Marcus Trotter, trumpet, and sophomore BA in Music major Tyler Watson, flute.

SPRING 2019 CONCERT SCHEDULE

APRIL

- Tuesday 2, 11:00 AM: Percussion Concert (EH Theater)
- Tuesday 9, 11:00 AM: Student Performance Seminar (EH Theater)
- Friday 12, 12:30 PM: Music Program Honors Recital (EH Theater)
- Saturday 13: Brass Day featuring the United States Navy Band Brass Quintet and tubist Andrew Spang (MLK Parlor A)
- Sunday 14, 2:00 PM: Senior Recital - Jasmine Medley, Clarinet (EH Theater)
- Thursday 18, 11:00 AM: Faculty Jazz Combo Concert (EH Theater)
- Tuesday 23, 11:00 AM: Student Performance Seminar (EH Theater)
- Tuesday 23, 6:00 PM: University Bands Spring Concert (EH Theater)
- Wednesday 24, 6:00 PM: Junior Vocal Recital – Mozella Matthews and Mitchell Clark (Presbyterian Church of Dover)
- Thursday 25, 7:00 PM: Popular Music Ensemble Concert (EH Theater)
- Friday 26, 7:00 PM: Senior Recital - Michael Rowland, trumpet (EH Theater)
- Saturday 27, 3:00 PM: Senior Recital - Marcus Trotter, trumpet (EH Theater)

MAY

- Thursday 2, 6:00 PM: Junior Vocal Recital – Jessica Crawford and Tyler Brown (Presbyterian Church of Dover)

Current News

CONCERT CHOIR PERFORMS AT NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST

On February 7th the Delaware State University Concert Choir was honored to perform at the 67th annual National Prayer Breakfast in Washington, DC. They were invited to perform by Delaware Senator Chris Coons, who served as co-chair of the event. The expected attendance was more than 3,500 guests from 150



countries and all 50 states. Senator Coons said on twitter "they inspired thousands of people with their performance at today's National Prayer Breakfast."

Current News *cont'd*



Freshman BA in Music major Jaden Adkins has been invited to participate in Soundtrack of America, a project conceived and directed by Oscar-winning filmmaker Steve McQueen that will celebrate the unrivaled impact of African American music on contemporary culture. The program has been developed in partnership with 28-time Grammy Award-winner Quincy Jones. As part of the 369th Experience Band, Jaden will participate in a special opening night performance in collaboration with Jon Batiste to pay homage to the Harlem Hellfighters Band.



Music students Alex Gibson, Kelsey Oldland, David Feliciano, Mozella Matthews, Tyler Watson, and Casey Artis visited Temple University where they received a campus tour, a tour of the music and theater buildings, and met with graduate admissions representatives of the school of music.



Music Students Jaden Adkins, Elijah Shy, and Alex Gibson attended the United States Army Band Tuba-Euphonium Workshop with Dr. Frank Gazda. In addition to spending time at the exhibits trying new instruments and purchasing accessories, they attended concerts by the Florida State University Tuba Euphonium Octet, international competition winners Jake Fewx and Blake Birmingham, the University of Central Arkansas Tuba and Euphonium Ensemble, Dr. Justin Benevidez, Dr. Adam Frey, and The U.S. Army Orchestra with soloists Daniel Ord, Dr. Gail Robertson, and Chris Olka.



Music education major Michael Wingate (far right) competed in the 2018 East Coast Beatbox Battle. His tag team was named Tag Team Champions and he received top 8 in the solo battles. His band Ember went to Los Angeles and spent the week teaching, performing and doing community outreach for a week with MUSE/IQUE. In February, they opened for Disney's official a cappella group, "DCappella" at the Warner Theatre in DC. They also traveled to Minneapolis for a NACA showcase and are competing in a national A Cappella competition called Harmony Sweepstakes. Finally, on April 2nd Ember is performing a return engagement at Sofar Sounds in Baltimore.

Current News *cont'd*



Tommia Proctor



George Mensah



Devin Davis

Music Industry major Tommia Proctor and BA in Music major George Mensah were conditionally accepted for graduate school at the University of Kentucky. Sophomore BA in Music major Devin Davis won a summer tuition scholarship to study voice and opera in Graz, Austria. George Mensah also won the Delaware Regional National Association of Negro Musicians Vocal Competition on March 15, 2019. He will advance to the finals held in New York City late April 2019. All three are voice students of Dr. Lloyd Mallory, Jr., Associate Professor/Director of Choral Activities



The Music Program hosted an “Alumni Day” workshop for music education majors. DSU alumni Tyrell Butler, Janae Huff, Von Morgan, Bri’yahn Ritchie, and Sheridan Williamson offered enlightening perspectives on their experience here at DSU and their experiences as teachers in regards to management, lesson planning, score study, and graduate school preparations. Additionally, guest speakers from the Philadelphia School District lead a “Popular Music Ensemble” workshop.

First year music education students attended “Music Advocacy Day” March 21st, 2019 at the Legislative Hall, downtown Dover. This inaugural event hosted by DMEA brought a select few K-12th grade performing groups to play in Legislative Hall, showcasing the importance of music in the schools.



Senior Music Education major Marcus Trotter has been named the Artistic Director of the Wilmington Youth Jazz Band. The Wilmington Youth Jazz Band is a non-profit organization whose mission is to expose, educate, and culturally enrich students through learning jazz music in an effort to maintain and

expand jazz throughout our communities. In addition to other performances, the band will be performing at the Clifford Brown Jazz Festival in June.



On March 7th Dr. Carla Becker led the 2nd Salsa Music Workshop featuring Celia Cruz’s “La Vida es un Carnaval”. Dr. Becker led instrumentalists, singers, and dancers through the distinctive style and proper performance practice of Salsa music.

Faculty News



Dr. Carla Becker presented “Rasta, Reggae, and Websites” in February of 2019 at the Global Reggae Conference hosted by the Institute of Caribbean Studies & Reggae Studies Unit of the University of the West

Indies, Mona. She also presented “Implementing Intention: A Semester of Intention Setting, how’d it go?” on October 6, 2018 at the 10th Annual Association for Contemplative Mind in Higher Education Conference in Amherst, MA. She will be presenting at the Enacting Curricular Change in Music Education through Vernacular Music Conference in March, the International Society for Improvised Music Conference in Minneapolis, MN in May, and the Visions of Research in Music Education Conference at Westminster Choir College, NJ also in May. Dr. Becker will be traveling to Bali, Indonesia this summer to surf, do yoga, and study the origins of Gamelan Music.

Music Technology Specialist, Marty Denson, is currently producing and recording a gospel/pop single for former Delaware State University drum major, Derrick R. Williams. The single is scheduled to be released on an independent record label in August 2019. The upcoming release will feature Derrick’s daughter, Carrien Williams as a solo artist.



Dr. Frank Gazda is presenting his clinic “Recruiting, Retaining, and Developing Your Low Brass” at the National Association for Music Education conference in Pittsburgh, PA. He has also

been invited by Dr. Gilles Bernard to present a masterclass at the City University of New Jersey.

Dr. Patrick Hoffman has been commissioned by Paul Bryan, Dean of The Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, to compose a new brass ensemble piece for the Brass Ensemble of the Philadelphia Youth



Orchestra, Bravo Brass. The composition will be premiered at the Bravo Brass concert "Brand New Brass," on June 8, 2019 at the St. Mark's Church in Philadelphia. Bravo Brass has previously performed Dr. Hoffman’s composition “City of Lights”. Dr. Hoffman was also a guest performer with the Brandywine Brass Quintet and organist David Schelat on February 9th at the Episcopal Church of Saints Andrew & Matthew in Wilmington, and February 17th as part of the George Kirk Concert Series at the Newark United Methodist Church. The program was titled “Brass and Organ Gems”.

Adjunct Instructor of Percussion Stephen Tipping traveled to Dublin, OH with the Chesapeake Silver Cornet Brass Band to compete in the Dublin Festival of Brass on Saturday, March 23. The band competed in Group “B” and was awarded second place in their group. Mr. Tipping is also the percussion coach for the Wilmington Youth Orchestra. Their last concert was March 9 and featured music from Modest Mussorgsky and Georges Bizet.



Contact us

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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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Music Tech Tip from Marty

So many people today are looking for music to support their visual presentation for a personal brand, YouTube channel, or even FaceBook ads. A quick and simple tip to help create 100% royalty free backing music is to use the incredible Apple loop samples and patterns found in GarageBand right on your personal Apple computer.