

Department of Music

Spring 2020 Newsletter



UNIVERSITY OF
SASKATCHEWAN



“Start Here!... Watch 30 seconds of our UofS Department of Music (DoM) in action:”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UcvQZ8qtHws&feature=youtu.be>

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD:

I extend heartfelt greetings to every member of our music community – near and far. This spring newsletter gives us pause to reflect on the achievements of the past year, as well as to look into the future. Of course, these past several weeks have presented many challenges as the University of Saskatchewan has responded to COVID-19. But through it all, I have been struck by the resilience of our students, sessionals, staff, and faculty, as well as the dignified manner in which the challenges have been met: I am grateful to all.

It is our actions and our achievements that define us, of course, and not exigent external forces such as the current global pandemic. This newsletter focuses on the many accomplishments of the past few academic years, and there have been many – not least the cohort of students who will graduate a few weeks hence with a M.Mus., a B.Mus., a B.A. (Music) degree or Jazz Certificate. Congratulations to each of you, you have worked tirelessly to reach this significant milestone, and in the process, you have “done us proud.”

To each of our many donors, community partners, long-time audience members, and families of our students we thank you for your continuing support. At its core, music is a shared artform, and I am proud to have shared in the many successes of this past year across the entire Department of Music.

Dr. Gregory Marion

“WE SEE AND HEAR YOU!”

Our department hopes to provide at some point a performance opportunity for the following B.Mus. & M.Mus. students who were unable to perform their Spring 2020 recital due to the CoVid-19 pandemic.

1. Best, Heather (3 yr.) – BMUS – (Flute)
2. Burrows, Jayden (3 yr.) – BMUS – (Voice)
3. Dyck, Graeme (1 yr.) – BMUS – (Trumpet)
4. Edwards, Tallissa (4 yr.) – BMUS – (Voice)
5. Elias, Connor (1 yr.) – BMUS – (Piano)
6. Friesen, Michael (4 yr.) – BMUHON – (Voice)
7. Gjurichanin, Angela (4 yr.) – BMUHON – (Voice)
8. Kathrotia, Yash (2 yr.) – BMUS – (Piano)
9. Kosheluk, Kennedy (3 yr.) – BMUS – (Piano)
10. Mark, Francis (3 yr.) – BMUS – (Flute)
11. McLeod, Jillian (4 yr.) – BMUHON – (Flute)
12. Meadows, Ian (4 yr.) – BMUS – (Bassoon)
13. Miller, Taylor-Rae (4 yr.) – BMUHON – (Clarinet)
14. Peters, Ethan (3 yr.) – BMUS – (Double Bass)
15. Rae, Brooklyn (4 yr.) – BMUS – (Flute)
16. Reid, Elizabeth (4 yr.) – BMUS – (Voice)
17. Smith, Haillie (3 yr.) – BMUS – (Piano)
18. Suru, Kaitlyn (2 yr.) – BMUS – (Flute)
19. Waltz, Drusilla (2 yr.) – BMUS – (Violin)
20. Warkentine, Lea-Arin (4 yr.) – BMUHON – (Clarinet)
21. Wood, Emma (3 yr.) – BMUS – (Voice)
22. Vereschagin, Shawn (4 yr.) – BMUHON – (Piano)
23. Zhang, Nan (3 yr.) – BMUHON – (Piano)
24. Bueckert, Aaron (GS) – (Trumpet)
25. Gong, Han (GS) – (Piano)
26. Rybinski, Erika (GS) – (Trumpet)



A note of **Congratulations** to:

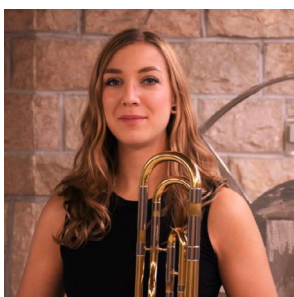
- 1). UofS B.MUS. student **Tallissa Edwards** for winning a **Saskatchewan Choral Federation Leadership Award!**
- 2). **Fraser Krips** who won the UofS College of Arts and Science **Film Prize!**

“Onwards And Upwards”

We wish to thank the following M.Mus. students graduating this Spring for working so diligently during their time of intensive study at the U of S. Their participation academically and as performers has helped build the cultural capital in our community on and off our campus. Our university has provided these students with a wonderfully diverse musical education and they in turn have enriched our entire department. A special note of thanks to the faculty and to the following community partners who worked with these students: Dawn McLean Belyk (applied brass instruction), Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra, Saskatoon Jazz Orchestra, Saskatoon Brass Band, Saskatoon Concert Band, and the Saskatoon Saskatchewan Music Festival.

Spring 2020 Convocation (M.Mus.)

Erika Rybinski (trombone performance)



Aaron Bueckert (trumpet performance)



Han Gong (piano performance)



The DoM has been hard at work reimagining many aspects of what we do including redesigning many of our courses and degree programs. Here is a list of our most recent course revisions and creations:

New* 1st year course in Music Education: Introduction to Music Education (MUS 115) designed for all music students and non-music majors alike. This foundational course provides an introduction and exploration of key questions and issues in music education theory and practice that relate to music education in schools, studios, therapy, and community contexts.

New* String Pedagogy course (MUS 425/MUS 825) is a new course that will be offered during the winter term. This course will give string majors an understanding of pedagogical applications of string playing, and the necessary knowledge to teach a beginner student.

Rethinking Music History: Three DoM music history undergraduate courses have been reimagined and redesigned to help students make critical connections between music from different eras, places, and genres, with added emphasis on Canadian music and women composers.

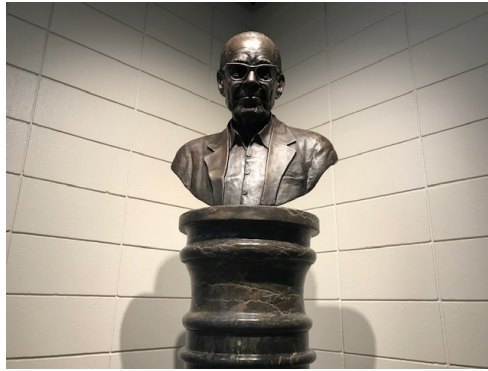
Revisions to M.Mus. in Instrumental and Choral Conducting: This performance-based model will allow graduate students the opportunity to study all aspects of conducting with current faculty, and will also provide plenty of podium time with Departmental ensembles. This program replaces the Masters of Music in Conducting/Music Education.

The Department is also working on creating a new graduate program in Music Education that focuses on pedagogy and current research.



“Thank You Dr. Kaplan”

On September 13, 2019 a celebration concert officially dedicating a memorial bust of Dr. David L. Kaplan was held featuring DoM Faculty, Sessional Instructors, members of the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra, and the Saskatoon Klezmer Band. The bust was created by Artist Adrian Golban. The concert featured Dr. Véronique Mathieu - The David Kaplan Chair of Strings, performing Kurt Weill's *Konzert für Violine und Blasorchester* (Concerto for Violin and Wind Ensemble) conducted by Dr. Darrin Oehlerking.



At this Kaplan event Xiaoping (Bob) Xu and Ling Chen (i.e. past students of Dr. Kaplan) were thanked for their generosity in establishing (1) the U of S DoM Kaplan graduate and undergraduate scholarships, (2) U of S Kaplan Chair in Strings and (3) the Kaplan bust which now resides within the U of S Education Building.

Mr. Xu and Ms. Chen's generosity has supported many DoM students in many ways.

One such example is violinist Hannah Lissel DeCorby who is convocating in the Spring of 2020 with a B.Mus. Hannah has been awarded a Teaching Assistantship at the University of Ottawa where she intends to pursue graduate studies in performance violin studying with Prof. Yehonatan Berick.



Want to know more about our **David L. Kaplan** collection of musical instruments click here:
https://artsandscience.usask.ca/news/articles/3547/David_Kaplan_Collection

“Inspiring Guests Among Us”

In January 2020 the DoM hosted cellist **Dr. André Micheletti** from the University of Sao Paulo for a teaching residency. During his visit, Micheletti performed on the U of S Amati cello to critical acclaim. Here is a short video he made on the Amati cello with faculty Dr. Véronique Mathieu: <https://youtu.be/zeTikjZwQvQ>. The work performed is Daydreams by Murray Adaskin, who served as conductor of the SSO and head of the music department at USASK from 1952-1966.

On Jan. 26 guest artist **Philip Hansen**, Principal Cellist of the Orquestra Filarmônica de Minas Gerais in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, joined **Prof. Kathleen Solose** in a concert of music by Bach, Piazzolla and Mendelssohn at Convocation Hall, performing on the prized U of S Amati cello.

FARLS: Recent highlights of the DoM’s Fine Arts Research Lecture Series include a presentation and performance by Odawa composer Barbara Croall, a lecture on the psychology of group performance by post-doctoral researcher Dr. Justin Christensen, a lecture-recital about Bach’s Cello Suites by Dr. André Micheletti, and a presentation of newer compositions by Paul Suchan (with performances by Proteus Quartet, Kim de Laforest, Gerard Weber and Naomi Piggott-Suchan).

Music Education In Action: The Music Education in Action Series began in 2018 by Dr. Jennifer Lang and is offered as an outreach initiative within the Department of Music for Music Education students, educators and musicians to collectively explore various music education topics in different contexts. Through this series we host one workshop per term and invite students from all over the campus (particularly music and education students), teachers, and community members to experience intersections of music education as they occur in schools, communities, and beyond. Our sessions have included: Bryan Powell for Modern Band Workshop, Sherryl Sewepagaham for a First Nations Drum and Rattle Song Workshop, Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra for the Link Up Carnegie Hall program, and Wayne Giesbrecht for Technology in the Music Classroom which will be offered as upcoming online modules.



Music and the Visionary: In September 2019, the Department of Music hosted the interdisciplinary conference Music and the Visionary, organized by Dr. Amanda Lalonde. Scholars and performers from across North America presented on topics as wide ranging as Björk as an eco-visionary figure, Scriabin’s Seventh Sonata, music and Indigenous spirituality, and the nineteenth-century conductor Louis Jullien (the latter a presentation by student Jillian McLeod).



Metis jazz composer **Michelle Grégoire** (piano), UofT Prof. **Gordon Foote** (sax) and jazz icon **Bobby Shew** (trumpet) gave master classes and performed with the U of S Jazz Ensemble.



Bassment concert with **Michelle Grégoire**:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=3&v=mQIdrnJ7U2s&feature=emb_logo



During the CoVid-19 Pandemic the U of S has been hosting weekly on line Brass Masterclasses featuring guest artists such as **Allen Vizzutti**, **Karen Donelly**, **Wycliffe Gordon**, **Jens Lindemann**, **Bill Dimmer**, and **Gary Guthman**. If you want to join this on line chat email dean.mcneill@usask.ca and we will send you the participation link!

“Memorandum Of Understanding”

The U of S DoM has enjoyed many inspired collaborations recently with the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra as a result of the SSO/U of S MOU. These collaborations include but are not limited to the following:

The U of S choirs have always been privileged to take the stage with the SSO for many of their choral feature performances. 2019-2020 was no exception as we were invited to collaborate in 3 major works with the SSO. The first performance was off-stage for the treble voices in the Greystone Singers and Aurora Voice an alumni choir

of the Greystone Singers) in Holst's Neptune for Planets. The Christmas POPS series featured singers from the U of S Greystone Singers and the University Chorus in the classic Child's Christmas in Wales (Gary Fry). Finally, to round out the season, the Greystone Singers and Aurora Voce performed Rebecca Dale's brilliant North American Premiere of Materna Requiem.



Since joining the U of S faculty in 2018, violinist **Véronique Mathieu** enjoyed collaborating on several occasions with the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra, including on a very special concert in North Battleford that was been filmed and broadcast by SaskTel Max across the province.



Watch this link to discover how one aspect of Dr. Amanda Lalonde's research intersects with the SSO performance **Finding Heinz Moehn**: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gkcoBkrN8U0>.

The SSO's December 2019 holiday concert featured Dean McNeill premiering new arrangements by **Dr. Allan Gilliland, Dr. Lang** and the Greystone Singers & University Chorus, and, musical narration by **Dr. Garry Gable**.



“Faculty Renewal & Rejuvenation”

Given a few years have passed since our last DoM newsletter the Department of Music would like to take this opportunity to announce and congratulate Dr. Walter Kreyszig and Dr. Gyula Csapó on their recent retirements from the University of Saskatchewan.

Dr. Kreyszig is a respected academic who served the Department of Music from 1985-2017 as a Professor in Musicology. Having received his M. Phil. in Musicology and Ph.D. in Musicology both from Yale University, Dr. Kreyszig has led a very active career as a national and internationally active researcher. He specializes in music of the First and Second Viennese Schools of Composition, and Canadian Music, musical humanism, the history of music theory, iconography, organology, palaeography and performance practices, with numerous publications in both North American and European Journals. While at the U of S Kreyszig strongly encouraged his students to follow their research interests and aspirations. According to a former student Lyn Lamers, “it is because of Dr. Kreyszig’s teaching that I learned how to do this - his example of the highest quality of writing and research standards.”

Dr. Csapó joined the University of Saskatchewan in 1994 and served the music department until 2019. According to the Canadian Music Centre, Csapo is “one of the leading composers of our time, György Kurtág wrote in his appraisal of Csapó’s work: “His music... is answering the most timely questions with hours of exceptional quality. His musical language is highly original and strikingly powerful... His integrity and creative imagination... represents... one of the most important contributions in the field today.”

Both Professors Kreyszig and Csapó have been recognized with Emeritus status by the University of Saskatchewan. They both remain active academics internationally. We wish them well and thank them for their many years of service at the U of S.

The past few years have also been exciting times in our department with the addition of multiple tenure-track faculty members including:

Dr. Amanda Lalonde <https://artsandscience.usask.ca/profile/ALalonde#/profile>

Dr. Jennifer Lang <https://artsandscience.usask.ca/profile/JLang#/profile>

Dr. Véronique Mathieu <https://artsandscience.usask.ca/profile/VMathieu#/profile>.

We are also delighted to welcome into our department for the 2020-2021 academic year music theory specialist Dr. Vivian Luong <<http://music.virginia.edu/people/profile/vluong>> (one year term appointment) while Dr. Marion is on his well-deserved administrative leave. Welcome one and all and thank you for all your hard work as Head Dr. Marion!

“Our Faculty In Thought & Action”



Here is a glimpse of what our amazing faculty have been up to recently:

Dr. Garry Gable has enjoyed a busy teaching and performing schedule. He continues to maintain a full and active teaching load annually with in-studio lessons, Vocal Literature, Opera History, Lyric Diction, and of course as Director of the U of S Music Theatre Ensemble, which he co-leads with Music Director, Kathleen Lohrenz Gable. Last September, Garry organized and participated in the U of S contribution to “Mysterious Barricades”, a one-hour music program presented on-campus that joined 15 other Canadian campuses in a day-long series of concerts telecast online and dedicated to bringing attention to the issues surrounding Suicide and Suicide Prevention.

In the past year or so, Garry has enjoyed stints as guest soloist with Saskatoon Symphony and Okanagan Symphony Orchestras, and teaching and performing opportunities at University of Ottawa and Lethbridge University, and then in schools in both Wuhan and Lanzhou in China. These trips included recitals and providing masterclasses and private lessons, alone and together with spouse/pianist Kathleen Lohrenz Gable. A return trip to China, planned for 2020-21, has been postponed due to the Co-Vid 19 pandemic.



Dr. Glen Gillis has remained active in conducting, adjudicating, composing and performing. In the last two years he wrote four compositions for the U of S Concert Band, and continues to conduct the North Saskatchewan Wind Symphony each summer. Recently he performed at the World Saxophone Congress (Zagreb, Croatia), North American Saxophone Regional (University of Lethbridge) and National (Arizona State) Conferences, The Shockingly Modern Saxophone Festival (Augustana University, Rock Island, IL) and the Saxophone Symposium (George Mason University, Fairfax, VA). In early 2020 he co-released an album, *Sonic Eclipse*, featuring contemporary and electro-acoustic original compositions with Dr. James Cunningham (didgeridoo) from Florida Atlantic University. Dr. Gillis is currently on sabbatical and is working on several compositions for saxophone to be included on his next album *SaxSpectrum 3*, for release later in the year.



Dr. Amanda Lalonde was awarded a Partnership Engage Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada for a collaborative project with the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra. In March 2019, the SSO gave the North American premiere of Heinz Moehn's Music for Violin and Orchestra, a piece that had not been performed since its debut in Germany in 1938. The collaborative project continued the rediscovery of Heinz Moehn's music by examining his manuscripts, creating some of first recordings of his works, and researching his connections with famous musicians of the 20th century. Twelve students took part in the research and performances for this project. You can discover the recordings and read about Moehn on the project website:

<http://heinzmoehn.usask.ca/>.



She is also researching how Franz Liszt and Clara Schumann were understood as musical prophets in the nineteenth century. This project has involved a research trip to Paris in summer 2018 with student research assistant Devynn McIntyre and presentations in San Francisco, Boston, and Oxford, UK.



Dr. Jennifer Lang has been active as a conductor, educator, clinician, and researcher during this academic year. Her upcoming chapter on musical agency in the Routledge Handbook of Sociology of Music Education encouraged several invitations to present on conference panels including Research in Music Education in Bath, UK and the International Symposium on the Sociology of Music Education in Texas, USA. Jennifer's research also extends into music and health as it relates to agency across the lifespan. Jennifer is a co-investigator with a team at the University of Saskatchewan in a research project funded by the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation and the Centre for Aging and Brain Health Innovation examining technology as it relates to caregivers and people with dementia. She has also initiated an intergenerational choir between U of S students interested in music therapy, high school students at Evan Hardy Collegiate and senior resident singers at Sherbrooke Community Centre.

Jennifer's artistic portfolio involves several performing opportunities with the Greystone Singers and the newly formed alumni choir, Aurora Voce. In addition to workshoping with several high school and community choirs, Jennifer has presented sessions and conducted the delegate choir at the Saskatchewan Music Conference in 2019 and 2020 and has been invited to present numerous sessions at the Resonate music conference for teacher professional development in both 2019 and 2020. Most recently, she was accepted as a presenter at Choral Canada's Podium conference with SSO's Eric Paetkau in Montreal, and was also invited to present at the International Society for Music Education in Helsinki, Finland. Although temporarily postponed, Jennifer was to serve as the Saskatoon opera choral director for La Traviata June 2020, a conductor and presenter at the Summer School for the Solo Voice in North Battleford, July 2020, and a clinician at the Southeastern Manitoba Festival and Regina Music Festival.

Jennifer's music education initiatives include founding the department's Music Education in Action series and she serves as the provincial contact for The National Study: A 2020 Landscape of Music Education in Canada. Currently she is a member of the writing group for Saskatchewan's curriculum writing group for Choral 10/20/30 and is the Past President of the Saskatchewan Choral Federation.

Jennifer's work with the Greystone Singers was recognized with a 2019/2020 USSU Teaching Award.



https://artsandscience.usask.ca/news/articles/5006/Music_professor_Arts_and_Science_students_win_USSU_awards



In addition to serving as **Department Head**, teaching undergraduate and graduate courses, as well as advising two MMus (music theory) students, in AY 2019-20, **Dr. Gregory Marion** played a role in hosting the National Music Festival (in August), helped to organize the David L. Kaplan Bust Dedication in September, as well as an international conference hosted by the Department of Music (September).

Dr. Marion has given five papers at national and international conference in the course of the last twelve months, and has had two additional conference presentations cancelled on account of COVID-19. Presentations have focussed on Debussy and on Mahler, and have occurred in Vancouver; in Saskatoon; in Maynooth (Ireland); in Lucerne (CH); and in Belgrade (SRB). Marion is completing articles on Mahler's Symphony X; and a book review on three new Debussy monographs. He is on academic leave in the 2020-21 academic year.

Dr. Véronique Mathieu concluded her first year at the U of S with a concert tour in China last May. Highlights of the 2019-20 season include the premiere of Adam Scime's violin concerto with Esprit Orchestra in Toronto (with the generous support of Michael and Sonia Koerner), a commission from Odawa First Nations composer Barbara Croall for a new solo work that was premiered at the 21C New Music Festival in Toronto, Piazzolla and Vivaldi Seasons with the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra, as well as concert tours in BC, AB, ON, and the USA. She also performed for the prestigious Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concert Series in Chicago last December. Dr. Mathieu was a guest professor at the University of Sao Paulo (Riberão Preto) and the Federal University of Mato Grosso in Brazil in the fall, and premiered new works by Brazilian composers Roberto Victorio and Silvio Ferraz during her visit. She will be releasing a third CD this summer with pianist Jasmin Arakawa on PARMA Records, featuring works by Debussy, Poulenc, Bacri, and Boulanger.

Dr. Mathieu continues to curate free family concerts at the Saskatoon Public Library; Music in the Pooh Corner and Music in the Gallery.



Over the past 18 months **Dean McNeill** was awarded 3 grants from the Saskatchewan Arts Board to (1) continue his artistic leadership of the Saskatoon Jazz Orchestra (saskatoonjazzorchestra.com), in support of a European tour as a guest soloist with the Edmonton Winds ensemble (postponed due to CoiVid-19) and, to premier works for solo trumpet and wind ensemble composed by Allan Gilliland, Tom Davoran and Greg Yasinitski. A member of the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra Dean recently performed a Western Canadian classical trumpet/piano recital tour with his long time musical collaborator Sylvia Shadick Taylor, was a visiting guest artist at the University of Lethbridge, recorded 2 CDs respectively entitled (1) Suite 150: A Big Band Portrait (Winnipeg Jazz Orchestra) & (2) the Saskatchewan Suite (Regina Jazz Society), performed at the Yardbird Suite jazz club with Jens Lindemann, at Brandon University with the Tara Davidson/William Carn Nonet, at the Calgary Jazz Festival (Art Blakey Tribute project), with multi Juno award winning pianist/composer David Braid (live performance of award winning Born To Be Blue film music composed by Braid), and, he recorded 2 SaskTel Max On Demand TV concerts within the Saskatoon Jazz Orchestra.

In the fall of 2019 Dean presented U of S TEDx Conference talk entitled *Please Listen Carefully* https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p_NGv1FmFxA&t=4s and he was featured in a Bridges magazine article entitled Luck, opportunity, preparation: Jazz professor inspires the next generation through music: <https://lfpres.com/life/bridges/luck-opportunity-preparation-jazz-instructor-dean-mcneill-is-inspiring-the-next-generation-through-music/wcm/af21057d-2b4b-455f-8161-8b8fd916c2f9>

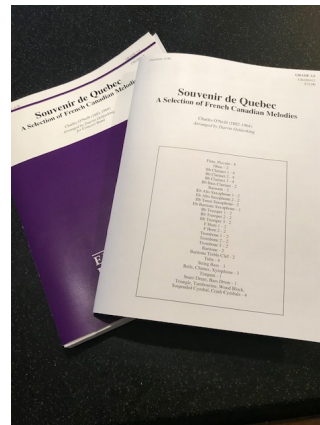


Canada's premiere wind band publishing company, Eighth Note Publications, has released another arrangement by Associate Professor **Dr. Darrin Oehlerking**. Souvenir de Quebec was originally composed by Captain Charles O'Neill in 1930. Dr. Oehlerking has been researching historical Canadian wind band composers and their works for many years, and discovered this composition in the library of the United States Marine Band. He edited and arranged the piece so that it is accessible to high school, community and university bands. The premiere performance of this arrangement took place during the 2020 University of Saskatchewan High School Select Wind Orchestra performance on February 2, with over 100 high school students from across the province participating.

On May 23, 2019 the Federal Government of Canada officially exonerated **Chief Poundmaker** of his criminal conviction of treason in 1885. At a ceremony on the Poundmaker Cree Nation, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and other officials and dignitaries spoke about the importance of truth, justice and reconciliation. Dr. Darrin Oehlerking was asked by leaders of the Poundmaker community to coordinate some music to mark the important ceremony. The result was an incredibly moving musical experience for all involved. Saskatchewan composer Paul Suchan composed a piece for brass sextet entitled *Peacemaker* - a word synonymous with Chief Poundmaker himself. The brass sextet consisted of Dean McNeill, Darrin Oehlerking, Aaron Bueckert, Arlene Shiplett, Erika Rybinski and Dawn McLean-Belyk, and they performed the work immediately before Prime Minister Trudeau delivered his exoneration speech. It was an incredibly moving ceremony, and the Department of Music was honoured to contribute the overall proceedings of such an important and historic day.

In September, Dr. Oehlerking used the experience of working with the Poundmaker community to inform his presentation at the University of Saskatchewan TedX event - "Building Bridges." As one of 18 presenters, Dr. Oehlerking spoke about building community through music, using the Poundmaker ceremony and other experiences in music performance and music education as examples of how music in our community is vital to our existence as a society. Little did we know how important that message is, given our current global state of affairs. The performance and teaching of music will be incredibly important as we try and re-establish a sense of community and collaboration in a post-COVID 19 world.

Darrin Oehlerking's TEDx talk: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fL52mEHblco>



In May, 2019, **Prof. Kathleen Solose** presented a fortepiano lecture-recital on Schubert sonatas at the 2nd International Conference on Performance and Creativity: Historical Keyboard Music, 1700-1850 in Hong Kong. She also performed and lectured on Scriabin's seventh piano sonata at the "Music and the Visionary" conference at the U of S last Fall. In February of this year Prof. Solose collaborated with pianist Jane Solose at the University of Central Florida and in Daytona Beach Shores in a four-hands recital featuring music by Piazzolla, Milhaud and Barber. Prof. Solose was the recipient of a Saskatchewan Arts Board Grant for the production of the 2020-21 season of the Elixir Chamber Ensemble, which celebrated its 11th concert season. Her current sabbatical project includes

recording piano sonatas by the Viennese composer Erich Wolfgang Korngold.



“Sessional Spotlight”

The importance and impact of our valued DoM sessional instructors cannot be overstated. We’d like to take this opportunity to shine a light on but two of these remarkably gifted members of our musical community. Thank you Kathy and Bonnie for sharing your talent and knowledge with us:

Bonnie Nicholson recently was awarded the College of Arts and Science Distinguished Teacher Award in BA, BFA, and BMus Programs. She has served as a DoM sessional lecturer in piano for nearly 36 years and has been the past president of the Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers Association, the vice-president of the Saskatoon Music Festival, a director of the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association and a founding member of the Summer Academy for Voice and Piano.

Nicholson is a strong advocate for Canadian music and modern music, and values individuality, motivation, a positive attitude, community spirit and collaborative work. Bonnie co-organized the 2019 Canadian National Music Festival finals that were held on our campus.

Kathy Gable has recently enjoyed interacting with students and faculty at the University of Saskatchewan, University of Ottawa, University of Lethbridge, Minzu University in Lanzhou, and the Conservatory of Music in Wuhan, China. Giving recitals, master classes, and both solo and collaborative piano lessons was all very engaging and interesting.

Kathy has been a part of Edmonton’s highly acclaimed summer opera program, Opera NUOVA, as a faculty member since 2004, and was to conduct A Grand Night for Singing this spring. It will now be produced as part of the 2021 Opera NUOVA season. She has conducted many operas for Opera Nuova, including Poulenc’s Dialogues des Carmelites, Puccini’s Suor Angelica, Copland’s The Tender Land, Humperdinck’s Hänsel und Gretel, Rodgers and Hammerstein’s Oklahoma, Gilbert and Sullivan’s The Gondoliers, and Patience, and Tartuffe by Kirke Mechem. Other duties include coaching pianists and singers in Opera, Musical Theatre, Art Song and Oratorio repertoire.

“Read The Review!”

The DoM Wind Orchestra, Greystone Singers and Jazz Ensemble embarked on a tour of Saskatchewan where they performed for over 2000 people. School and public concerts in North Battleford, Lloydminster and Kindersley provided a wonderful opportunity to share our music with the broader community.



Wind Orchestra year in review: The University of Saskatchewan Wind Ensemble had an exciting year of performance, even though our final program was cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. In November, the ensemble performed at Holy Family Cathedral in Saskatoon to a packed house of over 600 audience members (thanks to the enthusiastic students of numerous Prince Albert and area band programs for making the trip to join us!) We enjoyed collaborating with the Greystone Singers, University Chorus and Dr. Garry Gable on Copland's Set of Old American Songs, and graduate student Erika Rybinski performed as a soloist on Rimsky-Korsakov's Trombone Concerto. We were also thrilled to head out on tour in February to North Battleford, Lloydminster and Kindersley along with our friends in the Greystone Singers and Jazz Ensemble. This would provide to be our last performance of the 2019/20 school year, and we now feel so fortunate to share our music with appreciative audiences in these communities.





This year, the tradition of the **Greystone Singers** was continued with 40 voices and directed by Dr. Jennifer Lang with accompanists Karen Reynaud and Deborah Buck. These singers continued the high caliber of musicianship, which has garnered the choir a respectable reputation – both at the University of Saskatchewan and across Canada – but also fostered a genuine and supportive community within the ensemble. This ensemble's dedication and drive for success is exemplified in each and every one of the choir's performances, on campus, on the TCU stage, and in the community.

The fall brought exciting collaborative opportunities — such as our retreat at Queen's House of Retreats, the second annual Play it Forward Concert with the Jazz ensemble and the Wind Orchestra, and the third annual uSing uSask choral festival. Choirs participating in the festival came together from all over Saskatchewan with the Greystone Singers playing a pivotal leadership role.

Our November was busy with our annual fall term 1 concert and a collaboration with University Chorus in the Wind Orchestra concert. In December, the singers participated in the SSO Pops concert at TCU Place and also spread Christmas cheer by carolling to raise money for the music department tour in semester two. Choristers sang for numerous businesses, homes, and made a special appearance at the President's house.



In term 2 we once again held a retreat and prepared for many exciting upcoming projects, including our annual collaboration with the Koko-pelli choir.

The choir was brought into the spotlight on campus for a flash mob performance of Vindo in the Arts Building, along with an impactful virtual choir performance of Warrior after rehearsals and concerts were cancelled due to COVID-19.

The ensemble was featured 3 times with the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra: performing in Holst's The Planets, Fry's setting of A Child's Christmas in Wales, and singing in the North American premiere performance of Rebecca Dale's Materna Requiem!

Greystone Singers year-in-review: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gH2QVDaZaLM>

Greystone Singers Warrior video:

[https://artsandscience.usask.ca/news/articles/5024/Usask Greystone Singers won't let COVID 19 stop them](https://artsandscience.usask.ca/news/articles/5024/Usask_Greystone_Singers_won't_let_COVID_19_stop_them)

Outreach in response to Nova Scotia tragedy: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G5W7EH9QFeQ&t=4s>

On June 5, 2020 - Dr. Jennifer Lang and the Greystone Singers Alumni Choir launched their virtual performance of "One Voice." It's the most ambitious video collaboration yet, with more than 60 musicians including students, alumni, music faculty and President Peter Stoicheff. [https://artsandscience.usask.ca/news/articles/5205/ Together with a common purpose USask alumni unite for One V](https://artsandscience.usask.ca/news/articles/5205/Together_with_a_common_purpose_USask_alumni_unite_for_One_V)

The U of S Jazz Ensemble had a busy year performing at the Bassment, alongside the Greystone Singers, U of S Wind Orchestra (Play It Forward joint ensemble concert), Saskatoon Youth Jazz Orchestra (Quance Theatre term 1 finale concert), Stone Frigate Big Band (Manhattan Ballroom Dance), touring Saskatchewan with guest artist Ross Ulmer (Trombone), and, premiering a new work by B.Mus. grad Silas Friesen entitled *The Seeking* <place link to Silas' tune here when it is ready>

Highlights from last academic year included visiting guest artists Bobby Shew and Michelle Grégoire.



Check these jazz videos for more information:

1) Jazz area Spring 2020 'in review' video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u3SXHbpd2_I

2) Recent UofS Jazz Ensemble alumni tribute to front line CoVid-19 workers video
On The Sunny Side Of The Street: <https://youtu.be/qglavTka2As>

The Music Theatre Ensemble has had a very successful run of productions in recent years including Broadway medley shows featuring music of Kurt Weill, and another program called **Magic, Mystery, and Fairy Tales**, wherein the students directed each other in solo songs, and then also featured scenes from **Mozart's Die Zauberflöte**. These shows always expose the ample vocal and theatrical talent we have in our department. We were saddened by the lost opportunity to present Menotti's **The Old Maid and the Thief** when classes were closed in March 2020 due to the CoVid crisis. We hope to try to remount our production in some way as classes are able to resume.



University and Community Chorus: What an extraordinary season for University and Community Chorus! Our fall term schedule was filled to overflowing with tremendous learning and performing opportunities, thanks to the exuberant vision and lobbying of Dr. Jennifer Lang. As fast paced as it was, we are so thankful to have had these opportunities, as the winter season and concert were cut short due to the pandemic.

We were challenged by **Dr. Jim Sparks** at a clinic during the **uSing uSask Choral Festival** in October. We sang the Copland Collection with the Greystone Singers accompanied by U of S Wind orchestra at the Cathedral of the Holy Family. Our concert with Greystone Singers was held in November at Knox United. The highlight of the term was singing A Child's Christmas in Wales with the SSO. All felt the thrill of having "nailed it". Through it all we were led to choral excellence by our dedicated director James Hawn and accompanists Karen Reynaud and Deborah Buck.

University Chorus Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eK-EcGWCFw&t=6s>



The U of S Concert Band under the direction of **Dr. Gillis** is the non-auditioned instrumental group and is mainly comprised of non-music majors. The CB rehearses a variety of wind band repertoire once per week and at the end of each semester the ensemble performs in a high school (fall 2019 at Bethlehem HS) and a final concert on campus.



"We Are One In Community"

EDST reimaged! The normal version of Music Education Student Teaching (referred to as EDST) required a substantive reconceptualization to maximise its impact during the COVID-19 pandemic. Normally our pre-service music education students would be assigned to work with master teachers in schools for either a one-week observation or a three-week practical placement. Given the current state of affairs, we delivered meaningful and practical professional development experiences remotely for these students. This included sessions with invited guests from across Saskatchewan and beyond.

While these video chats cannot replace the practical experience of being in a classroom, we have been thrilled with each and every guest that has joined the EDST cohort to talk about a wide variety of topics relating to music education. Guests have included Jennifer McAllister, Bill Kristjanson, Carol Beynon, Jason Caslor, Colin Elliot, Dawn McLean-Belyk, Colleen Richardson, Christa Macbride and Andra Wist.

Thank you **Dr. Oehlerking** and **Dr. Lang** for working so hard to reimagine our EDST this Spring in exciting new ways!

uSing uSask - In 2017, **Dr. Jennifer Lang** founded the University of Saskatchewan Choral Festival, uSing uSask, which welcomes choral ensembles of all ages and stages near and far to experience a workshop with a guest clinician and to participate in a mass rehearsal and choral celebration concert. Each year we have reached our registration capacity and have sung collectively to a packed Convocation Hall. In past years, Dr. Carol Beynon, Dr. Janet Brenneman, and Dr. Jim Sparks have been featured clinicians. Our 2020-2021 festival welcomes Dr. Elroy Friesen.



UNIFEST Reimagined: Our third iteration of UNIFEST reimagined took place in November, and we welcomed Mr. Bill Kristjanson from Winnipeg as our Guest Facilitator. We were thrilled to hold the festival in facilities at both the U of S and Centennial Collegiate. It was great to celebrate community and music-making with bands ranging from Grade 7 through Grade 12 - Yay Band!



Chief Whitecap School band, directed by **Nick Fanner**, participating at UNIFEST fall 2019. Special Thanks to Centennial Collegiate for allowing us to use their space!

The 17th Annual University of **Saskatchewan High School Select Wind Orchestra** was another great success involving nearly 130 high school students representing 29 high schools from around the Province, held January 31-February 2, 2020.



Saskatoon Youth Orchestra Inc. continues to make its home at the UofS Department of Music, rehearsing weekly in the education building and enjoying a strong partnership with the university that includes 6 Department of Music instructors serving on the youth orchestra coaching staff. 94 young musicians met every week this season between the Saskatoon Youth Orchestra and our junior string group the Saskatoon Strings. In addition to strong ties with the UofS, the SYO has 4 current members who also play professionally with the Saskatoon Symphony. Over the past 10 years at least 15 young musicians from the SYO have gone onto positions in the Saskatoon Symphony. The SYO is a musical home for musicians ages 10-25 and includes many Department of Music students as well as UofS students pursuing non-music studies.



For the past 22 years the DoM has held an annual big band dance fundraiser. In February 2020 this dance held at the **Manhattan Ballroom** included 600 dancers(!) with music provided by the **Saskatoon Youth Jazz Orchestra**, The U of S Jazz Ensemble and the Stone Frigate Big Band. A special thanks to the musicians in the jazz ensemble and the Greystone Singers and Wind Orchestra Executive teams who helped organize this friend-raising project. The theme for the dance was a masquerade ball (most people wore a mask over their eyes not their mouth!).



The 15th annual **DoM High School Select-Jazz workshop** was held in the fall of 2019 with 45 students from the greater Saskatoon area participating. Special thanks to Long and McQuade music for supporting this initiative which inspired and connects upcoming talent to one another.

A brass quintet comprised of U of S brass instructors Dean McNeill, Dawn McLean Belyk & Arlene Shipplett and M.Mus. brass majors Aaron Bueckert and Erika Rybinski recently performed 7 school concerts for approximately 1800 pre university music students in Saskatchewan including the DoM's Collage concert in North Battleford in 2018. Thanks to the American Federation of Musicians and the Saskatoon Musician's Associations' Music Performers Trust Fund for supporting these educational concerts.



Dr. Amanda Lalonde visited public schools around Saskatoon this year to bring musicology into the elementary classroom. Along with research assistants Kennedy Kosheluk and Shannon Butler, she gave presentations on “Music and Nazi Germany,” which stemmed from the project on Heinz Moehn. In other classes, she presented her research on early hip hop flyers.

Amati Series: The Amati instruments are soon to be heard again! Stay tuned and visit our DoM web site in the months to come for more information about our Amati Concert Series. The series will feature international artists playing on the unique Amati instruments owned by the U of S.



Mysterious Barricades is an annual event now, during which a series of concerts are produced across Canada in consecutive sequence spanning some 15-18 hours in a single day. Performing artists gather in each venue to give support by their art to the cause of Suicide Prevention and Awareness on World Suicide Prevention Day in September. The U of S has been part of this effort since 2016 as faculty, students and community artists lend their talent to this most worthy cause. Visit <https://www.mysteriousbarricades.org/> for information. The DoM cherishes the opportunity to continue to contribute to programs like Mysterious Barricades that serve our community and the world via the Performing Arts.

The Elixir Ensemble (Prof. Kathleen Solose, pianist and Artistic Director), gave two concerts of chamber music for piano and strings at Emmanuel Church, Saskatoon. The programs included piano quartets and quintets by Howells, Mozart, Hatzis, Walton and Ravel. elixirensemble.com

The **University of Saskatchewan Saxophone Ensemble**, an extension of Dr. Gillis' saxophone studio continues to be active each year. In February 2019 the ensemble performed at the North American Saxophone Regional 9 Conference at the University of Lethbridge, and last fall they performed at Lakeland College in Lloydminster to a full audience of junior high and high school students.



Do you hear what I hear? The Sweetwater Fanfare composed by DoM sessional instructor and co-director of the Strata Music Festival Paul Suchan. The video of this trumpet trio showcases the beautiful water-inspired landscape of Saskatchewan. It was recorded by Guy Few, Dean McNeill and Aaron Bueckert: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b5cMeR351BM>.

North Saskatchewan Wind Symphony: Last summer marked the 15th annual meeting of the North Saskatchewan Wind Symphony, comprised of 50+ invited players from Saskatoon and the surrounding communities. Each year in late August the NSWS performs a variety of classic and contemporary works for wind band, and also features soloists and guest conductors from within the ensemble.



Aurora Voice is an exciting new project created and directed by Dr. Jennifer Lang. It is a project choir available to Greystone Singers Alumni who have a strong background in choral singing. This choir encourages opportunities for Greystone Singers Alumni to continue singing challenging repertoire within a choral community. Aurora Voce performed in Saskatoon with the renowned Canadian vocal group, The Tenors during their 2019 Wonder of Christmas tour. The newly formed choir has also participated in the chorus of Holst's Planets with the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra and most recently alongside the Greystone Singers and SSO in the North American Premiere of Rebecca Dale's Materna Requiem.

Upcoming performances have been put on hold for the time being. Those invitations included participating in the SSO's Beethoven 250 Festival this May, the Nutrien Saskatoon Community Foundation Cultural Gala and University of Saskatchewan Homecoming performance in September, as well as Brahms's Requiem with the SSO during their 2020-2021 season.

Visit the following website and social media accounts for news and updates:

<https://auroravoce.wixsite.com/auroravoce/music-director>

Instagram: @auroravoce.sk, Facebook: @auroravocechoir



Like many outreach projects involving our DoM faculty the Saskatoon Jazz Orchestra (saskatoonjazzorchestra.com) provides an ongoing artistic platform to connect our departmental faculty to the community and vice versa all while enriching our community with important concert repertoire that would otherwise likely not be presented. For more information on the SJO's mission statement, past concert highlights check out the SJO's International Jazz Day video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oQdXmYt-Ms>.



As well if you like the idea of reimagined repertoire here is a link to the SSO/SJO's past **Nutcracker Suite collaboration** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=18COoPynrXI&t=315s>.

The DoM annually hosts many quality summer music camps in support of music education in our community. These camps include the Saskatchewan Band Association's Summer Band Camps, Saskatoon Brass Band's Prairie Music Residency, the SaskTel Saskatchewan Jazz Festival's Jazz Intensive camp and the Summer Strings camp. To keep everyone safe these summer 2020 camps have been suspended due to CoVid-19.

"Keeping Our Community Connections Strong"

Did you know that 3 past DoM faculty were award Saskatoon's Citizen of the Year (Dr. David Kaplan, Dr. Murray Adaskin and Gary Gullickson). We commit to honouring this community connection legacy.

Want to make a difference, donate to our U of S DoM-specific scholarship fund in which 100% of your donation is awarded directly to our students. To do this visit <https://www.usask.ca/> click "donate" >>> select "College of Arts and Science" >>> then say in the "comments" section that you wish your donation to go towards DoM students specifically. It's that easy!

“Stay Tuned”

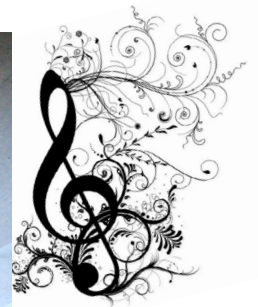
The DoM is working hard in this time of CoVid-19-related uncertainty to plan meaningful and appropriate music activities for the fall of 2020 and beyond. For updates on our plans please check out our web site at: <https://artsandscience.usask.ca/music/>.

Let us know how we are doing and what else you'd like to see in this quarterly newsletter by emailing us at music.department@usask.ca.



“What’s The Buzz & Pleased To Meet You”

For those interested attending the DoM next fall learn more about our auditions and scholarship programs at <https://artsandscience.usask.ca/music/>.



Rohanna M. Wheatley

<https://artsandscience.usask.ca/profile/RWheatley#/profile>

As the **Office Coordinator** for the **UofS, Department of Music**; I was delighted to take on this opportunity of designing and developing this 2020 DoM Newsletter. It has been quite some time since I have used my skills from my Graphic Artist, BA Degree. This project was a wonderful refresher and a bit of a learning curve all at the same time. I could happily spend many more hours tweaking it in Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign if time allotted.

Working for the **Department of Music** is a daily pleasure of mine. The Students, Faculty, Sessional Lecturers, the ASG Group are all amazing and brilliant individuals to be associated with year after year. It's truly an honour!