

# KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

School of Music, Theatre, and Dance

Fall 2018 Newsletter

## LATIN ENSEMBLE TO THE BIG APPLE

The KSU Latin Ensemble received a special invitation to participate in the Johnny Pacheco Latin Music and Jazz Festival at Lehman College in The Bronx, New York. This year’s Pacheco Festival runs November 14-16 and can be livestreamed online. This opportunity is supported by generous donations and a special fundraising event at Liquid Art Winery in Manhattan held on Sept. 27th, which exceeded anticipated audience numbers by nearly double. The Johnny Pacheco Latin Music and Jazz Festival at Lehman College is an annual event which provides performance and learning opportunities for talented young musicians. World-class Latin music and Jazz artists are invited to perform at the festival each year. More than 250 student musicians perform at this festival each year.



The Latin Ensemble performed at a fundraising event Sept. 27 at Liquid Art Winery in Manhattan.

Find out more and livestream the festival at [www.lehman.edu/jazzfest](http://www.lehman.edu/jazzfest).



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@KSTATEMTD



## FROM THE DIRECTOR—DR. JEFFREY WARD



As I write to you today, there are forecasts of rain and snow on a very cold, dark mid-October day! The sun on our School of Music, Theatre, and Dance is shining bright! Here are some highlights of the year thus far:

### **Large Freshman Music Class.**

This semester we added nearly 75 new music majors and minors to

our School! This freshman/transfer class is nearly double that of the new class in Fall 2017. This increase is a tribute to the high-quality work of our music faculty, students, and the addition of **Sharyn Worcester**, the MTD Academic Advisor who began facilitating our recruitment efforts in June 2017.

**New Theatre Season.** Our main stage season opened with *Iphigenia and Other Daughters* directed by **Jennifer Vellenga**, Associate Director for Theatre. The main stage season continues with the Rodgers & Hammerstein classic *Oklahoma!* November 1-4, 8-11 in Chapman Theatre. Tickets are available [www.ksu.universitytickets.com](http://www.ksu.universitytickets.com).

**MTD Night @ Liquid Art Winery.** Through the support of the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance Advisory Council, the Latin Jazz Ensemble performed on the Liquid Art Winery Music Series to raise money to fulfill their invitation for a performance at the Johnny Pacheco Latin Music and Jazz Festival in New York City in November. Over 250 people were in attendance to learn more about the great work of our MTD faculty and students. Huge thanks to Kathryn Harth, chair of the Advisory Council Fundraising Committee, for making this possible!

**New Faculty.** We have some wonderful new faculty joining us this fall:

**Melissa Briggs**, Assistant Professor of Drama Therapy, comes to us from Emporia State University where she taught in the Counselor Education Department. Her research interests are in creative and expressive arts treatment interventions, play therapy interventions, self-injury, and counselor self-care. Dr. Briggs completed a Ph.D. in Counselor Education from K-State, a Master's in Community Counseling, and a B.A. in Psychology, both from Pittsburg State University.

**Rachel Dirks**, Director of Orchestral Studies and Cello, is joining us after over 20 years of experience in music education. Most recently, she was the Director of Orchestras at Lawrence High School and the

Co-Director of the Lawrence Community Orchestra and Lawrence Youth Symphony. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music Performance from Bethel College, a Master of Music in Cello Performance, and is pursuing a Ph.D. in Music Education from the University of Kansas.

**Jo Sanburg**, Instructor of Lighting and Sound Design, brings with her over 30 years of experience in professional, community and educational theatre. Last May, she completed a Master of Fine Arts degree at the University of Memphis with emphases in Sounds and Lighting Design, Lighting and Sound Technology, Composition for Theatre, and Projection and Multimedia Control.

**Kristyn Son**, Instructor of Flute, comes to us from Northeastern State University in Oklahoma. She received her Doctor of Musical Arts in Flute Performance from the University of North Texas in 2015 with related studies in Wind Conducting, her Master of Music in Flute Performance from Manhattan School of Music in 2008, and her Bachelor of Music in Flute Performance from Peabody Conservatory. Dr. Son was the Winner of the National Flute Association Convention Performer Competition in 2017, the Texas Flute Society Myrna Brown Competition Winner in 2014, and the American Protégé International Flute Competition Winner in 2012.

**Scholarship Extravaganza.** Save the Date for February 16, 2019, for our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Scholarship Extravaganza in the K-State Student Union Ballrooms. This year's event will feature:

Scenes from *Oklahoma!*  
Scenes from *Pirates of Penzance*  
Latin Jazz Ensemble  
Saxophone Quartet  
Tap Dance Ensemble  
Marching Band Pep Band  
Wind Ensemble Chamber Ensemble

The MTD Advisory Fundraising Committee has set a goal of 150 attendees, 5 sponsored tables, and sponsorship levels of:

1 Event Underwriter: \$10,000  
5 Performer Sponsors: \$2,000  
Donors: \$500-\$1,999

All of these sponsorship levels include recognition in the event program, event posters, and on the K-State School of Music, Theatre, and Dance website, as well as public acknowledgement at the event.

*[continued on page 3]*

*[From The Director, continued from page 2]*

Performer sponsors will be further acknowledged with the sponsored performing group and can receive complimentary tickets (valued at \$100 each) upon request.

The Event Underwriter will be recognized as such in numerous print and electronic communication before and during the event. Complimentary tickets are also available for the event underwriter upon request.

Another option of support from businesses and individuals is to sponsor a table where you can invite clients or employees to enjoy the evening. The cost for a table sponsorship is \$1,000, which includes the purchase of 8 tickets and a \$200 donation. Table sponsors will also be recognized in the event program, event posters, and on the K-State School of Music, Theatre, and Dance website, as well as public acknowledgement at the event. As I mentioned above, our goal is 5 table sponsorships this year, so any help you can give us to get the word out will be greatly appreciated.

All sponsorships and donations for the K-State School of Music, Theatre, and Dance Scholarship Extravaganza are tax deductible (the deductible amount is reduced by the benefit of tickets). If you are interested in sponsorship or have any questions about our event, please contact me at [jeff98@ksu.edu](mailto:jeff98@ksu.edu) or call me at 785-532-5740.

Please check out our newly redesigned website at [www.ksu.edu/mtd](http://www.ksu.edu/mtd) where you can find out about all of our performances and events. I look forward to seeing you!

-Jeff

*Over 4,000 K-State students participate in our programs and we have countless patrons and visitors at our hundreds of events*

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

MTD

# Scholarship Extravaganza

Saturday, February 16, 2019  
6 p.m. in the Union Ballroom

For ticket or sponsorship information,  
email [jeff98@ksu.edu](mailto:jeff98@ksu.edu) or call 785-532-5740

School of Music, Theatre,  
and Dance

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Mark your calendars NOW for these MUST-SEE opportunities!**

“Oklahoma!” by Rodgers & Hammerstein  
 Nov. 1-3, 8-10 .....7:30pm  
 Nov. 4 & 11 .....2:30pm  
 Mark A. Chapman Theatre  
 Tickets available online!

**Collegium Musicum & Collegiate Chorale Choir Concert**  
 Nov. 5 .....7:30pm  
 1st Presbyterian Church  
 801 Leavenworth St, Manhattan  
 Tickets available online!

**Women’s Choir and Concert Choir Fall Concert**  
 Nov. 6 .....7:30pm  
 St. Paul’s Episcopal Church  
 601 Poyntz Ave, Manhattan  
 Tickets available online!

**Careers in Music for Future Educators Day**  
 Nov. 8 .....8:45am  
 All Faiths Chapel & McCain Auditorium

**KSU Big Bands Jazz**  
 Nov. 27 .....7:30pm  
 Forum Hall, KSU Union  
 Free

**KSU Jazz Combos**  
 Nov. 29 .....7:30pm  
 Ballroom, KSU Union  
 Free

**Winter Dance ‘18**  
 Nov. 29 & 30 ..... 7:30pm  
 Dec. 1 .....2:30 & 7:30pm  
 Mark A. Chapman Theatre  
 Tickets available online!

**Holiday Choral Concert**  
 Dec. 2 .....3pm & 7pm  
 First United Methodist Church  
 612 Poyntz Ave., Manhattan  
 Tickets available online!

**KState Orchestra**  
 Dec. 4 .....7:30pm  
 McCain Auditorium  
 Free

**Wind Ensemble & Wind Symphony Concert**  
 Dec. 6 .....7:30pm  
 McCain Auditorium  
 Free

[www.k-state.edu/mtd/events](http://www.k-state.edu/mtd/events)

### GIVING CHALLENGE!

This year Theatre alumnus **Sandy Chastan** is **challenging fellow alumni** to give to the Theatre Professional Development Fund to help send current students to Los Angeles during Spring Break 2019 for networking opportunities. She will **match dollar for dollar** your donations up to \$5,000.

Please indicate fund number **F29317** with your donation.

### YOUR SUPPORT MAKES AN DIFFERENCE!

Your support **directly and positively impacts** the lives of students.

We are **excited to partner with you** to make a difference in our students and in our community!

Opportunities to be **a part of the KSU-MTD #Family** of supporters can be found at:

[www.k-state.edu/mtd/alumni/giving/online](http://www.k-state.edu/mtd/alumni/giving/online)

Or call 785-532-6266 .

*The School of Music, Theatre, and Dance develops creative leaders and critical thinkers through student-centered, multidisciplinary education in the performing arts.*

### PIANO STUDENTS TOUR GERMANY, AUSTRIA, SLOVAKIA & HUNGARY

In June 2018, SMTD piano students performed a concert at the Bratislava Conservatory in Bratislava, Slovakia, as part of their study tour of Germany, Austria, Slovakia and Hungary, led by K-State piano professor, Dr. Slawomir Dobrzanski.



### STUDENTS OF NOTE

**Heather McCornack**, Masters student in Vocal Performance, has been selected to receive a **\$7,000** Marie R. Bonebrake Graduate Award scholarship for the 2018-2019 academic year. The award recognizes graduate students based on academic merit and financial need. The student must demonstrate excellence in research, scholarship and creative inquiry appropriate for his or her academic field. The Kansas State University Graduate School has established a set of guidelines and criteria for the evaluation and selection of the candidate. The Marie R. Bonebrake Graduate Award was established to honor Case Bonebrake's late wife, who received her bachelor's and master's degrees from the College of Human Ecology at Kansas State University.

**Emily Trube**, Masters student in Drama Therapy, GTA in Marketing office, spent the summer in NYC doing an internship at Bellevue Hospital in the Creative Arts Therapies department working with a variety of populations. She directed the first play in the Purple Masque Season, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* and arranged for a Sensory-Friendly performance (also called a Relaxed Performance) for members of the Manhattan disability community. This is the first relaxed/accessible performance that has been done by the theatre program.

**Hunter Sprong**, senior Music major, is currently doing an internship with Mario DeCiutiis, owner of Alternate Mode. This is a leading company in electronic (MIDI) controllers for percussionists. Mario DeCiutiis is also the principal percussionist for the Radio City Christmas shows, a staple of the New York scene each year.

Student Organization, **Ebony Theatre** is hosting Ebony First Fridays on each first Friday of the month during the academic year. On Oct. 5, over 25 students, faculty and community members gathered to enjoy open-mic performances and heard speakers from the American Ethnic Studies department and the student organization, FIRE (Feminists Igniting Resistance and Empowerment) who were both honored for their work on campus. The honorees in attendance were given two complimentary tickets to the first main stage show, *"Iphigenia and Other Daughters"* to recognize their commitment to diversity on campus.



## ALUMNI APPLAUSE

The following drama therapy graduate received their RDTs (Registry in Drama Therapy) this fall:

**Sarah Edwards**, MA, RDT, class of 2017, is the Therapeutic Arts Specialist for Friends Community Life in Nashville, TN. Since graduating she has also worked for the Dixie Carter Performing Arts Center, Metro Parks disABILITY Program, and the Centennial Performing Arts Center.

**Jessica Northam**, MA, RDT, class of 2015, is working for ALIVE, a drama therapy program that works in the inner city schools in New Haven, CT, to help students dealing with trauma.

**Ellen Burke**, MA, RDT, class of 2016, is teaching first through third grade students at the Frost School in Rockville, MD, which is the therapeutic school associated with Shepherd-Pratt Psychiatric Hospital.

**Michael Rogers**, MA, class of 2017, has just moved to Ohio to work as the Site Coordinator for the Cleveland Playhouse's educational program, bringing the arts to traumatized students in inner city schools. Previous to this, he did a six month internship at ALIVE in New Haven and a six month internship at North Texas State Hospital in Vernon, TX.

**Barrett Scroggs**, MA, class of 2015, received his PhD in Human Development at Kansas State University Spring 2018 and is currently teaching as an Assistant Professor at Penn State University/Monte Alto campus.

**Sarah Tomek Fenster**, MA, class of 2013, is currently working as a Self-Empowerment Theatre Teacher at the Young Actors Theatre in Indianapolis, IN.

**Kurt Fenster**, BS, class of 2012, is working in the scene shop at Indiana Repertory Theatre in Indianapolis, IN, as a carpenter.

**Monica Phinney**, MA, RDT, class of 2013, and **Christina Cherry**, MA, RDT, class of 2008, are co-chairing the North American Drama Therapy Association's annual conference October 25-28 in Kansas City, MO.

**Alissa Duncan**, MA, RDT, class of 2004, is the Central Region chair on the Board of Directors for the North American Drama Therapy Association.

**Oscar Vazquez Medrano**, graduate student in piano performance from Mexico City, won the graduate division of the Honors Recital in April. Oscar, who graduated from K-State in May, was accepted to the doctoral program in piano performance at the University of Nebraska, where he was also awarded a Teaching Assistantship.

**Kelley Tracz**, BM, Oboe Performance 2012, received her MM degree from the University of Minnesota 2014, taught in the public schools of Austin, Texas, for 3 years, and is now a DMA student in Oboe Performance at the University of North Carolina Greensboro. At UNCG she is a graduate student and is presently performing with the New World Symphony in Orlando, Florida.

**Joshua Taylor**, MM, class of 2013, has joined the faculty of the University of North Texas as Adjunct Instructor of Sacred Music. Taylor has served as the Director of Worship and Music at First Presbyterian Church in Dallas, Texas since 2011. Taylor also currently serves on the Executive Board of the Presbyterian Association of Musicians. His full professional bio can be found at [music.unt.edu/faculty-and-staff/joshua-taylor](http://music.unt.edu/faculty-and-staff/joshua-taylor).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Plan now to join us for these Spring Semester events!**

### Celebrating New Music

Jan. 31 .....7:30pm  
All Faiths Chapel  
Free

### Orchestra Concert

Feb. 12 .....7:30pm  
McCain Auditorium  
Free

### "21st Century Carnival" A

Devised Play, led by Ashley Blair, graduate Drama Therapy student  
Feb. 22-23 .....7:30pm  
Feb. 24 .....2:30pm  
Purple Masque Theatre  
Tickets available online!

### Concert Band and University Band

Feb. 26 ..... 7:30pm  
Mark A. Chapman Theatre  
Free

### A New Version of Gilbert & Sullivan's "The Pirates of Penzance"

Feb. 28-Mar. 2 .....7:30pm  
Mar. 3 .....2:30pm  
Tickets available online!

### Spring Dance '19

Mar. 29 & 30 .....7:30pm  
McCain Auditorium  
Tickets available online!

### "The World Goes 'Round" by Kander, Ebb, Ellis, Stroman, & Thompson

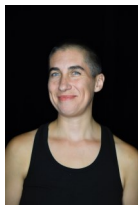
Apr. 13 .....7:30pm  
Apr. 14 .....2:30pm  
Purple Masque Theatre  
Tickets available online!

### "The Government Inspector"

by David Mackay from the Original by Nikolai Gogol  
Apr. 25-27 & May 2-4 .....7:30pm  
May 5 .....2:30pm  
Mark A. Chapman Theatre  
Tickets available online!

[www.k-state.edu/mtd/events](http://www.k-state.edu/mtd/events)

## FACULTY NEWS



**Kate Digby**, Assistant Professor of Dance, has been in Toronto, Canada, to direct and choreograph *The Red Horse Is Leaving*, a one-act play by Erika Batdorf which premiered in Toronto's Rendezvous With Madness Festival October 13-20, 2018. After the Toronto opening, the team travelled to New York City for three performances, and later to Santa Barbara, CA, and beyond. In November, Kate Digby and **Stephen Loch**, Instructor of Dance, will also accompany students to the Kansas Dance Festival at Wichita State University November 16-17 for performances and classes. Next Spring, Professors Digby and Loch will be accompanying six dance students to the American College Dance Association Central Regional Festival March 13-16 at Missouri State University. This year in addition to both faculty members showing choreography and teaching at the festival, one of the Senior Dance Certificate students, Allison Griffin, will be presenting choreography in the adjudicated showcase.

**Craig B. Parker**, Associate Professor of Music History, presented various versions of his paper, "*Japanese Elements in the Compositions of Alan Hovhaness*" at the International Musicological Society conference in Tokyo on March 23, 2017, at the Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities in Honolulu on January 9, 2018, and at the Second Composition in Asia Symposium and Festival in Tampa on January 20, 2018. At the Tampa conference on January 19, he played the world premiere of Young Jo Lee's *Dear Mummy and Sister* for soprano, trumpet, and piano, a composition written for and dedicated to Parker. He was director and principal cornetist in a performance by the SAM Brass Band at the Society for American Music annual conference in Kansas City, MO, on March 3, 2018.



More recently, he lectured on "Indian Elements in the Compositions of Alan Hovhaness" at the Shastra Symposium on Connecting Music of India and the West on September 29 in Wayne, NJ. He was a featured performer at the Shastra Symposium, playing the trumpet and piano version of Reena Esmail's *Jhula Jhule* on September 29. He presented his lecture, "The *Sori* of Young Jo Lee with an emphasis on *Sori No. 13* for unaccompanied trumpet," at the joint annual conference of the American Musicological Society and the Society for Music Theory in San Antonio on November 3. During the summer of 2019, he will give a paper on "*Diverse Musical Traditions in Recent Compositions by Reena Esmail*" and will perform HyeKyung Lee's *Frenetic Dream* at the College Music Society International Conference in Belgium.



October 3rd - 8th, **Julie Pentz**, Associate Director for Dance, attended the National Dance Educators Organization National Conference in San Diego CA, where she serves on the Board of Directors as the Director of Student Initiatives. Prof. Pentz offered five conference sessions that were exclusive to students. Prof. Pentz was joined by students who are undergraduate and graduate representatives on the NDEO Board of Directors.

**Dr. Julie Yu**, Associate Professor of Music, was a guest conductor at the National Fall Sing event on the Perelman Stage in the Stern Auditorium of Carnegie Hall in New York City on October 8<sup>th</sup>. The National Fall Sing featured two honor choirs comprised of high school students from across the nation. Dr. Yu and Dr. Jason Vodicka from Rider University, New Jersey, were the guest conductors. Two survivors of the 9/11 attacks, Tony Rose (Pentagon) and Stanley Praitnath (World Trade Center South Tower) were guest speakers. The National Fall Sing commemorates and honors those affected by the events of September 11, 2001.



Associate Professor and Associate Director for Theatre **Jennifer Vellenga** presented at the UArctic Congress "Women of the Arctic" conference in Helsinki, Finland September 1-8, 2018. She directed an excerpt of Chantal Bilodeau's play *WHALE SONG* for the opening ceremonies in Helsinki.

**David Pickering**, Associate Professor of Music, has had a very full year so far! Since April of 2018, Dr. Pickering celebrated the release of his fourth solo recording, *American Impressions*, which features Quimby Pipe Organs' Op. 65 at Canyon Creek Presbyterian Church in Richardson, TX. The recording was released on the Raven label. Pickering performed a solo organ recital at First United Methodist Church in Salt Lake City and served as a faculty member and performer at the Brigham Young University Organ Workshop in Provo, UT. Pickering and KSU Journalism professor Tom Hallaq, co-produced *The Pipes of All Faiths Chapel*, a sixteen-minute documentary film about the history of the Austin organ in All Faiths Chapel and the role and mission of the KSU organ studio. The film was premiered September 28, 2018, in All Faiths Chapel, preceded by an organ recital featuring KSU alumna Jan Kraybill. The documentary will air on KTWU-TV (Topeka) in the near future. Pickering served as an adjudicator of the semifinal round of the American Guild of Organists' National Competition for Young Organists at Wichita State University June 28, 2018, and delivered a paper entitled, *The Auditorium Organ--the Midwest's American Classic*, at the American Guild of Organists' National Convention in Kansas City, MO, July 5, 2018. Pickering also graded AP Music Theory exams in Cincinnati, OH, in June 2018.



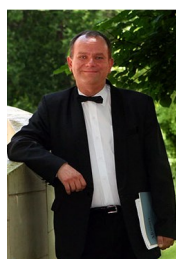
## FACULTY NEWS

**Dr. Jim Johnson**, Assistant Professor of Trumpet, gave masterclasses at State University of New York (SUNY) at Potsdam the week of October 9<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Johnson will also be travelling to Des Moines, IA, in late October to play an “All-Bernstein Concert” with the Des Moines Symphony Orchestra. He has previously played with them on their September Concert which featured Gustav Mahler’s *First Symphony*.



**Prof. Jerry Jay Cranford**, Assistant Professor of Theatre, has enjoyed an active schedule lately. Prof. Cranford guest directed the KU Opera production of *Candide*, which was featured as part of their “Bernstein National Symposium” under the musical direction of Maestro Urs-Michael Theus from Hamburg, Germany. K-State’s own Kristen Kruz was hired as the stage manager for this production, as well. In March, Prof. Cranford was asked to present for the Crane River Theatre in Kearney, NE, for their High School Workshop Day. This workshop is designed for students seeking to major in music or theatre. Prof. Cranford led two workshops on careers and musical theatre. Prof. Cranford has had been busy in the Kansas City area, from serving as Choreographer at The New Theatre’s production of *Sister Act the Musical*, to his collaboration with The Coterie Theatre as Choreographer for *Goosebumps: The Musical*, and also as Director & Choreographer for their highly acclaimed production of *Newsies*. The Starlight Theatre in Kansas City also benefitted from Prof. Cranford’s direction or choreography skills for their production of *Hairspray* and also for the Annual Gala.

**Dr. Amy Rosine**, Associate Professor of Voice, presented the poster paper “Singing Instrumentalists: Vocal Techniques for the Instrumental Music Education Major” at the 55th National Conference of the National Association of Teachers of Singing in Las Vegas, NV, on June 25.



During the summer, **Dr. Slawomir Dobrzanski**, Professor of Piano, presented lectures for the World Piano Conference in Novi Sad in Serbia and the Moniuszko Academy of Music in Gdansk, Poland. Recently, he conducted piano masterclasses in Bandung, Indonesia.

**Sally Bailey**, Professor and Director of Drama Therapy and director of graduate studies in theatre, published a book chapter this summer entitled “Teaching beyond the traditional: Generating true social justice. In applied theatre curricula.” This can be found in *New Directions in Teaching Theatre Arts* by Anne Fliotsos & Gail S. Medford. Dr. Bailey also provided the keynote address for the 2018 Active Aging Expo in Ottawa, KS, this past May. Her presentation was entitled “*The Arts of Creative Aging*.”



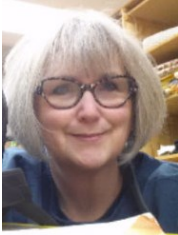
**Dr. Anna Marie Wytko**, Associate Professor of Saxophone, presented guest concerts and master classes throughout Brescia, Italy, where she also performed as concerto soloist. Wytko also presented guest concerts and teaching at the University of Los Angeles CA, San Diego State University, the Lawrence Conservatory of Music in Appleton, WI, and the University of Wisconsin at Green Bay, to name a few. Anna Marie wrote an article titled “How to Select a Saxophone Mouthpiece” for the *Yamaha Music USA Blog*.

**Dr. Agustin Muriago**, Instructor of Piano, offered solo recitals and a master class in Buenos Aires, Argentina, this summer. Dr. Muriago worked with students from the “Manuel de Falla” Conservatory of Music and performed three solo recitals of Spanish piano music which featured works by Granados, Albéniz, Falla, and Mompou, among other composers.



CONTINUED, PAGE 8

FACULTY NEWS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7



**Dana Pinkston**, Associate Professor, Costume Design, worked in the summer as a costume designer for *MAMMA MIA* at North Shore Theatre in Beverly, MA, and Theatre by the Sea in Narragansett, RI.

**Kathy Voecks**, Associate Professor, Resident Scenic Designer, and Head of Design, worked as a set designer in the summer at the Black Hills Playhouse in Custer, SD. Additionally, she worked on *Circa 21* in Rock Island, IL, and with the Omaha Theatre Company in Omaha, NE.



*Our students develop strengths as communicators, critical thinkers, problem solvers and lifelong learners.*

**THE 2018-19 SEASON IS IN FULL SWING!**

**THEATRE HIGHLIGHTS**



This fall we hired a new assistant professor in Drama Therapy, **Dr. Melissa Briggs**, who will work closely with **Sally Bailey**, director of the Drama Therapy program. We have always been the only Drama Therapy graduate program in the Midwest region, but with Dr. Briggs on board, we are now eligible to become an accredited program. This has been a goal of ours for many years!

Our two student leadership organizations, **Ebony Theatre** and **Kansas State Theatre Organization** (KSTO, formerly "TAP") are busy with their fall initiatives. Ebony Theatre First Fridays continue with a robust following of students and campus/community partners who gather in the Sandy Chastan Purple Masque Theatre to enjoy a variety of performances by students of color every first Friday of the academic year from 6-7pm. We'd love to see you there!

Finally, KSTO is gearing up to host high school students from around the region on October 31<sup>st</sup> for our annual workshop day. Theatre students will teach morning workshops to high school students who will attend the final dress rehearsal of *OKLAHOMA!* in the afternoon. *OKLAHOMA!* will run from Nov. 1-4 and 8-11. We hope to see you there.

**SEE THEATRE!**

-Jennifer Vellenga, Associate Director- Theatre

[www.k-state.edu/mtd/events](http://www.k-state.edu/mtd/events)



## CHRIS CASTELLANOS, BOSTON BRASS HORN SOLOIST, ON CAMPUS IN OCTOBER

Chris Castellanos, world renowned horn player and member of the Boston Brass, is on campus in October to present lectures, clinics, and concerts. He is in demand as a freelance musician with over 1700 performances to date. He has backed numerous headliners such as Frank Sinatra Jr., Tony Bennett, Johnny Mathis, and Mannheim Steamroller, to name a few. As an educator, Chris has given masterclasses in every state in the US, and over 30 countries. Chris spoke as a guest lecturer with K-State music students about his career as a performer, and worked with the horn studio in a masterclass. Finally, he performed his arrangement of *La Virgin de la Macarena* with the Wind Ensemble on Wednesday, October 17, in McCain Auditorium.

## WIND ENSEMBLE AT THE AMERICAN BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

The **Kansas State University Wind Ensemble** has accepted an invitation to perform at the American Bandmaster's Association Conference. To perform at such an event is the highest honor a band program can receive; the KSU group received the invitation back in 2017! This event will take place March 5-9, 2019, at Colorado State University. The band's performance will feature two guest soloists; the first is international horn virtuoso Chris Castellanos, and the other, K-State faculty member Dr. Anna Marie Wytko on alto saxophone. The concert will also feature several guest conductors as part of their initiation to ABA.

## RECRUITMENT! - FROM DR. FRANK TRACZ

The Kansas State University Band staff has been busy with countless clinics, festivals, and public performances this semester. Both **Dr. Tracz** and **Dr. Wimmer**, in conjunction with the members of the band staff, have traveled all across Kansas and the Midwest. During these travels, the directors provided high school students with instruction regarding marching and maneuvering, music, problem solving, and teamwork. These experiences provided students with solid educational instruction, and also shared the mission and culture of the Kansas State University band program. In addition to these clinics, the band office has coordinated approximately fifteen pep bands with proceeds going to the continued success of the Marching Pride Scholars program, which provides a \$500 scholarship to the junior and senior members of the marching band. With our continuing attempts to recruit quality candidates for the band program, please submit names of any individuals interested in Kansas State University Band to [fracz@ksu.edu](mailto:fracz@ksu.edu). We also encourage you to contact us if you would like Dr. Tracz, Dr. Wimmer, or a member of our staff to visit with you and your students.

## CENTRAL STATES MARCHING FESTIVAL

**Dr. Frank Tracz and the K-State Marching Band** hosted the 2018 Central States Marching Festival on October 6, 2018. Forty high school bands from Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and Iowa attended and performed.

Each band performed in either Bill Snyder Family Stadium or the Indoor Football Facility for the multiple judges, receiving comments, a festival rating, and an award. Each band also attended a "mini-clinic" involving a video critique directly after the performance. Emphasis is placed on the positive aspects of each performance with constructive suggestions for improvement. Band directors also had the option to attend clinics hosted by Assistant Director of Bands, Dr. Alex Wimmer, and KSUMB staff and section leaders prior to the festival performance.

The judges for the festival included Dr. David Montgomery from Baylor University, Dr. Larry Blocher from the University of Troy, Mr. James Oliver, a retired Kansas City public school teacher, Dr. David Betancourt from Cerritos College, and Dr. Phil Payne teaching here at Kansas State University. Percussion was judged by Mr. Brandon Adams, K-State Percussion GA, and Ms. Spencer Smith, the K-State Color Guard instructor and designer. We were also joined by [BandDirector.com](http://BandDirector.com) with Dave Knox. Despite the rain and cold, the festival continued to ensure all bands had an opportunity to perform.

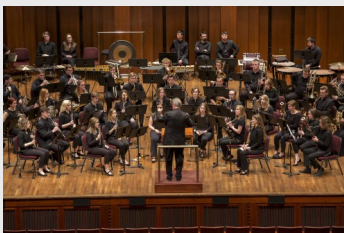
# KSU BANDS

## TAKE NOTE! UPCOMING EVENTS

**Concert Band Clinic**  
January 25-27, 2019

**Wind Symphony KMEA**  
(Kansas Music Educators  
Association) **Performance**  
February 22, 2019  
Century II Convention Center,  
Wichita, KS

**Wind Ensemble ABA**  
(American Bandmasters  
Association) **Performance**  
March 6, 2019  
Loveland, CO



## SAXOPHONE STUDENTS AT THE SANDZEN

The **Kansas State University Saxophone Quartet Program**, established and directed by Dr. Anna Marie Wytko, Associate Professor of Saxophone, presented a guest artist concert at the Birger Sandzén Memorial Gallery in Lindsborg, KS, as part of a professional concert series. This Program features four premiere saxophone quartets and is comprised of Bachelor, Master, and Doctoral collegiate level saxophone students. Numerous saxophone quartets from within this Program have received national recognition in some of the nation's top chamber music competitions including, for example, The Coleman National Chamber Music Competition (Pasadena, CA), the Plowman National Chamber Music Competition (Columbia, MO), and multiple Music Teachers National Association Competitions.



This Program was performed by professional invitation at the North American Saxophone Alliance National Conference and the Kansas Music Educators' Association Conference. The KSU Saxophone Chamber Music Program has been featured at *Spotlight K-State*, a showcase event hosted by President Myers that highlights excellence in innovative, creative, and unique teaching on the KSU campus. One of the select missions of the KSU Saxophone Quartet Program is to study and perform music originally written for saxophone quartet. A variety of musical styles and national/international influences are studied and programmed.

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