

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF MUSIC

presents

**The 2015–2016
Spring Honors Assembly**

Recognition of Student Achievements

Recognition of Graduating Students

Recognition of Faculty and
Faculty Achievements

MTSU School of Music
Distinguished Alumni Awards

Remarks by

Dr. Mark Byrnes

Dean, College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Michael Parkinson

Director, School of Music

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

11:30 a.m.

T. Earl Hinton Music Hall, Wright Music Building

Program

Prelude	MTSU Jazz Trio
Alex Keiss, guitar; Spencer Stevens, saxophone; Patrick Atwater, bass	
Welcome and Introduction	Dr. Michael Parkinson, Director, School of Music
Greetings from the School of Music Advisory Council	Garrett Doo, President
Remarks	Dr. Mark Byrnes, Dean, College of Liberal Arts
Recognition of Student Achievements	
Music Scholarships and Assistantships	
College of Liberal Arts Awards	
Competitions, summer festivals, awards, graduate school acceptance, internships, positions, other honors	
Pi Kappa Lambda Recognition	Dr. Jamila McWhirter, faculty sponsor
Recognition of Graduating Students	
Undergraduate	Dr. Michael Parkinson
Graduate	Dr. Michael Parkinson Dr. Paul Osterfield
Recognition of Faculty and Achievements	
Recognition of New School of Music Endowments	
Illinois Jacquet Memorial Scholarship	
The Attig Family Scholarship; <i>a moment to remember Richard Attig</i>	
Concluding Remarks	Dr. Michael Parkinson
Postlude	MTSU Jazz Trio

2015-2016 Honors Assembly Musical Performances

Concerto for Two Trumpets	Antonio Vivaldi
I. Allegro	(1675–1741)
Matthew France, trumpet (B.M. 2016); Katie Kelly, trumpet (B.M. 2016) ; Sandy Arndt, piano	
Songbird	Sarah Quartel
	(1982–)
How Can I Keep from Singing	Rollo Dilworth
Belle Voci	(1970–)
Angela Tipps, conductor; Kimberly Hopkins, piano	
Three Preludes for Unaccompanied Flute	Robert Muczynski
Allegro	(1929–2010)
Andante molto	
Allegro molto	
Alyssa Baranski, flute (B.M. 2017)	

from *Love's End*

Daniel Steele (B.M. 2016)

1. You Left Me, Sweet (Emily Dickinson)
2. The Ruin (Walter de la Mare)

Kristine Phillips, soprano (B.M. 2016); Jennifer Burgess, piano (M.M. 2015)

from *Preludes Bk. II*

Feux d'artifice (Fireworks)

Claude Debussy
(1862–1918)

Michael Min, piano (M.M. 2016)

Someday

Nikki Elias
(1993–)
Tyler Enslow
(1996–)

Nikki Elias, voice (B.M. 2016); Tyler Enslow, bass (B.M. 2018)

Escape Velocity

Dave Hall
(1984–)

Jed Smith, percussion; Shelby Shelton, percussion (B.M. 2016);
Jeff Upshaw, percussion (B.M. 2018); Cameron Read, percussion (B.M. 2018)

MTSU School of Music Distinguished Alumni Awards



A native of Murfreesboro, **Angela Tipps** graduated from MTSU with a Bachelor of Music in organ performance. Two years later she received the Master of Church Music from Scarritt Graduate School in Nashville. This is her 18th year at MTSU, where she conducts the Women's Chorale, teaches basic and choral conducting, and oversees music appreciation courses.

Tipps is also the organist and director of music at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Murfreesboro, where she conducts two choirs and oversees the children's choir. In addition, she has just celebrated her 20th anniversary as founding musical director of the Nashville Chamber Singers, an ensemble dedicated to performing unaccompanied choral music of all styles. Their third CD, *20 Years: Live*, will be available in December. She and her husband Dale (also an MTSU School of Music graduate) have two children, Virginia and Sam.

Erik T. Johnson is the president and founder of Innovative Percussion, Inc. a leading manufacturer of drumsticks and keyboard percussion mallets. He received a Master of Music degree with an emphasis in Percussion Performance from The University of North Texas and a Bachelor of Music degree with an emphasis in Percussion Performance from Middle Tennessee State University.



As an undergraduate student at MTSU, Johnson learned how to hand wrap marimba mallets, which led to the idea of starting a manufacturing company for keyboard percussion mallets. After attending graduate school, Erik moved back to the middle Tennessee area and was a member of the adjunct music faculty at MTSU from 1991 to 1993, as well as teaching percussion at several area high schools. In 1993, Johnson started up Innovative Percussion, which has grown to be a leader in the percussion industry with 36 employees and sales in more than 50 countries.

For the past 25 years, Johnson has been educationally involved with a variety of marching ensemble. From 1995 to 2005 and 2008 to 2012, Erik was on the instructional staff for The Cavaliers Drum & Bugle Corps, serving on the design team as the front ensemble arranger and coordinator from 1998 to 2005 and 2008 to 2010. During his tenure with The Cavaliers, the corps earned five Drum Corps International world championships and four high percussion awards. Johnson has also consulted with various drum and bugle corps including the Bluecoats, Spirit of Atlanta, and Carolina Crown. Since 2003, he has served as the front ensemble arranger for the Aimachi Band from Nagoya, Japan.

Active as well in the Winter Guard International Percussion activity, he served on the instructional staffs for Music City Mystique Indoor Percussion Ensemble from Nashville and the Aimachi Indoor Percussion Ensemble from Nagoya, Japan. In his tenure with MCM, Johnson served as the front ensemble coordinator, arranger and as a member of the design team from 2003 to 2013. During this time, MCM captured three gold medals at the WGI World Championships. He has been affiliated with the Aimachi Indoor Percussion Ensemble since 2006 as a member of the design team and as the front ensemble arranger.

A native of Winchester, Johnson travels frequently in his role with Innovative Percussion and makes his home in Brentwood with his wife, Betsy.

2015–2016 Outstanding Achievement Awards

Outstanding Achievement, Graduate

Music Education, Rebecca Turner

Composition, Daniel Bondaczuk

Percussion, Shelby Shelton

Outstanding Achievement, Undergraduate

Vocal/General Music Education, Matthew Pyles

Instrumental Music Education, Alayna Cate and Grant Haag

Jazz Studies, Nikki Elias

Voice, Kristine Phillips and Elizabeth Bumpas Stroud

Euphonium Performance, David Cau

Trombone Performance, Blair Boothe

Violin, Linda Fry

Music Industry, David Jung

2016 Pi Kappa Lambda Inductees

Collin Peterson

Blair Boothe

Kyiera Jackson

Laura Kulp

2015–2016 School of Music Graduates

Master of Music, Fall 2015

Jennifer Burgess, piano performance

John Cochran, jazz studies

Master of Music candidates, Spring 2016

Daniel Bondaczuk, composition

Brittany Howard, flute performance

Michael Dong-Suk Min, piano performance

Stephen Murphy, choral conducting

Zachary Patton, jazz studies

Shelby Shelton, percussion performance

Gregory Walker, jazz studies

Master of Music candidate, Summer 2016

Morgan Roberts, vocal performance

Bachelor of Music, Fall 2015

Catherine Ashley Beasley

Phillip Thomas Jones

Joshua P. Merbitz

Eleana Christine Seymour

Randy Lee Sifuentes

Nicholas J. Sipe

Mahsa Marjorie Peggy Way-Kiani

Bachelor of Music candidates, Spring 2016

Courtney Michaela Barron

Blair D. Boothe

Alayna M. Cate

David Leon Cau

Nathaniel W. Deese

Nikki Michelle Elias

Matthew Sheldon France

Benjamin Niall Gates

James Grant Haag

Richarra Denise Hardaway

Deborah Lynn Hickey

Veronica L. Hoffman

Andrew Lane Jenkins

David Jung

Chelsea Lynn Kanicsar

Alexander Edward Keiss

Katie Colleen Kelly

Jewelina Lawrence

Jean Matthew Lugo

Kody A. Mayberry

Edward Julian McFeders

Dustin L. MCGaha

Jacob Perry Miears

Corynn C. Moore

Adam Michael Mullis

Chisha Ida Nwobilor

Anna K. Phillips

Kali Kristina-Mareé Poore

Matthew Thomas Pyles

James C. Sartain

Christopher S. Simmons

Brittany Nicole Smith

Emily Elizabeth Bumpas Stroud

Brian John Wulf

Bachelor of Music candidates, Summer 2016

Logan McAmis

Daniel Leo Steele



Student, Faculty and Alumni Honors and Activities, 2015-2016

School of Music Students:

Elizabeth Stroud, Kristine Phillips, and Morgan Roberts: 2016 Orpheus National Vocal Competition Semi-finalists

Cellist **Margie Way-Kiani** will attend the University of Tennessee-Knoxville as a graduate assistant for the “Strings in the Schools” program as she pursues her Master of Music Education degree.

Kristine Phillips will begin graduate study at University of Illinois-Champaign-Urbana in the Fall of 2016 as a full music fellowship recipient in voice.

Matthew Pyles’ Undergraduate Honors College Thesis was completed and published in *Scientia Et Humanitas: A Journal of Student Research*.

Jessica Brown was awarded First Place in the MTSU Scholar’s Week College of Liberal Arts Graduate Research Poster Division and was selected for the TMEA Research Poster Division.

Oboist **Kali Poore** received a scholarship and a graduate assistantship to attend the University of North Carolina School for the Arts in Fall 2016.

Alyssa Baranski took first prize at the South Carolina Flute Society Collegiate Artist Competition, the Kentucky Flute Festival Collegiate Artist Competition, and second prize at the LaGrange Symphony Young Artist Competition, and was a finalist for the North Carolina Flute Festival Young Artist Competition.

Megan McKinney won second prize at the 2016 Kentucky Flute Festival Collegiate Artist Competition

Flutist **Eric Luminais** took third prize at the 2016 Beethoven Club Competition, Memphis.

Tiffany Jih was selected as a 2015 NFA Collegiate Flute Choir Competition Winner.

The Knoxville Bones; **Reggie Coleman, Andrew Smith, Nick Thomas and Calvin Weaver**, performed on numerous events and presented educational concerts for schools throughout Tennessee.

The MTSU chapter of CNAfME was named Chapter of the Year at the TMEA Conference in Nashville.

Garrett Doo received a state CNAfME award for Leadership at the TMEA Conference and served as President of MTSU-SOMSAC.

Trumpeter **Katie Kelly** accepted a full graduate assistantship at Texas Christian University for the fall

Daniel Krenz was accepted as a Fellow into the Bard Conductor’s Summer Institute in New York.

Brittany N. Smith was appointed as 2015-2016 Chapter President of Golden Key International Honor Society, was named a member of the Society for College Leadership & Success, and will be singing the Alma Mater at the MTSU Spring Commencement.

Shelby Shelton participated in the Tennessee Day of Percussion All-Collegiate Ensemble.

Guitarist **Jacob Miears** was awarded a full Graduate Assistantship to the University of Louisville

Brad Poe – was awarded a Graduate scholarship to attend Appalachian State University for graduate study in Guitar Performance.

Chelsea Kanicsar has been awarded a graduate scholarship to attend Arizona State University to pursue a Master of Music in Oboe Performance this fall.

Ben Gates has been admitted to the graduate school at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill to study musicology and has been awarded a full graduate assistantship.

Logan McAmis was awarded a scholarship and will begin graduate study in clarinet performance at Indiana University starting in the Fall 2016.

Bassist **Maria Gramelspacher** was awarded a 2016 URECA Summer grant and will attend the Sewanee Summer Music Festival.

Daniel Krenz has been accepted to 2016 Bard Conductors Institute this summer and was awarded a URECA grant from MTSU.

The MTSU Singers performed at the MTSU Centennial Campaign Event celebrating the largest fundraiser in the history of the university. The ensemble also partnered with the MET Singers, an organization which consists of public, private, charter and home schooled youth, grades 2–12.

Many MTSU Students performed at Adams Place, an assisted living community in Murfreesboro this year. Performers included: **Linda Fry** – violin, **David Lee** – violin, **Holly Aslinger** – viola, **Nicole Zamorano** – violin, **Michael Min** – piano, **David Schumann** – piano, **Austin Robinson** – piano, **Jennifer Burgess** – piano, **Andre Ng** – piano, **Luke Judkins** – guitar, **Gerard Gobert** – guitar, **Jacob Miears** – guitar, **Nathan Shore** - guitar, banjo, **Jacob Hendley** – guitar, **David Crosslin** – guitar, trombonists: **Reggie Coleman**, **Andrew Smith**, **Nick Thomas**, and **Calvin Weaver**.

The MTSU Double Bass Quartet, **Maria Gramelspacher**, **Jeremy Steffens**, **Rod Cogger** and **Evan Reichenfeld** with **Nicole Zamorano**, violin, performed arrangements by ensemble members at the TMEA Conference in Nashville.

The MTSU Clarinet Choir has been selected through competitive application to perform at the International Clarinet Association Convention at the University of Kansas this summer.

2016 Tennessee All-Collegiate Band Participants: **Alyssa Baranski**, **Chelsea Kanicsar**, **Patrick Nance**, **Logan McAmis**, **John Seale**, **Matthew Lugo**, **Ashley Landers**, **Tyler Bouttavong**, **Katie Kelly**, **Jack Lorens**, **Jeff Upshaw** and, **Michael Min**

School of Music Faculty:

Professor Susan Ramsey was recently inducted into the Tennessee Music Educators Association Hall of Fame.

Dr. Jennifer Vannatta-Hall gave presentations this year at the Association of Teacher Educators, National Association for Music Education, and Tennessee Music Educators Association. She also served as conductor with the Murfreesboro Ethos Children's Choir.

Dr. Christopher Dye presented Changing Licensure Requirements: Issues and Implications for Teacher Mobility and Reciprocity with **Carla Aguilar** at the NAFME National Research Conference. His study, Achievement Motivation for Band: A Cross Cultural Examination of the 2 X 2 Achievement Goal Motivation Framework, with **Peter Miksza** and **Leonard Tan**, was published in the journal *Psychology of Music*.

Dr. Joe Morgan hosted an international conference at MTSU on the subject of "Tyranny and Music," for which 17 scholars attended to present their most recent research. MTSU Professors **Mei Han**, **Michael Linton** and **Stephen Shearon** participated in the event.

Dr. Michael Parkinson joined with **Tisha Simeral**, bass, and **Brian Mueller**, vibraphone, for the Tennessee premiere of "Lullaby for Michelle," composed by **Dr. Paul Osterfield**. He presented jazz clinics at Chaminade College Preparatory School and Webster University in St. Louis and was named a Bach trumpet educational specialist for Conn-Selmer.

Dr. Paula Van Goes performed as a soloist at the North American Saxophone Alliance Conference, the World Saxophone Congress in Paris, the Faenza Saxophone Academy in Italy, Saxofoneado in Boliva, and with Chatterbird at the NACUSA in Knoxville, TN.

Dr. Christine Isley-Farmer performed recitals and presented master classes at Union University and UT-Martin. She coordinated and hosted the 2016 State Chapter of NATS Fall Event. She collaborated with **Dr. Paul Osterfield** to set her poem "Calm Waters" as a duet for soprano and mezzo-soprano.

Dr. William Yelverton presented concerts and master classes at universities throughout Tennessee, North Carolina, Mississippi and Illinois. He also performed a live radio broadcast on Nashville's WPLN.

Dr. Greg Reish, guitar, joined with violinist **Matt Brown** to release *Speed of the Plow*, an album of old time music including square dance tunes, rags, blues, and haunting melodies reinterpreted from the solo fiddle repertory.

Professor Dina Cancryn, voice, wrote and premiered a film production, *Portaits*, a major historical-musical introduction to the lives of black opera artists in the United States from the 19th and 20th centuries.

Dr. Cedric Dent had two works premiered by the Nashville Symphony Orchestra as part of the 2016 Martin Luther King Jr. celebration. He was inducted into the University of Michigan School of Music alumni association Hall of Fame.

Professor Rebecca Murphy was selected as a 2015 NFA Professional Flute Choir Competition Winner.

Dr. Stephen Shearon completed and recently submitted a chapter on "The Sacred in Country Music," to be included in *The Oxford Handbook of Country Music*, published by Oxford University Press.

Professor Jamey Simmons was guest artist for the Arizona State University Jazz Festival and composed new works for brass ensemble/organ and jazz ensemble, the latter published by "Really Good Music."

Professor Matt Lund issued *Rescued Souls*, a new compact disc of original works that blends Contemporary Christian music with rock, funk and jazz.

Dr. Arun Nadgir, piano, and Dr. Christine Kim, cello, presented several chamber music concerts in Kentucky and Indiana.

Dr. Adam Clark presented piano recitals in several states, including Rhode Island, Louisiana, and Tennessee.

Dr. Jamila McWhirter presented sessions at the NAFME Research and Music Teacher Education National Conference, and the NAFME National In-Service Conference.

Dr. Brad Baumgardner completed a commission by consortium for "Up to No Good," a concerto for bass clarinet and wind band, which received its premiere performance by the U.S. Coast Guard Band at a CBDNA festival in Connecticut. He also presented a case study of retention of music majors at both state and regional National Academic Advising Association conferences and was awarded the "Outstanding New Advisor" by NACADA for the state of Tennessee.

Prof. Don Aliquo, saxophone/jazz studies, recorded a new compact disc with his father Don Aliquo, Sr., in Pittsburgh, and a new disc with Nashville jazz pianist Beegie Adair. He was also a guest artist at the University of Northern Colorado Jazz Festival.

Prof. Lalo Davila presented "Latin Percussion FUNDamental Basics and Beyond" at the 2015 Percussive Arts Society international conference.

Dr. Benjamin Miles has been invited to serve as a judge and clinician at the Leonard Falcone International Tuba-Euphonium Festival.

Dr. Carol Nies served as a guest conductor at the 2015 and 2016 Rome Festival Opera, a clinician for orchestras from Ohio and Wisconsin, and led the Curb Youth Symphony in performance at the Schermerhorn Day of Music and the 2016 TMEA State Conference.

Dr. Todd Waldecker was the Guest Artist for the 2016 Eastern Plains Clarinet Festival in New Mexico and performed twice on "Live in Studio C" on Nashville National Public Radio along with MTSU colleagues **Dr. Adam Clark, Dr. Deanna Little and Dr. Christine Kim.**

Dr. Reed Thomas was guest conductor for the 2016 North Dakota All-State Concert Band.

The MTSU Brass Quintet, **Michael Arndt & Jamey Simmons, trumpet, Angela DeBoer, horn, David Loucky, trombone, and Ben Miles, tuba,** performed several concerts with the faculty quintets from Belmont University and Vanderbilt University as the Tri-Star Brass Ensemble.

School of Music Alumni:

Luke Hill, music educator, Overall Creek Elementary, was awarded a grant from Murfreesboro City School Foundation, for his "Mozart in a Minute" project, and was also named 5th-6th Grade Teacher of the Year.

German Baratto's music appeared on the CBS drama "Criminal Minds".

Laure DiDomenico was named 2015-16 Music Teacher of the Year, Smyrna Middle School

Alexis Yatzis-Derryberry was named 2015-16 Music Teacher of the Year, Lascassas Elementary School

Phillip Gregory was named 2015-16 Band Director of the Year, Siegel Middle School

Phillip Simpson was named 2015-16 Band Director of the Year, LaVergne Middle School

Randall Chapman is completing his Master's Degree in Clarinet Performance at Indiana University and served as Principal Clarinet with the IU Wind Ensemble on tour at Carnegie Hall in New York.

Dr. Rosemary Brumbelow has been appointed Assistant Professor of Clarinet at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. J. Ashley Jarrell has been appointed Director of Instrumental Music at the University of North Georgia.

Dr. Ryan Frost has accepted the position of Director of Percussion Studies at Northern Iowa University.

Dr. Andy Smith has accepted the position of Director of Percussion Studies at The University of Texas – El Paso.

Randy York has been appointed Royalty Administration Coordinator with Naxos of America.

Michael Tonan released "In Motion," a compact disc of his works with Don Aliquo, saxophone, Matt Endahl, piano and Jonathan Wires, bass.

Cord Martin, Whitthorne Middle School band director in Columbia, TN, was named Middle School Teacher of the Year for the South Central region of Tennessee School districts and appeared on the nationally televised CMA Country Christmas show this winter.

Bass-Baritone, **Seth Carico**, a member of Deutsche Opera in Berlin, presented a guest master class in February for MTSU students. He performed with the Chattanooga Symphony and also sang the role of Figaro in Mozart's opera "Le Nozze di Figaro" with Utah Opera.

Soprano **Terri Richter** is in the process of completing her Doctorate at UCLA.

Soprano **Morgan Myers** will pursue graduate studies at the Shenandoah Conservatory of Music in the fall of 2016.

Musicology alumni, **Joshua Kalin Busman** and **Terri Brinegar**, participated in the 2016 Pop Music Conference at the Experience Music Project in Seattle, Washington, one of the most respected and high-profile conferences anywhere.

Nashville 15th District Council Member and MTSU Alum, **Jeff Syracuse**, has been invited by Mayor Barry to serve on the Advisory Committee for the "Music Makes Us" music education initiative.

Dr. Silviu Ciulei, guitarist, has accepted a faculty position at Furman University and was a winner at the 2015 Texas Guitar Competition.

Dr. Lucas Finney has been appointed Director of Guitar Studies at Mohave HS, Las Vegas, NV.

Dr. Erol Ozsever has been appointed Director of Guitar Studies Manatee School for the Arts, Bradenton, FL.

D.J. Creech, trumpet, has won a full-time position with the Hyogo Performing Arts Center Orchestra in Japan.

Trumpeter **Kyle Smiley** is serving his second year in an assistantship at Moorehead State University.

Composer and arranger **Socrates Garcia** released his recording "Back Home" in 2015 on Summit Records. He followed up the recording with an appearance at the Jazz Education Network Conference with his orchestra. He serves as the Director of Music Technology at University of Northern Colorado.

Trumpeter **Joseph Jordan** was featured with Five Plus Six, a Knoxville-based ensemble on their first recording, Such Sweet Thunder.

Joel Gage has been added to the roster of teachers at the Webb School in Bell Buckle, TN as the instructor of guitar.

Ryan Middagh earned a Doctor of Musical Arts from University of Northern Colorado. He is Director of Jazz Studies at Vanderbilt University in Nashville.

Jazz Studies alumnus and percussionist **Chris Munson** continues on the faculty of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

Mike Jenner is finishing a two-year term as professor of saxophone and jazz studies at Louisiana Lafayette University.