



The String Section

March, 2013

Greetings!

The months of the calendar seem to be flipping especially fast this year. I'm sure most of you are in the thick of preparing for spring concerts, recitals, and end of the year events quickly following. When you are wrapping up those successful events take one extra minute to think about what would make next year even better and how ASTA can be more involved in your musical and professional life – then tell us! Congratulations again to all of the grant recipients – the new initiatives will certainly contribute to our impact in Florida.

Heres to a great Spring and Summer.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Salsbury
President
Florida Chapter-American String Teachers Association

Miami-Dade County Middle School Honors Orchestra



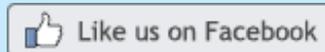
Middle School Honors Orchestra, Brian Powell- conductor,
Michelle Chong- soloist

For the second year in a row, FLASTA sponsored the Miami-Dade Middle School Honors Orchestra. In December, students auditioned for the honors orchestra at Southwood Middle School. Over 60 students from thirteen public and private schools participated in rehearsals in January at Arvida Middle School, followed by the concert at the University of Miami Frost School of

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Florida Chapter-American String
Teachers Association
www.flasta.org



Congratulations to FLASTA
Special Grants Recipients:
Judy Evans
Simon Shiao
Bach Parley
Be Better With Bergonzi



FLASTA member
Barbara Cripe plays
piano at the ASTA

Music on January 19th. The orchestra was conducted by Professor Brian Powell from UM, and the UM Bass Ensemble also performed during the concert.

FSU ASTA Student Chapter

The FSU student chapter of ASTA just held its annual North Florida String Festival on March 9. We welcomed more than 250 elementary, middle, and high school students to the FSU campus to perform solos and in small ensembles. Each participant or group received feedback and a mini-coaching on their performance, as well as a certificate, a rating, and a ribbon. We had a wonderful day of music making and we are already planning for next year.



FSU ASTA president, Elana Schaer (on the right), and music teacher Ashley Hagadorn, checking students in as they arrive on campus



Michael Linert

On February 25-26 the FSU ASTA chapter hosted cellist and educator Michael Linert who led two days of student workshops dealing with topics of cello pedagogy and improvisation techniques in the heterogeneous strings classroom.

UM Viola Day



UM Viola Day Participants

On March 2nd the UMiami Frost School of Music and Pamela McConnell hosted Viola Day 2013, with viola chamber music and large viola ensemble performances. The first Frost Viola Solo Competition was held, and the winners were:

News from Members

Outreach String Program run by FLASTA member Eden Vaning was recently featured in the TBNWeekly. Click [here](#) to read the article.

The Venice Community Orchestra is celebrating its second year of discovering and performing short classical and traditional pieces for the Venice area community. We are still looking for Violinist, Violists, Cellists and Bassists of all levels; no audition required. Join us for the fun of making music together. Rehearsals are held weekly at the Montessori Charter school in Venice, Fl. Additional details on VeniceCommunityOrchestra.com.

Dr. Nick Curry, assistant professor of cello at UNF in Jacksonville, reports that its been a great year for him and at UNF. So far this academic year, the Kalichstein/Laredo/Robinson trio and the Tokyo String Quartet both visited UNF and gave master classes for the UNF string students. On April 4th, ASTA artist teacher of the year award winner Hans Jorgen Jensen will be at UNF giving master classes for cellists. Dr. Curry is very much looking forward to Professor Jensen's visit and is also excited for the second straight summer to be invited to teach for part of the Meadowmount Summer Music Festival.

Mrs. Judith Duda, a long time Florida music supporter, established an endowed scholarship honoring Ayako Yonetani. Click [here](#) for more information. Ayako Yonetani performed at a concert in Panama on Wednesday, February 6th. The Japanese Embassy in Panama presented the recital. She collaborated with the students at the University of Panama and was on Panama Canal TV on a show, similar to *The Today Show*.

Gift for Music and UCF is co-inviting a renowned Suzuki string pedagogue, Michele George to do an all day workshop on April 23,

Senior Division Tie: Tyler Pacheco from Orlando and Cassie Drake from Naples
Junior Division: Aaron Stewart from Naples

The final concert featured the competition winners performing their concertos, participants performing chamber performances, and performances by UM viola students, including the Bach *Brandenburg Concerto No. 6* and the Gordon Jacob *Suite for Eight Violas*. All violists joined for the finale, our traditional performance of two famous Bach pieces, *Arioso* and *Air*, arranged for violas.

9th Annual "Be Better with Bergonzi" chamber music workshop

The ninth annual "Be Better with Bergonzi" weekend chamber music workshop, sponsored by Alhambra Orchestra with assistance from FLASTA, ACMP, and the University of Miami, was held on January 4-6 in Coral Gables, Florida. The workshop consisted of two evenings and two days of intensive playing, listening, and coaching, with each group concentrating on a single work, culminating in a

wonderful recital. Each ensemble had four hours of private coaching, one hour with each of four instructors. There were 27 registered participants in seven groups. The workshop provided full scholarships to eleven students from Greater Miami Youth Symphony and New World School of the Arts. The adults represented all age groups, with the oldest in their 80s. The scholarship students were in middle school and high school. The primary instructors for this annual workshop are the UM's quartet in residence, the Bergonzi String Quartet, who coach all the string players. FLASTA members Pamela McConnell and Ross Harbaugh from the quartet help organize the event in addition to coaching.



Matthew Hakkarainen, Esther Chae, Hugo Belisario



Chris Charters, Natalia Hidalgo, Emily Cochrane, Edward Luengo

A piano quartet and piano trio also received instruction from UM faculty member Tian Ying. The Saturday session included a group class where the instructors performed briefly, lectured, and "sat in" with the various groups to help work on ensemble pieces in a master-class format. The Greater Miami Youth Symphony group consisted of four violinists and a cellist who were studying the Vivaldi Concerto for Four Violins and Cello. Other participants from the workshop rehearsed and performed the "tutti" portions of this concerto, in addition to their own chamber pieces. Violinist Scott Flavin conducted this enthusiastic baroque ensemble and coached the members on baroque sound. The tenth annual workshop will take place on January 3-5, 2014. Contact member Helen Hauser, hhauserjd@ad.com, for information.

Tuesday.

Prelude Chamber Music, Inc. announces its 12th Camp Season to be held in Jacksonville from June 10 through June 22, 2013. We welcome participants of all ages and abilities (including adults). There are 3 tracks of study...Primary (for first-timers or younger campers), Prelude (must be in at least Bk 2 (Suzuki) & be 8 yrs old), and Intensive (for advanced students interested in tackling serious works from the chamber music literature). All instrumentalists (including pianists) are welcomed, but it is mostly for stringed instrument players. Participants may attend both weeks or select only one 6-day session. Many of our best musicians and teachers in northeast Florida are on our faculty! Campers play in a large ensemble and are coached in small ensembles, take theory or composition classes, choose from several electives, attend a special performance each day presented by faculty members or outstanding guest musicians, and perform in a weekly program. We will help those from out of town find reasonable accommodations. And we will accept an audio/video file audition...for those not able to come to Jacksonville for a placement audition (April 27 & 28). Pre-formed ensembles are also welcomed. Just make certain everyone in your ensemble applies for camp...and indicates the others in your group. Our usual deadline is already April 3 for applications. **We will waive late fees until April 28 for campers wanting to enroll from other parts of the state.** Some financial assistance is available. Please contact Jeanne Majors for more details at majorkey@bellsouth.net or go to our website <http://preludechambermusic.org/musiccamp.html> for the application.

The year 2013 marks the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg and the Gettysburg Address. To honor these events, the violin students of Sand Dollar Strings Music Studio of Shalimar, FL have prepared a program of music from this period of the Civil War.

The first performance takes place at the Heritage Museum's "Saturday in the Park Festival" on Saturday, April 20, 2013. Performance time is 2:30 -

3:00pm at Perrine Park in Valparaiso. People in Civil War attire will be on hand to add a historic touch to the music program.

Collier County News



BassFest Participants

Collier County BassFest 2013 took place January 20th and was a huge success. Thanks to Laurence Glazener, Brian Powell, Kevin Mauldin, Matthew Medlock, Jamie Ousley, the University of Miami Bass Studio, Manuel Berberian and Allegro Music Center, and special surprise guest Murray Grodner.

On October 23, 2012 Dr. Steven L. Rosenhaus had the honor of conducting the Barron Collier HS Chamber Strings (Naples, FL), Adam Michlin, Director, in the premiere of his work "Folk Song Suite No. 1." The three-movement work, then titled "Fake Folk Song Suite No. 1," is written in the styles associated with Celtic music – a hornpipe, a ballad, and a slip jig. Since then LudwigMasters Publications (based in Boca Raton!) has decided to publish the work for its 2013-2014 season.

Orchestra Teacher Workshop will be held June 14-15th at Florida Gulf Coast University Bower School of Music. Bob Phillips (National ASTA President), will be the featured clinician, along with Judy Evans (ASTA National Curriculum co-author). Click [here](#) for more information.

Welcome to New Members

- Dathan Boone
Lisa Foltz
Daniel Glazar
Lisa Mattson
Begum Calimli
Katie McCoy
Community Music School of Tradition, LLC
Julia Seltzer
Mary Jane Lang

The sound of a cello choir is unique and unforgettable. So be on the lookout for announcements about Cellobration 19! to be held this Fall. This event has been held in Miami-Dade or Broward counties since 1991, give or take a few problems such as hurricanes. Attendance has ranged from 50 to 200; the guest clinicians have included Florida professors, cellist presidents of ASTA, nationally-known teacher/performers, faithful local teachers; and lots of parents have been very helpful. Participants range from tots to octogenarians. Music, meals, a robust raffle, inspiration and merriment are all included. If you are new to the state, or have not been notified in the past, please notify jodyatwood@aol.com, to be sure to receive the details. You may be eligible to play in the rip-roaring Cello Challenge Piece group!!

Tallahassee Bach Parley



Bach Parley Participants

On March 10th for the third consecutive year, the Tallahassee Bach Parley baroque group held Kids Go For Broque, a competition and concert/honors recital featuring talented young musicians from the

Treasurer's Report
July 2012-January 2013

Table with financial data: Income (Rebates/Grants: \$886.32), Expenses (Conferences: \$891.41, Meeting Expenses: \$1,517.25, Total: \$2,408.66), Summary (July 31 Bank Balance: \$5,020.19, Plus Income Total: \$5,185.50, Minus Expense Total: \$3,198.77, January 1 Bank Balance: \$7,006.92)

community playing pieces from the Baroque era. This educational outreach program began in 1997 and was last held in 2002 prior to its revival in 2011. It is now a highly anticipated annual event of the Tallahassee Bach Parley. With the permission of his or her music teacher, any child age 18 or younger may enter *Kids Go For B'roque* playing on strings (violin, viola, cello, bass), wind instruments, or piano, as well as vocalists and small chamber ensembles. Students audition for three qualified judges and the highest scoring players perform on the final concert. All of the students are given written feedback after their audition from three judges who are professional musicians and educators. For the winners, the dress rehearsal allows the students to connect with their peers and experience the serious preparation for a professional level concert. This year, we had over 60 entries participate in the auditions for the *Kids Go for B'roque* concert with 35 performers selected to play in the performance held at the FSU College of Music; 170 audience members attended. The Tallahassee Bach Parley appreciates the support of FLASTA for this event.

News from Escambia County

---or as one of our judges commented on our MPA, "You're practically in Texas!" The District 3 MPA was February 12, and was the closest one to us in the Pensacola area. (Just 3 hours away!) Due to the time and expense of this venture, this is the first MPA that I have taken my orchestras to. Both of my schools participated-- Ransom Middle Advanced Orchestra earned a straight Superiors, and the Tate High Orchestra earned overall Superior. Two other string directors from Escambia County, Jonathan Clark and Christina Clark Frierdich, who both direct the string program at Brown-Barge Middle School, also participated and earned Excellent. The experience of preparing my orchestras for MPA was a very valuable journey. In the process, my groups benefited from the input of 3 of our wonderful FLASTA members: Chris Miller, director at Lawton Chiles High, Tallahassee; and Dr. Simon Shaio and Dr. Nick Curry from UNF. As spring quickly approaches, with it comes the awesome and challenging task of recruiting 5th graders for next year's program, one of the most important tasks any director has! So my orchestras will be visiting all the feeder elementary schools to spread the orchestra love, spreading the joy of learning music. Please remember to be thinking of a string teacher you may like to nominate for a FLASTA award. We are again planning to be ready with that in October in Orlando.

-Cathy McConnell

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