As the applause continued with great enthusiasm, the students’ faces lit up with joy and pride as each and every one of them had just successfully performed in front of a sold-out crowd. This was no ordinary recital for the UF School of Music students, who had just finished performing in one of the world’s most beautiful concert venues, the Marble Hall in Mirabell Palace located in Salzburg, Austria.

The Salzburg Music Study Abroad Program managed to secure another spot in the 2006 Salzburger Schlosskonzerte series, one of the largest concert series in the world with over 320 performances each year. This was due mainly to the success of this year’s final concert, which was a culminating event for students who completed 6 weeks of private study with faculty from the Mozarteum as well as Salzburg College.

Although Salzburg College has been hosting UF Music students since only the summer of 2003, the private college in Austria has hosted American students for over 30 years. Thirty students have participated in this Study Abroad program during the last three summers, and each year, students continue to stay with Austrian host families and eat home-cooked meals 3 times a day. Although the program continues to attract many students, the cost often is a difficult obstacle to overcome.

As a new school year starts, the recruitment of next year’s group is already in the works. Information sessions will be held throughout the fall semester. As the SOM continues to broaden the horizons of our music students in a different continent, we look forward to yet another successful final concert in the Marble Hall!

For more information and pictures on UF at Salzburg, please visit: http://www.arts.ufl.edu/music/advising/salz/

Marble Hall is Alive

with the Sound of Music
Greetings from the School of Music,
Another summer has passed, and we look forward to welcoming our new incoming freshmen music majors.

This year will begin our new graduate string quartet residency program. Three of the members of the string quartet Nuevo Mundo come to us from the New World School for the Arts to pursue graduate study. They are Luis Fernandez and Orlando Gomez, violinists, and Circe Diaz, cellist. Current graduate student Bosco Cardenas will assume the viola position. This program will establish a core of graduate string players that will serve the UF Symphony Orchestra, strengthen the string chamber music program, and allow the string faculty to recruit outstanding undergraduate and graduate string players to UF.

This spring construction begins on the first phase of the SOM building project, the Steinbrenner Band Hall. The architect firm of Zeidler Partnership Inc., who designed and built the new Maguire Pavilion for Theatre and Dance, has been selected to design this very important addition to the School of Music. It is the first of several phases planned for construction over the next few years as funding becomes available. Funding for the Band Hall is now in place, thanks to College of Fine Arts former Dean Donald McGlothlin, Interim Provost Joe Glover and UF President Bernard Machen as well as to many of you who have contributed to the project.

We continue this year to raise funds to support the Steinway initiative. Becoming an All-Steinway School is an important endorsement for the University. Keyboard study is at the core of every musician’s training, and to provide top quality keyboard instruments sets a standard that we, as faculty here in the School of Music, strive to achieve in all of our programs.

This past June, Donald McGlothlin stepped down as Dean of the College of Fine Arts after fifteen years of service. As music faculty, we extend to him our sincere appreciation for his leadership and support as Dean, and we welcome him as he returns to teaching as a member of the music faculty.

If you are not currently a member of Friends of Music, or you have been a member in the past, I urge you to join this vital group of music supporters. You will find enclosed in this issue an envelope that will allow you to make your generous donation. And upon doing so, all of us here in the School of Music extend our sincere appreciation for your interest and support.

Cordially,
Dr. John A. Duff, Director
School of Music
In May 2005, Kevin Orr traveled to mainland China where he performed and gave masterclasses at six different music schools. Most notably, he taught for two days in Beijing at the Central Conservatory of Music, widely considered as the top conservatory for piano study in all of China. Orr also gave a recital and taught for one week at the Sichuan Conservatory of Music in Chengdu, also considered to be one of China’s best music institutions.

Also in May, Orr’s studio produced the first and second prize winners of the 2005 Grey Perry Collegiate Solo Piano Competition, organized by the Florida State Music Teachers Association. The winner, Hae Suk La (Sophomore, BM Outside Field), and runner-up, Jocelyn Ho (Sophomore, BM Outside Field), were victorious over piano majors from four other universities in the state.

In June, Orr directed the 2005 University of Florida Young Pianists Festival, its fifth year in existence. Sixteen talented young pianists from around Florida came to the UF campus for one week of masterclasses, concerts, and private study. The week also included concert performances and masterclasses by five guest artists.

Jennifer Thomas’s article, “Patronage and Personal narrative in a Music Manuscript: Marguerite of Austria, Katherine of Aragon, and London Royal 8 G.vi,” was published in Many-headed Melodies: Musical Voices of Early Modern Women, edited by Thomasin LaMay with a Preface by Suzanne Cusick. The book was published by Aldershot/Ashgate Press. Thomas is also the President-Elect of Southern Chapter of the American Musicological Society.

David Kushner presented a lecture-recital on “Piano Music for Young People Through the Lenses of J.S. Bach, Schumann, Tchaikovsky, and Bloch” for the national conference of the 19th-Century Studies Association in Aiken, SC and Augusta, GA (March 10-12). Kushner was re-elected to a 3-year term on the Board of Directors of the 19th-Century Studies Association and his research paper, “Spanish Music Via the Lens of Manuel de Falla,” was presented at the International College Music Society conference in Madrid June 13-17. Also, Dr. Kushner’s biography will be included in the new edition of Who’s Who in Fine Arts Higher Education.

James Oliverio served as Artistic Director and Composer for the University of Florida Digital Worlds Institute’s large-scale, real-time global performing arts performance. Representing the musical cultures of Australia, Korea, Latin America, England and the USA. ‘Hands Across the Ocean: The Lost Chord’ features musicians, dancers, actors, engineers and video artists working together to create a multi-dimensional perspective on world music.

Audiences from around the world viewed the premiere of this distributed global collaboration “live” at each of the following partnering institutions: Doncaster College/Digital Knowledge Exchange (UK), the University of Florida/Digital Worlds Institute (USA), Queensland University/Australian Centre for Interactive Design (AUS), the Korean Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) and Miami’s New World School of the Arts. “Hands Across the Ocean: The Lost Chord” has been archived and is available for download at: http://www.digitalworlds.ufl.edu/projects/HAO.

Music by Paul Richards has been performed a number of times on campus this semester including premieres of ‘Supernova,’ composed for the University of Florida Symphony Orchestra and Dr. Raymond Chobaz, was premiered at the gala celebration of the 30th anniversary of the College of Fine Arts, and ‘Backwater Catfish,’ written for the University of Florida Wind Symphony and Dr. David Waybright, premiered at the American Bandmasters Association Conference. ‘Hypercube,’ for piano and percussion, was presented by Dr. Ken Broadway and Dr. Kevin Orr at the College Music Society conference and again on Dr. Broadway’s faculty recital, and ‘V’ha-eir Eineinu’ was performed by Dr. Arnold Irchay on his faculty recital. At the end of March and early April, Dr. Richards conducted the University of Florida New Music Ensemble in incidental music and songs he composed for the School of Theater and Dance production of Shakespeare’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.”

Kristen Stoner was quite active at the Florida Flute Association’s Annual Convention last Spring in Daytona Beach. She served as Program Chair, organizing the entire three-day event, which brought 552 flute teachers, performers, and students together from Florida, the Southeastern U.S., and across the nation. Stoner also performed four compositions during the convention, garnering a standing ovation for her performance of Mathieu-Andre Reichert’s “Fantasie Melancolique” during the “Fastest Fingers in Florida” recital.

Paul Koonce received performances of his eight-channel electroacoustic work Out of Breath in April at the Peck School of the Arts at the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, and of his work Afterglow by the NeXT ensemble, also in April, at the annual conference of the Society for Electroacoustic Music in the United States, held this year in Muncie, Indiana. In addition, his new work Adolescent Aulos was presented at the Florida Electroacoustic Music Festival.

In April, Anthony Offerle was the guest bass-baritone soloist for the Hilton Head Symphony and Choral Society’s presentation of their Musical Masterworks Concert – “Music of the British Isles.” In addition to works by Mendelssohn, Handel, and McCartney, the concert featured John Rutter’s Mass of the Children. He also served as the guest conductor and choral clinician for the Hillsborough County Schools (Tampa) All-County High School Jazz Ensemble and Choir Honor Festival. The choir performed six pieces, including the premiere of Dr. Russell Robinson’s new arrangement of I’m Beginning To See The Light.
SOM Welcomes New Faculty

The School of Music is pleased to welcome Professor Kenneth Martinson to the faculty as Assistant Professor of Viola. His responsibilities will include teaching applied viola and coaching string chamber music. Professor Martinson received his Master of Music degree from the Eastman School of Music and his Bachelor of Music from the University of Michigan. As a chamber musician, he has won numerous awards including first prizes at the Coleman, Carmel, MTNA and Yellow Springs competitions. He also was a winner of the 1993 Cleveland Quartet Competition as well as a prizewinner at the Bucchi International Competition in Rome and the WAMSO Competition in Minneapolis. As an orchestral musician, he has held principal chairs in the Toledo, Peoria, Lansing, Dubuque, and Santa Cruz symphonies. Professor Martinson has performed throughout the United States and Canada as well as Brazil, England, France, Iceland, Italy, Russia and Switzerland, and has been a featured guest artist at the 1999, 2002, and 2005 International Viola Congresses.

Suk-Jun Kim, doctoral student in composition, recently traveled to Bourges, France with the financial assistance from the Student Government of the University of Florida and the School of Music, to premiere his electroacoustic music composition, Kotmun A Gate of Flowers, at SYNTHESE Festival 2005, held in June 3-12, 2005.

Celebrating its 35th anniversary, SYNTHESE Festival 2005 is one of the three central activities to which the Institute de Musique Electroacoustique de Bourges (IMEB) has devoted itself during the many years of its illustrious history. An internationally acclaimed electroacoustic music institute, IMEB has also been promoting composers to write new electroacoustic music through its renowned electroacoustic music competition and commission programs.

Having been asked to write a new electroacoustic composition for SYNTHESE 2005, Kim initially visited IMEB last July 2004 to begin writing Kotmun. The work was completed during his first year of doctoral study at the University of Florida.

It is an important recognition for both Kim and the School of Music that Kim received this commission from such a highly regarded music institute as IMEB, a rare honor for a student, and premiered his composition at the SYNTHESE Festival 2005.

As a part of Concert Internationale Creative series, Kim’s piece was performed on Sunday night, June 5. It was originally scheduled to be played in the charming garden of the Palais Jacques Cœur, built in 1450, decorated with ornately carved, mysterious-looking, stone facades and sculptures. But, rain forced a quick shift of the venue to the Théâtre Jacques Cœur adjacent to the Palace where Kim’s piece was well received by the international audience who gave enthusiastic applause and bravos.

In addition, Suk-Jun Kim’s electroacoustic composition What the Bird Saw, composed in the Fall of 2004, was selected for inclusion on two upcoming CD recordings: Music from SEAMUS Volume 15 and ICMC 2005 CD. Both CDs document a selection of the best works selected for presentation at respective conferences of the Society for Electroacoustic Music in the United States (SEAMUS), held in Munice Indiana last Spring, and the International Computer Music Association taking place in September in Barcelona Spain.

New Associate Interim Dean Named

Dr. Russell L. Robinson, Professor of Music and Area Head for Music Education, has accepted an appointment to serve as Interim Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs for the UF College of Fine Arts for the 2005-2006 academic year. Dr. Barbara Korner, former Associate Dean, will serve as Interim Dean while the College of Fine Arts conducts a national search for a permanent Dean to replace retired Dean Donald McGlothlin.

Dr. Robinson is the 2005-2008 recipient of the UF Research Foundation Professorship for the College of Fine Arts. In the spring of 2005, he was the University-wide recipient of the UF College of Education’s Scholarship of Engagement award, which recognizes honorees “whose scholarly activities are yielding an immediate positive impact on teaching and learning in the classroom.” Also, in the Spring of 2005, Dr. Robinson was the guest clinician for the California, Kentucky, and Tennessee Music Educators Associations, and the Eastern Division Music Educators Conference in Baltimore. He was the conductor of the South Carolina All-State High School Choir, where the group premiered one of his new choral compositions, May the Music Live On, published by Heritage Music Press. In addition, he served as adjudicator for numerous national music festivals including Showstoppers in New York City, and Festival Disney at Walt Disney World in Orlando.

In the summer of 2005, Dr. Robinson gave clinics and workshops in Las Vegas, Winston-Salem, Des Moines, Indianapolis and the University of South Dakota. In the fall of 2005, he will give workshops in the US, Japan, and Germany for music teachers Department of Defense schools, and will be the featured music clinician for the Association of International Schools in Africa (AISA) in Cameroon, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. In 2005, he had 29 choral compositions and arrangements published by Warner Bros. Publications, Alfred Publishing, Belwin Publications, Carl Fischer Publishing, Shawnee Press, and Heritage Music Press. Eight of Dr. Robinson’s madrigal arrangements were featured in the national Choral Journal in the July 2005 issue in an article entitled, Renaissance Repertoire for Middle Schools by Professor Abigail Butler, Wayne State University, and Professor Vicki Lind, UCLA.
The University of Florida, School of Music hosted a one-week residency by internationally acclaimed German clarinetist, Karl Leister. This special event marked the first time in his illustrious career that Mr. Leister has been in residence in North America.

The idea for the residency came from University of Florida clarinet professor, Mitchell Estrin. Professor Estrin and a group of his students attended the 2001 ICA ClarinetFest in New Orleans, where Mr. Leister was a featured performer. An invitation to Mr. Leister to visit the University of Florida soon followed. The itinerary was carefully planned over a period of two years and included seven different events. The residency was generously funded by a consortium of sponsors which included: The University of Florida President’s Visiting Artist Series, College of Fine Arts Dean Donald McGlothlin, University of Florida Performing Arts, Dr. David Waybright and the University Bands, Dr. Martin Fackler and Mrs. Shelley Melvin, Vandoren/Dansr, and Herbert Wurlitzer Woodwind Instrument Makers.

The premiere performance took place on Sunday, March 6, 2005 in the historic University Auditorium on the campus of the University of Florida. Mr. Leister performed the Brahms Clarinet Quintet in B-minor, opus 115 with the celebrated Leipzig String Quartet. Mr. Leister is specially known for his sublime interpretation of this monumental work and has recorded the quintet six times (most recently with the Leipzig Quartet). The performance was indescribably beautiful, with Mr. Leister’s gorgeous tone and impeccable phrasing enveloped by the warm and rich timbre of the Leipzigers. An extended standing ovation from the 400 member audience followed the remarkable performance.

Mr. Leister’s recital took place on Tuesday, March 8, 2005 in the University Auditorium. Just prior to the recital, Mr. David Gould, representing Vandoren/Dansr, displayed a selection of clarinet mouthpieces, ligatures, and literature in the Friends of Music Room, located in the concert hall. The program began at 6:00 with an introspective reading of the Schumann Phantasiestücke, opus 73. This was followed by the intriguing “When the Wind Turns” for clarinet solo (1989) by Ulf Allgulin. Following the performance, Mr. Leister told the audience that his purpose for performing this work was to “warm-up the B-flat clarinet for the Mendelssohn!” The Mendelssohn Concertpiece No. 2, opus 114 followed, with Mitchell Estrin performing the second clarinet part alongside Mr. Leister. Many audience members remarked about the incredible blend that was achieved between the performers, despite the obvious difference in instrument. Mr. Leister performs on a German-system instrument made by Herbert Wurlitzer and Mr. Estrin on a French-system instrument made by Buffet Crampon. After intermission, Mr. Leister gave a thoughtful and seamless performance of the Brahms Sonata No. 2 in E-Flat major, opus 120. After a prolonged standing ovation, Mr. Leister presented an encore, a lovely and reflective Romanze by Max Reger. Words are entirely inadequate to describe the consummate artistry displayed by Mr. Leister. His clarinet playing is as close to perfection as humanly possible and his musicianship was inspiring. Absolute beauty of tone, subtle phrasing, and seamless legato are the hallmarks of this remarkable performer.

Concurrent with Mr. Leister’s residency, the University of Florida hosted the American Bandmasters Association 71st Annual Convention. The UF Wind Symphony performed the opening concert of the convention with Mr. Leister as the featured soloist in the Weber Concertino, opus 26 on Thursday, March 9. UF Director of Bands, Dr. David Waybright, had a new arrangement of the Weber commissioned specially for the occasion. The arrangement, prepared by John Laverty, utilized a “harmonic ensemble” type of instrumentation and was most effective. Mr. Leister thrilled the audience by performing the original cadenza composed by Heinrich Baermann. The cadenza was recently rediscovered by the eminent English clarinet scholar, Pamela Weston.

Mr. Leister was honored by the American Bandmasters Association at their general membership meeting on the morning of March 9. He was introduced to the membership by ABA President, Jerry Junkin, offered a few opening remarks, and then fielded questions from the membership. After the meeting he was whisked off to the University Auditorium, where he presented two two-hour masterclasses.

When the students were finished performing, Mr. Leister presented Professor Estrin with an autographed copy of his new edition of the Mozart Clarinet Concerto, published by Edizioni “Eufonia”. The final portion of the second masterclass was devoted to a question and answer session with the audience. Mr. Leister elaborated on many of the pedagogical concepts he had presented during the classes. He also told some interesting and amusing stories, and offered many philosophical pearls of wisdom regarding practicing, performing, and being a musician. He is truly a master teacher and was an inspiration to all in attendance.

It was truly an incredible week filled with musical memories that will last a lifetime.
With an emphasis on student performance opportunities, community outreach, and building for the future, the 2004-2005 UF Opera Theatre season was exciting. The year culminated in a two-hour opera scenes program titled *Opera à la Carte, A Showcase*. Forty singers performed featured excerpts from Mozart’s *Die Zauberflöte*, Bizet’s *Carmen*, Gilbert and Sullivan’s *The Pirates of Penzance* and *The Mikado*, and Weber’s *Der Freischütz*. The performance in the University Auditorium was well attended and audience members enjoyed the fine singing as well as the beautiful costumes and staging by Director of Opera, Dr. Anthony Offerle (Associate Professor of Music), and Mr. Tony Mata (Associate Professor of Theatre). Collaborative efforts between the two areas within the College of Fine Arts included not only the Opera Showcase in which the members of the GatorTones were an integral part but also the highly successful fall production of Cole Porter’s *Anything Goes* in which many music majors performed.

In addition to the mainstage performance, the Opera Theatre performed in a number of venues outside the University. In the fall, the UF Opera Outreach performed their touring production for a number of prominent high schools and four-year colleges within the state. They also performed highlights from *Carmen* at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts as part of the opera preview in February. The opera workshop students, in part to raise funds for future opera development on campus, produced the hilarious comic opera *Too Many Sopranos* in the early summer. Also this summer, among the UF opera singers finding professional engagements were soprano, Katie Zerr and baritone, Nicholas Pallesen both students of Dr. Elizabeth Graham. Ms. Zerr was hired to sing in the mountains of North Carolina at the well-known Farm House Inn where she performed in numerous reviews of both opera and classical music theatre repertoire. Mr. Pallesen was contracted by the award winning OperaEstate to perform the lead role of Count Almaviva in Mozart’s *Le Nozze di Figaro* in Rome, Italy. Dr. Anthony Offerle also sang with the OperaEstate performing the role of Don Bartolo in *Figaro* and serving on the voice faculty of the group’s training program, the Operafestival di Roma, where he taught talented vocal musicians from the US and Europe.

Plans are underway for the fall and spring 2005-2006 UF Opera Theatre season. They will include numerous performances throughout Florida and the Southeast. The high point will be the spring production, Saints and Sinners: Puccini’s *Suor Angelica* and Moore’s *The Devil and Daniel Webster*. Tickets go on sale in early January with performances in the UF Constans Theatre, February 23-26.

Specifically during the 2004-2005 academic year there were 15 presentations, with 9 additional programs during the two summer terms in 2005. Among the visiting scholars over the past two academic years were Roger Kamien (Hebrew University), David Schiller (University of Georgia), Claire Detels (University of Arkansas), John Robison (University of South Florida), Robin Armstrong (McDaniel College), Andreas Giger (Louisiana State University), Scott Warfield (University of Central Florida), Martha Ellen Davis (Gainesville, FL), Charles Michael Carroll (St. Petersburg, FL), and Thomas Schmidt-Beste (University of Heidelberg). Graduate student presenters, and graduates of the Ph.D. program, include Sarah Satterfield, Frederick Key Smith, Patrick G. Smith, Sonya Gable-Wilson, Christopher Cary, Emily Bell, Christina Reitz, David Goldblatt, Amy Zigler, Aaron Kebaugh, Gary Galván, Brian Holder, Samantha Barnsfather, Sunni Witmer, Michelle Chang, and Jack Forbes.

Students and faculty appear regularly at major professional conferences including the
his summer, School of Music student Nicholas Pallesen participated in one of Italy’s more respected summer apprentice programs, the Operafestival di Roma. This program selects some of the United State’s finest young singers and sends them to Rome for a month to have intense instruction in voice, diction, stage technique, and Italian language. In addition, the apprentices have the opportunity to work in masterclass with some of the finest voice teachers and opera personnel in the country. The culmination of the program is the performance of a fully staged, fully costumed opera with orchestra in the beautiful courtyard of the historic St. Ivo alla Sapienza church near Piazza Navona in the heart of Rome.

After a series of nationwide auditions, Nicholas was chosen to perform the role of Count Almaviva in Mozart’s masterpiece Le Nozze di Figaro. This role is one of the largest in the baritone repertory, and Nicholas spent several weeks learning and polishing the role here at UF prior to leaving for Italy.

The event was a success - the performances were sold out and well received. Nicholas said, “I was so honored to attend this amazing program. It was such a treat to perform with a cast of some of the best young singers in the country. Everyone was so talented, and the high-quality performers made the opera lots of fun and a tremendous musical experience. I had a blast playing the Count. He is probably one of the more complex male characters in opera, and I loved being able to fine tune the details of the music and characterization with the staff in Rome. I learned so much from the directors, conductors, coaches, other singers, and teachers. In just a few weeks, I made such great strides as an actor, singer, and a musician. I will never forget this summer and how it changed my life”.

Nicholas completed his coursework at UF this summer and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music with a Performance Certificate in Voice. He was a student of Dr. Elizabeth Graham, who Nicholas calls “one of the greatest angels ever put in my life. I am so grateful to Dr. Graham for all she has taught me. My voice made significant strides because of her teaching and ideas. I can’t even describe how much I learned from her. Every success I had here at UF is thanks to her work with me and her determination to help me succeed. I feel so much better prepared for the ‘real world’ because of her professional insights. I am so lucky to have her as a teacher and a friend”.

This fall, Nicholas will begin a new chapter in his young career as he begins a Master’s Degree in Voice at Florida State University. We certainly wish him the best and know we will hear his name and voice for many years to come!
The new UF Football Coach Urban Meyer is hoping to make the Gator Marching Band a part of the post-game routine. The Band will surround the team on the field, play the alma mater, and then sing the fight song with the team and the student body.

Michael Holley presented Marcela DeFaria (BM, ’07) and Melanie Driscoll (BME, ’06) with 2005 Rich Holley Memorial Scholarship during the Awards Convocation last April. Both students are from the flute studio of Dr. Kristen Stoner.

Joel Brown (BM, ’06) and Stephanie Mair (MM, ’06) were the recipients of this year’s Grissom/Rosolino Trombone Award. UF Professor Emeritus Eugene Grissom, generous founder of the award, continues to support the UF trombone studio. The award was established last year in memory of the late jazz trombone virtuoso Frank Rosolino.

DID YOU KNOW?

Choir performs Carmina Burana at the Municipal House, Smetana Hall in Downtown Prague.

After nineteen-years at Utah State University, Dr. Will Kesling begins his forth year as Director of Choral Activities at the University of Florida. Before coming to Florida, his choirs received international attention and have made multiple appearances at both national and divisional conventions for the American Choral Directors Association. We are proud to announce that the University of Florida Chamber Singers will make their debut appearance under Dr. Kesling’s direction at the American Choral Directors Association Southern Division in Charleston, West Virginia on February 25, 2006.

In tandem with his academic career, Dr. Kesling has conducted hundreds of choral ensembles and fifty professional symphony orchestras throughout the world. His talents for weaving together text and music, chorus and orchestra have garnered him international respect. A recent Washington Post concert review sums his abilities in two words: “clear professionalism.” Dr. Kesling has conducted a number of engagements in Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, as well as in major concert halls internationally. He served a stint as the Associate Conductor of the Manhattan Philharmonic Orchestra and has served as the Principal Guest Conductor of the St. Petersburg State Symphony Orchestra, Russia.

This past Spring Semester Dr. Kesling returned to the podium of the National Philharmonic Orchestra (March) at the new, state-of-the-art Center for the Performing Arts at Strathmore in Bethesda, Maryland. Debut appearances included the Louisiana Symphony (April) in New Orleans and the Victoria Symphony (April) in British Columbia, Canada.

In June in Prague, Dr. Kesling conducted the Czech National Orchestra in Respighi’s Pines of Rome and was joined by the Prague Chamber Choir on Orff’s Carmina Burana. Smetana Hall was sold out, and the performance received a rare standing, screaming ovation by the European audience. As a result of his growing list of conducting successes in Prague, Dr. Kesling was just named the Music Director and Conductor of the Czech Symphony Orchestra.

Dr. Kesling spent part of the month of July in Beijing, Peoples Republic of China, as a guest of the Minister of Culture. Discussions regarding his guest conducting in China and dialogue regarding musical activities at the 2010 World’s Fair in Beijing were undertaken.

In recognition of his work at home and abroad, Dr. Kesling has been awarded The Congressional Order of Merit by the Congress of the United States of America and has just received the Ronald Reagan Medal.

Annual FMEA Alumni Reception will be held at Champions in the Tampa Marriott Waterside on January 6, 2006.
SHAWN BARAT: Finding the Wealth in Teaching

Music is not where the money is. That is what Shawn Barat (BME, '95 and MM, '00) knew upon entering the University of Florida in the fall of 1990. And that is why he decided to be a communication major. Although he loved playing his trombone, and had a wonderful high school band experience, he knew that band directors didn't make big money. So he would go to UF to become a television news anchor, and play in the Gator Band...that way, he would get the best of both worlds.

But by the time he entered his first spring term, he had changed his major to Music Education. “I think I knew deep down when I left high school that I wanted to be a band director, I just had to figure out what was more important...money or doing what I loved. After one semester of playing in the UF bands, I just knew I wanted to be in music every day.” Switching to music major status wouldn't be easy, as Shawn was already a semester behind other freshman majors in music theory, and he had never auditioned for the trombone studio. “I had to race to prepare an audition, and I wasn't exactly an All-State trombonist coming out of high school.”

As a music major, some of Shawn's fondest memories of UF have been shared with friends and fellow band members. Saturday football games, evening Jazz Band rehearsals, tours with the Wind Symphony, and pledging Phi Mu Alpha were a big part of shaping Shawn's time at UF. Meeting Gary Langford would be an important moment on his road to future success. "I'll never forget being in the music building on Sunday afternoons and seeing Langford in his office at the keyboard, working on another great 'Gary Langford arrangement' for marching band. I have always admired his work ethic and his incredible arranging ability. We had some great talks about music and band over those five years. I also picked up a lot of his mannerisms that are still a part of my teaching!"

Another key moment toward Shawn's future success was his teaching internship in Gainesville with the Buchholz High School Band and its directors Paula Thornton and Vicki Nolan. “I took in everything I saw...rehearsal techniques, teaching styles, expectations for musical achievement and behavior, and their rapport with their students. They gave me every opportunity to be involved in the program.” To this day, Shawn is proud to say that much of the success he's had in his band programs is due largely to what he's learned from these two very successful teachers. When asked about his teaching, Ms. Thornton said, “Shawn personifies the word intensity. His musical maturity and teaching effectiveness is way beyond his years. His service to his students and to his profession is exemplary.”

As a new, young band director, Shawn's first job was with a small band program at Ocala-Forest High School. While teaching there, Shawn met Duane Hendon, Executive Director of the Florida Bandmasters Association, who, at the time, was a middle school band director in Ocala. As an experienced teacher, Duane became someone Shawn looked to for advice.

“Shawn was always picking my brain or looking anywhere to find out the best way to do something. I'll never forget Shawn's second year at Forest when the band went to state and got a rating of 'good'. Shawn was crushed. Instead of going home and crying about it or complaining about the judges, he listened to the tapes, and rather than waiting until next year to work on their suggestions, he started immediately to make improvements. That was a turning point in his career. His bands have never made anything less than a superior rating at state since.”

Shawn decided to leave Ocala in 1998 to return to his “favorite town in Florida” to get his Master's Degree in Instrumental Conducting with Dr. David Waybright. While back at UF, Shawn was given some great opportunities to teach classes and work with several ensembles. Among other things, Shawn was assigned to teach the undergraduate Brass Skills course, where he taught undergraduate music majors not only how to play brass instruments, but how to teach them in a band setting.

“It was so great to return to Gainesville, to study with Dr. Waybright, to meet and work with Dr. James Morrow (Director of Choral Activities at the time), to be back working with the Buchholz Band and to be back in the university setting. I miss all of that a lot.” The other great part of graduate school was meeting his wife Alison, who was a graduate student in Choral Conducting at the time. They were married in upstate New York in 2003.

When he graduated in 2000, Shawn accepted a job in Polk County at Winter Haven High School where he directs the Symphonic, Concert, and Jazz Bands, the "Pride of Winter Haven" Marching Band, and teaches Advanced Placement Music Theory. For the past 4 years, the band program has been awarded the prestigious Otto J. Kraushaar Award for yearlong superior ratings at all Florida Bandmasters Association assessments.

Shawn's Symphonic Band has performed by invitation at the FMEA Conference in Tampa in 2004, the Stetson University Invitational Band Festival in 2004, and at the Bands of America National Concert Band Festival in Indianapolis in 2005. The Symphonic Band has just been invited to perform at the College Band Directors National Association/National Band Association Convention in Nashville in the spring of 2006. In two years, his Advanced Placement Music Theory students have amassed an amazing 93% passing rate on the AP exam.

“I have not always been sure, at the time, that my decisions to go to UF, Ocala, return to UF and then come to Winter Haven were the right choices. But in each situation, I’ve met some very special people who helped guide my teaching. I’ve worked very hard and continued on page 12
JUSTIN STOLARIK (BME ’02) is currently finishing up his Masters in Percussion Performance at the University of Texas at Austin and plans to stay for his doctorate. Justin is a teaching assistant for the Longhorn Band where he conducts woodwind sectionals and teaches drill. He is also a member of the Wind Ensemble which premiered John Corigliano’s “Circus Maximus” in Carnegie Hall in February 2005. In addition to school, Justin teaches two high school marching band front lines.

EMILY THILLMAN (BME ’03) has recently become chorus director at Christa McAuliffe Middle School in Boynton Beach, FL.

SARAH HELFELDT (BM ’03) is currently working on a Master of Music in Vocal Performance at the University of South Florida in Tampa. She performed the role of Adele in the Spring 2005 production of Johann Strauss’ “Die Fledermus.”

After 15 years as choir director at Lyman High School, DIANNA CAMPBELL (BME ’89) is now the Director of Choral Activities at Seminole Community College in Sanford. Dianna recently stepped down as Choir Director at Central Christian Church after twelve years. She is still living in Central Florida with husband, Scott, and five year old son, Austin.

JASON GIBSON (BA ’00) is a first year doctoral student and teaching assistant at Florida State University. His focus is on 19th and 20th century American Culture and History.

BETH HAULMAN (BME ’04) is teaching K-5 at First Academy, a small Baptist School in Leesburg.

BILL PIRZER (BM ’01) is currently band director at North Marion High School.

LORI PIRZER (BM ’00) is band director at Oak View Middle School.

EVERETT MCCOWN is currently band director at Fort Clark Middle School.

JENNIFER HOOSIER (BME ’00) moved to China in August, 2004 and now teaches English at a university in Lanzhou, PRC. Her classes are full of college students who are majoring in English, and adults who wish to improve their spoken English.

MICHAE L DUFF (’76) is currently music director of the Broadway-Asia tour of “The Sound of Music.” This production runs for one year and will play major cities in China, Taiwan, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, and Singapore.

LIND ARCHIPOV (ERICKSON) (BA ’95, MM ’99) and her husband, Vadim, live in Tampa, FL. Lind works at the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center in fundraising. They have two daughters, Alexandra (2) and Anika, who was born in November 2004.

CARLA G. GEIGER (’91 BME, ’05 MM) is pursuing a Ph.D. in music education at the University of Washington in Seattle, with an assistantship with the UW athletic bands.

R. LYNNE TYNER REDMON is principal cellist of COSMIC (Chamber Orchestra of Southern Maryland in Concert), plays with Londontowne Symphony Orchestra, and is an analyst for Anteon Corporation in Annandale, Virginia.

JOHN (JJ) WATTS, IV (BA ’02) and Sarah Greene-Watts (UF ’04) were married in December 2004. John is currently pursuing his doctorate in pharmacy at the University of Maryland and Sara is completing her doctorate in Audiology at Gallaudet University in Washington, DC.

DEBRA (MANNA) TRAFICANTE (BME ’01) accepted a position as the Assistant Band Director at Buchholz High School in Gainesville, Florida.

RYAN FORD (BM ’02) earned his Masters degree in Music Performance and is currently pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the Hartt School of Music at the University of Hartford.

CHRISTINE JAMES (BA ’96) spent the last 8 years as a flight attendant for Delta Airlines and last 4 seasons singing with the Orlando Opera.

MICHAEL BOVENZI (BM ’99, MM ’02) is currently an adjunct faculty at the University of North Florida, teaching Saxophone, music theory, and music technologies. He was just named the Director of Public Relations for the Music Department. He is also working on a doctorate at the University of Illinois.

JODY (SANGIOVANNI) HALTEMAN (BM ’98) is currently teaching vocal music at Sparta Alpine Elementary School in Sparta, NJ, where she directs the choir and a musical theatre troupe. She is married and has a son named Zachary.

JONATHAN SWETT (BM ’03) is currently serving as the Director of Music at St. Paul Lutheran Church and School in Oak Lawn, IL after receiving his Master’s degree in Church Music from Concordia University in River Forest, IL.

ELIZABETH (PIXLEY) DAVIDSON (BME ’04) married Brian Davidson (UF ’03) on December 18, 2004. They live in Lexington, KY where Elizabeth teaches music at Squires Elementary School, grades K-5.

SHIRLEY SANTOS (BME ’00) is currently teaching general music, band and chorus at a middle school in Canterbury, CT.

COMPOSITION ALUMNI Notes

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ALUMNI NOTES
Friends of Music is commencing a new and exciting year. The College of Fine Arts is under new leadership with the appointment of Barbara Korner, Ph.D. as interim dean. Recently retired dean, Don McGlothlin, has moved from ex officio member to active member on the Board of the Friends of Music. We welcome Chris Machen as an ex officio member.

Our organization supports scholarships for the School of Music. This past academic year two students, Jacqueline Wright and Nicholas Pallesen (BA, ’05), were awarded Friends of Music Scholarships for opportunities they otherwise would not have had. Jacqueline attended the London Conducting Workshop held by the Royal College of Music and Nicholas sang the role of Count Almaviva in Le Nozze di Figaro with the Operafestival di Roma.

We invite all to take a moment and fill out the return envelope enclosed with this Encore and become a member of the Friends of Music for the 2005-2006 academic year. Announcements and invitations will be mailed to all Friends of Music members of upcoming member events to acknowledge your generosity. Your tax-deductible gifts will be truly appreciated and properly recognized.

Thank you,
Cindi Catlin and Margaret Maples Gilliland
Co-Presidents

Please call June Hall at (352) 392-0223 x333 for more information or mail your donation to the School of Music, University of Florida, P.O. Box 117900, Gainesville, FL 32611-7900.

Friends of Music
Co-Presidents
Cindi Catlin and Margaret Maples Gilliland

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Continuing scholarship support is of paramount importance to the School of Music. Named, permanently endowed scholarships can be established for as little as $20,000 which ensures an annual scholarship of $1,000 in perpetuity. At the $100,000 level, the State of Florida provides a $50,000 match for a gift total of $150,000.

Of course, we welcome gifts in any amount, as all scholarship contributions are important to us and make a difference in our efforts to attract and keep quality students. If you wish to make a gift, send your check, made out to THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA FOUNDATION, to University of Florida School of Music. Contributions at any level automatically entitle you to a membership in the Friends of Music. To become a member of the Friends of Music please call June Hall at (352) 392-0223 x333 for more information or mail your donation to the School of Music, University of Florida, PO. Box 117900, Gainesville, FL 32611-7900.

For information or assistance with endowments, bequests and/or estate planning, contact Ms. Peg Richardson, Development Director for the College of Fine Arts, at (352) 846-1211, or write to her in care of the UF Foundation, PO. Box 14425. Gifts are eligible for a charitable education contribution.
learned so much from each experience, and all of those things have contributed to my current success. I feel very fortunate to have been in the right place at the right time.”

Frank Howes (BME, ’70), Senior Director of Fine Arts for Polk County Schools, had this to say about Shawn’s teaching: “Shawn has a definite passion for music education. From student commitment to parent involvement, every aspect of his program is of the highest quality. He establishes the bar for our band directors in Polk County and is highly regarded in the band field throughout Florida. When we speak of rigor, relevance and results in our school district, Shawn Barat comes immediately to mind.”

Shawn is not a millionaire. He decided in his early days at UF to follow his heart, study music, and become a teacher, band director, role model and mentor. The respect that his students have for him is incomprehensible, and although teaching has not made him a wealthy man, his life has been made richer being able to teach music and be a positive influence in the lives of young people.