Remembering Roger Jacobi

November 6, 2012

ROGER E. JACOBI

April 7, 1924 Saginaw, Michigan – November 4, 2012 Farmington Hills, Michigan

Roger E. Jacobi studied at The University of Michigan, receiving his bachelor of music degree in 1948 and master of music degree in 1951. His entire professional life was dedicated to music and arts education. Roger was associated with the Ann Arbor Public Schools as a teacher of music
from 1948-1956, and as music coordinator from 1959-1968. In rapid succession he added summers on the Interlochen staff, teaching at the University of Michigan, directing its popular annual Midwestern Conference and planning the new School of Music building on North Campus, and active participation in state and national arts education associations. Roger rose in rank at the University from lecturer in 1957, to assistant professor in 1959, associate professor in 1963, and professor in 1966. He was also a lecturer in the School of Education from 1959-1971. Roger became associate dean of the School of Music in 1971, a position he held briefly prior to his appointment to the presidency at Interlochen.

Roger served Interlochen beginning in 1953 as head of the program office for the National Music Camp, which eventually became Interlochen Center for the Arts. From 1956 through 1959 he was personnel director for the Camp and secretary to the board of trustees. He led the Intermediate Training (Cadet) Orchestra 1957-1965, directed the University Division at Camp 1969-1971, and served as Interlochen’s third President for 18 years, 1971-1989.

In accepting the presidency five years after the death of Interlochen’s founder, Roger gave stability and direction to an institution struggling to balance the traditions of the 45-year-old Camp with the adventurous 10-year-old Arts Academy. At the same time he developed a balanced budget that provided a period of reassurance for anxious trustees. He took on the challenges of constructing Corson Auditorium (1975) and Dendrinos Chapel/Recital Hall (1981) and the introduction of jazz to the Camp curriculum in 1972. The Creative Writing program was added as a discipline in 1975. One of Roger’s greatest memories was hosting President Gerald Ford at a High School Symphonic Band concert in his honor in July 1975.
Roger’s wife, Mary Jane Jacobi passed on June 23, 2011. Roger is survived by his children, Rev. Martha S. Jacobi (James Carter Cathcart) of New York, New York and Richard "Rick" Jacobi (Kathlynn Jacobi) of Ferndale, Michigan; by his grandchildren Jonathan Jacobi (Amanda) of Portland, Michigan, Stephanie Roche (Scot) of Silver Spring, Maryland, and Jesse Jacobi, of Ferndale, Michigan; and by his great-grandson, Liam Jacobi.

Roger and Mary Jane’s legacy will live on with the Roger E. and Mary Jane Jacobi Camp and Academy scholarships, and the Roger E. and Mary Jane Jacobi Citizenship Award given at each Academy graduation to an outstanding senior citizen leader.

Services will be held Saturday, November 10, at 12:00 noon at Zion Lutheran Church, 143 Albany Street, Ferndale, Michigan. A Dixieland musical prelude precedes the service, beginning at 11:45 am. Memorial gifts may be directed to the Roger E. and Mary Jane Jacobi Citizenship Award Scholarship Fund, in care of Interlochen Center for the Arts. A memorial service will take place on the campus of Interlochen Center for the Arts in the summer of 2013.
After a year of tours, reunions and a national symposium on the future of the arts, the Academy’s 50th Anniversary celebrations are nearing their conclusion – but not before one last tour, featuring theatre and visual arts students. A select group of actors and visual artists will travel to New York City for a series of performances and an exhibition of student work at the Helen Mills Theater from November 16 -18.
Theatre students will offer four performances of "[title of show]." The musical chronicles its own creation, as its writers Hunter and Jeff struggle to come up with an entry for the New York Musical Theatre Festival. The name of the show is taken from the space on the festival’s application form which asks for the [title of show].

Originally written for a main cast of five characters, Bell and Bowen have worked closely with Interlochen theatre faculty and students to adapt the production for a larger cast and high school performers. “For the theatre students, a tour to New York City provides them with a glimpse into the professional life they hope to enter in a few short years,” said Bill Church, director of the theatre program at Interlochen Center for the Arts. “It gives their classroom experience at Interlochen a direct, real world application.”

Academy visual artists will also have a chance to reach new audiences and discover new opportunities. The artists will be presenting approximately 70 pieces of art, representing a wide variety of genres. The pieces will be on display in the Helen Mills Event Space (adjoining the Theater) on Saturday afternoon from 12:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The visual arts faculty have several other stops planned to make the most of their time in New York, including visits to some of the country’s leading visual arts schools such as Parsons, School of Visual Arts, Pratt Institute and Coopers Union.

**New York Performance and Exhibition Schedule**

"[title of show]" Friday, November 16, 7 p.m.

Student Exhibition, Saturday, November 17, 12:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

"[title of show]" Saturday, November 17, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

"[title of show]" Sunday, November 18, 2 p.m.
**Ticket Information**

Tickets to theatre performances are free but availability is limited. To reserve your free tickets, e-mail Alumni@interlochen.org [1]. Tickets are not required to attend the visual arts exhibition.

See More: Features [3], November 2012 [4], Academy 50th [5], New York [6], Tour [7], visual arts [8], [title of show] [9]

Source URL: http://www.interlochen.org/crescendo/iaa-50th-theatrevisual-arts-tour

Links:
[1] mailto:Alumni@interlochen.org
[2] Not available at this time
When Larry Thomas (IAA Fac 69-72, NMC St 70-73) returned to the United States in 1969 after teaching in Uganda for eight years, he thought he might enjoy spending some time near relatives in northern Michigan. He bought a little house and unexpectedly stepped into a mid-year vacancy teaching English at Interlochen Arts Academy. What began as a short-term
teaching job has grown into a lifelong connection that’s now helping a new generation of Interlochen students. This fall, thanks to Larry’s generous support, the first recipient of the Laurence W. Thomas Endowed Writing Scholarship began her studies at the Academy.

“I’ve always been interested in the arts and creativity,” Larry said, explaining why he remains committed to Interlochen’s mission. “Interlochen represents bringing out the best in young people.”

As Larry considered making a significant gift to Interlochen, he was drawn to the idea of endowing a scholarship because he knew he would be able to see his money at work in a concrete way. “I know how they work,” Larry said. “If they realize the orchestra needs a flute, they’ll go out and find a flute player, irrespective of the student’s ability to pay. They’ll find the money.” With Larry’s gift, he hopes to provide that same opportunity for a creative writer.

Although Larry’s time on the Interlochen faculty was short, the impact was great. “I think I learned more about teaching at Interlochen than I did in all of the education classes at the University of Michigan,” Larry said. Teaching at Interlochen required more than just lesson preparation. On each grade report, he was required to provide specific feedback for all of his students—what they were doing well, where they could improve. “I really had to know all the students and what they had undertaken and accomplished,” he said, describing the commitment Interlochen expected of its faculty members, both in and out of the classroom.

As a fellow writer and teacher of writing, Larry has enjoyed friendships with many of Interlochen’s creative writing faculty members over the years. In addition to endowing the creative writing scholarship, Larry also donated his substantial book collection to Interlochen, including many first
editions and signed copies. Some of Larry’s hundreds of books will be
placed in general circulation in the Bonisteel Library, others will be used
by the creative writers as part of the Writing House book collection, while
the most rare editions will be housed in a special collections area of the
library.

After he left Interlochen, Larry continued his teaching career in Costa Rica
and Saudi Arabia. In addition to his teaching, Larry has published ten
books of poetry, fiction, humor and creative nonfiction; his writing has
appeared in “Blue Unicorn,” “The Antioch Review,” “5 AM,” “The Bridge”
and “The Wall Street Journal.” Most recently, his work has been included
in an anthology of writings by war veterans as well as a publication in
Israel. He edits “Third Wednesday,” a quarterly journal of poetry, prose,
and art, based in his hometown of Ypsilanti, Michigan, and continues to
lecture and lead poetry workshops at the Lucidity Ozark Poetry Retreat in
Eureka Springs, Arkansas.

Pointing out Interlochen’s important role in the world today, Larry said, “It
just seems to me that Interlochen is doing something that is needed in a
world that gets lost in the more basic needs. Interlochen is providing
something that becomes tangible, even though at times it seems
intangible. With the strong background that Interlochen gives them, our
students go out into the world and provide something really special.
They’re doing something for the world of the arts which is priceless. Any
little thing that I can do toward that, I’m pleased to do it.”

Source URL: http://www.interlochen.org/crescendo/former-academy-english-faculty-endows-writing-scholarship

Links:
Singer-Songwriter Majors Hold First Performance

November 1, 2012

Singer-Songwriter majors at Interlochen Arts Academy had their first performance on October 25, 2012. The concert was held in a packed Dendrinos Chapel and featured original music from students, including individual and collaborative efforts at song creation and performance.

In their first effort at working collaboratively, Courtney Kaiser-Sandler, the instructor of the program, showed the first ten minutes of the movie "Fantastic Planet" to inspire the mood of a group writing session. Half of the students worked on lyrics, while the other half wrote music. The video below captures the result of that prompt, an original work titled "Hold the Floor."

Not available at this time [1]
What kind of art would emerge if the fragile conditions we create for performance did not exist? Classical music and dance are fragile and ephemeral, yet, just as with technology, we live with the expectation that they will endure regardless of our care. How do highly stylized artistic expressions fare when exposed to the elements? What unexpected beauty can be found in EcoArt at Interlochen?
Introducing Project Entropy

Inspired by Brazilian artist Christina Oiticica, who is known for using an exotic neoconcretist technique that allows nature’s elements to act upon her works, Project Entropy is the brain-child of Nicola Conraths (Dance), and a collaboration with Steve Larson (Music), Matthew Schlomer (Director of Band), Amy Long (Visual Arts) and Lixing Chu (Visual Arts).

"After reading about Christina Oiticica's work, I started thinking about how to age dance. Oiticica leaves her works exposed to the elements for months at a time, and lets nature change and ultimately shape them," said Conraths. "Usually when you perform a dance, you try to keep it exactly the way it was when it was first choreographed. And dance is traditionally very clean and pristine. I wanted to bring nature into it somehow as well."

She began talking with Larson and Schlomer, and together they came up with the unthinkable. What if they choreographed a dance to an iconic score, but left the instrument used to produce the music, and the costumes worn by the dancers, to be exposed to the elements?

The group published a Craig’s List ad looking for the unthinkable - a baby grand piano to be used for the project. “The piano seemed to us to be the perfect symbol of human engineering and musical achievement,” explained Schlomer.

The Idea Comes to Life

A Traverse-City family answered the ad within 24 hours, and after learning about the collaborative art project, they donated an instrument. On Wednesday, Oct. 17, the piano began its journey - beautiful, in tune, and honored. Movement was choreographed to Bach's C Major Prelude from Book I of the Well-Tempered Clavier.
Visual arts students designed bodices made of vines and twigs to hang the costumes in trees around the piano, which will remain on the lawn in front of Corson Auditorium for the school year. The original choreography will continue to morph as the piano, score and costumes themselves age and intermingle with nature. Performances will be presented before each Arts Academy band concert, with the next performance scheduled for December 1, 2012. Students, faculty and staff will also be encouraged to interact with, perform at and imagine about the installation throughout the year.

“Our hope is that people will consider their relationship to the arts, to preconceived boundaries, and to our relationship with nature,” said Schlomer. “We hope that new approaches to art can be born from this dramatic treatment of a fragile instrument.”

**Watch It Unfold**

Live footage of the installation may be viewed on the Interlochen website, and a documentary will be created by a Motion Picture Arts student and presented at the Academy Arts Festival celebrations in May 2013. You can also follow the project by visiting entropy2013.tumblr.com.

**Source URL:** [http://www.interlochen.org/crescendo/project-entropy-ecoart-journey-interlochen](http://www.interlochen.org/crescendo/project-entropy-ecoart-journey-interlochen)

**Links:**
This fall Brittany Newell had barely settled into her freshman year at Stanford University when she learned that she had won the Norman Mailer Award for Fiction for her story "Bad Kids." Soon, she boarded a plane to attend a gala event in New York City, alongside many notable
personalities including Garrison Keillor, Oliver Stone, Joyce Carol Oates and Muhammad Ali. Alec Baldwin served as the master of ceremonies.

The award is presented by The Norman Mailer Center and Writers Colony and the National Council of Teachers of English. The first round was judged by a national panels of teachers and writers and finalists were judged by a panel of distinguished authors.

Mika Perrine, the director of the creative writing program described the Norman Mailer Awards as extremely competitive. "We were thrilled to learn that Brittany received first place with a story originally published in the Interlochen Review [1]," said Perrine. (Note: The story "Bad Kids" contains language and material that may not be appropriate for younger readers.)

"Brittany's voice as a fiction writer is fresh, raw and musical," said Perrine. "She does not shy away from challenging subjects, and her characters are convincingly flawed, full of conflicting desires. Her precise attention to the nuances of sound and rhythm makes her language striking and original. Her stories read almost like songs." Newell worked closely with instructor Chris Dombrowski on polishing her work in his Elements of Fiction class.

Newell attended Interlochen Arts Academy as a senior after winning the Virginia B. Ball Creative Writing Competition in 2011, which comes with a $30,000 scholarship for first prize. The creative writing department is currently accepting portfolios for the 2013 scholarship competition. For complete details visit the Virginia B. Ball contest page [2].

See More: Features [4], November 2012 [5], Brittany Newell [6], Norman Mailer Awards [7], Virginia B. Ball Creative Writing Competition [8].
Seven years after the motion picture arts (MPA) major welcomed its first students to the Arts Academy, the program’s earliest graduates are now starting to make their mark in the film industry. Among those alumni who are blazing a trail for future Interlochen filmmakers is Chad Engel (IAA 2007-09) who is currently writing and directing his first film, "Ayden and the Stork."
The short film is a modern fairy tale about a young boy who sets out to capture the stork that will soon deliver his newborn sister. "Ayden and the Stork" not only features Engel's storytelling and directing, but his special effects artistry as well, which he has developed since graduating from Interlochen.

"Chad was always a student who had a gift of wonder and the fantastic," remembered Michael Mittelstaedt, director of the MPA program. "When we first met, he showed me short films he'd made with other-worldly creatures. The combination of his sense of story, charming personality and his skilled production coordination always seemed to earn him a dedicated crew and cast. And that is certainly still the case as he continues on in his career."

While the MPA faculty strongly encourage students to attend college after graduating, Engel decided to take a different path, going straight to Los Angeles in search of experience - and he found it. He took a position at Burman Studio, a special effects shop in Burbank, California, and also assisted Kazuhiro Tsuji, a renowned special effects and make-up artist known for his work on the remake of "Planet of the Apes" among other films.

"He is truly entrepreneurial," said Michael Mittelstaedt of his former student. "He is one of a few students I've ever known who could work in the business straight out of Interlochen. He just creates his own opportunities."

With his first large-scale production, Engel did indeed create his own opportunities with an original story that took six months to write and the tenacity to find the resources to make his vision a reality. Engel and his partners sought and received a Panavision New Filmmaker grant, allowing them to shoot on actual film instead of relying on digital cameras.
And Engel brought his own special effects experience to make a visually striking film in spite of a relatively meager budget.

Throughout the process, Engel said he has drawn on the skills he learned at Interlochen. "At the Academy, I learned a whole lot about storytelling. I liked making movies before I came to Interlochen but they never had a structure. And I learned how to find people's strengths and to make the most of those strengths through collaboration."

At present, filming is complete for "Ayden and the Stork" but Engel and his collaborators are still trying to fund post-production. Once the 25-minute film is complete, they plan to show it at festivals and hope to find funding for a feature-length version.

See More: Features [2], November 2012 [3], Chad Engel [4], motion picture arts academy [5]

Source URL: http://www.interlochen.org/crescendo/mpa-graduate-feature-film

Links:
Ask any of the more than 800 students, educators and artists who attended Interlochen's recent Symposium what the theme was, and they'll probably smile and tell you that #artlives.

This diverse group joined together Oct. 10-13, 2012, to ask some hard
questions and discuss the future of the arts. Leadership, the environment, teaching and learning, and the future of the book and the ensemble were topics discussed in heated panels, while artists like Billy Childs, Carolyn Forché and Tony Kushner spoke about their own accomplishments and life lessons. Performances by Jack Ferver and Andrea Gibson caused attendees to question the very definition of performance art, and at times, moved the audience to tears.

Cory McAbee and Liz Lerman brought laughter, with McAbee's advice to "pull up your pants and go" when questioned how young artists could make a difference, and Lerman's choreography of Swan Lake involving everyone in Corson Auditorium. (We really mean everyone!) Ford Futurist Sheryl Connelly, conservation biologist Steven Goodman (IAA 73-75) and musician and composer Guillermo Figueroa encouraged their audiences to look at the arts with a different perspective, with Judith Burton daring attendees to "take knowledge in art and knowledge in science and reconcile them to create solutions to today's issues." Camp alumnus and music educator Stanford Thompson shared insights about inspiring a younger generation with music.

And visual artists, writers, dancers, singers, musicians, filmmakers, actors and more worked together to do just as Burton instructed. Because as one attendee tweeted, "When all arts align #artlives."

Also introduced at the Symposium was the new Logan Leadership Institute [1], which has been created to help high school students understand the kind of experiences and study required for new leaders in the arts.
JULY 6, 1928 - Theatre made its first Interlochen appearance with a performance of "Danger" on the ninth day of our first summer. The "dramatic class" met daily at 5 p.m. under the direction of Mrs. Lee Lockhart, and this first venture was certainly on the cutting edge: the entire play takes place in a darkened mine, hence none of the actors are visible! There were occasional drama and operetta performances in the first decade of Camp, but acting remained little more than an extracurricular activity until the Radio Drama program began in 1938 (see last month’s story [1]).

In response to camper requests, an ambitious theatre program was offered
in 1939, with classes in acting, writing, history, design and production taught by a Yale theatre trio of Blevens Davis, Douglas Ferguson, and Stewart Bosley. They produced five plays that summer, and Ferguson and Bosley offered seven in the following year, including Eugene O’Neill’s "In the Zone." There were forays into opera and operetta in the next six seasons, but staged plays nearly disappeared as the number of campers diminished and the focus reverted to radio drama until after the war.

The high school performance of "The Gondoliers" in 1946 followed by the college students’ "A Midsummer Night’s Dream" the following year, and a high school performance of "Our Town" in 1948 established a repertoire of serious plays that set the tone for the future, and initiated a cycle of Gilbert and Sullivan operettas that continued uninterrupted for 59 summers. The next decade introduced Jim Harvey, Bob Burroughs, Lois Halliday, Dude and Jim Bob Stephenson to carry the torch forward and soon after, Del and Ruth Proctor to introduce even the youngest campers to the wondrous world of theatre.

NOVEMBER 25-DECEMBER 1, 1963

Just the other day while looking at some 50 year-old telephone papers, we found a radio log for the last week of November, 1963, when our FM station WIAA was but a few months old. For the first seven years it operated only from early afternoon until sign-off at 11 p.m. or midnight. Some programs were self-produced programs of theatre, music, and local news, but many were obtained on magnetic tape from commercial American and European producers. There was a 90-minute “European Festival,” a 30-minute “Foreign Press Review,” and “International Book Review.” The Saturday night opera on the first day of December was Mozart’s "Cosi Fan Tutte." The first live theatre broadcast was Molnár’s “The Guardsman” presented on October 2 by Academy students Roderick
Robinson, Deborah Kronenberg, Clark Galin, Linda Metaxas, Linda Balkin, and Nancy Mason.

What began so humbly with a short day of both music and the spoken word has expanded into our acclaimed twin services, providing Classical IPR and IPR News Radio 24/7 via six transmitters to over 40,000 listeners in northern Michigan and thousands more on the Internet.

**NOVEMBER 7, 1976 -** The Janus Players gave their first concert in a series of four programs that, like the Roman god Janus, looked both forward and backward to consider both ends of the musical spectrum from the Renaissance to the present. The concerts were conceived and directed by pianist Kim Kabala, who challenged us to break out of our 17th to 19th century comfort zone. The result was a happy mingling of madrigals and Milhaud, pavanes and Pierrot lunaire – not to mention a rich assortment of student and faculty actors, dancers and musicians!

*From the Archives with Byron Hanson: November 2012* [2]

*Not available at this time* [3]

*Not available at this time* [3]

*Not available at this time* [3]

See More: *From the Archives* [4], *November 2012* [5]


**Links:**
Motifs: November 2012

November 1, 2012

James Carter Cathcart (IAA 68-71) will once again be a guest at Youmacon this November 1-4 at Detroit's Renaissance Center and Cobo Hall. He will present a piano program titled "Utena, the Music of Miki and Beyond!" James will discuss and play music and other selections from the anime series "Revolutionary Girl Utena," in which he voiced the character of Miki, who just happens to be a pianist.

Peter Erskine (IAA 68-71, IAC Fac 10) participated in the creation of a new Apple application "Erskine Joy Luck Play Along." Users of the app are able to play along with Peter's jazz album "Joy Luck" and follow the instrumentation.

John Boatner's (IAC St 70-75, IAA St 74-75, IAC Fac 76, IAA Fac 76) film about his life and work, "Spiritual Transit" will show at the Memphis, Tennessee Independent Film Festival on November 4, 2012. The subject of the film is his work in music performance and music composition, and his move from Memphis, Tennessee to Federal Way, Washington.

Ann (Herkelmann) Hanson (IAC St 70-82, IAA St 73-94, ICA 94-12) vice president of human and institutional resources, retired after 43 years of service to Interlochen Center for the Arts.
Gary Malkin (IAC 70-71) is the founder and C.E.O. of Wisdom of the World, Inc.

John Gilbert (IAC 73-77, IAA 76-77) recorded the Concerto for Violin and Wind Orchestra by Kurt Weill, and the Kammerkonzert for Piano, Violin and 13 Winds by Alban Berg with the Baton Rouge Symphony and conductor Timothy Muffitt for the Sono Luminus label. The recording was released at the end of September to rave reviews and has been entered into the first round of nominations for the classical Grammy.

Mark Kjos (IAC 73, 75-77, IAA 78-79) serves as the president of Neil A. Kjos Publishing.

Kate Light's (IAC 73, IAA 73-76) libretto, along with music by Paul Salerni, will be performed by the Otterbein University Opera Theater at Battelle Fine Arts Center in Westerville, Ohio, on November 9, 10 and 11 at 8:00 p.m. Their one-act "sitcom," "The Life and Love of Joe Coogan," an opera based on a Carl Reiner episode from "The Dick Van Dyke Show," will be paired in performance with Douglas Moore’s one-act opera, "Gallantry."

Phillip Bush (IAC 76-78, UM 79) was appointed research associate professor of piano and chamber music at the University of South Carolina beginning with the 2012-13 academic year. His recording of the complete Beethoven violin sonatas with Aaron Berofsky was recently released on Block M Records. Phillip is also approaching his seventh season as artistic director of the Bennington Chamber Music Conference, a summer program in Vermont.

Anthony Gould (IAC 76-79, IAA 79-82) serves as the IT manager at George Mason University.

Françoise (Haskett) Moquin (IAC 76, 78, IAA 79-81) teaches private violin
lessons to students in the Richmond, Virginia area. In addition to teaching she is the first violin in the Bel’aria String Quartet and the second violin in the Silver Leaf String Quartet.

Heidi Sandling (AS 78, IAA 79-80) serves as the director of organizational development for Hubbell Incorporated.

Brad DePlanche (IAA 79-81) spent an entire season at Florida Repertory Theatre in Fort Myers, played Trinculo in “The Tempest” at Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival this summer and has just completed a run in “The Complete Works of William Shakespeare” for Orlando Shakespeare Theater.

David Neubauer (UM 79-80) and George Goldberg (IAC 50-54, 56, 58) will play in the debut concert of the newly reconstituted Santa Monica Symphony on Sunday, November 11, at 7:30 p.m. at Barnum Hall on the campus of Santa Monica High School. The program includes the "Egmont Overture" by Beethoven, "Variations on a Theme by Haydn" by Brahms, and "Scheherazade" by Rimsky-Korsakov.

Alison Chesley, (UW 80) a classically trained cellist has become known as a rock musician through a classical instrument as she plays both genres on the cello. Alison, under the name of Helen Money, has released two solo albums and has played on over 100 albums with a number of other artists.

David Hattner (IAC 80, 82-84, IAA 83-86, IAC Fac 10) serves as the music director of the Portland Youth Philharmonic, the oldest youth orchestra in the United States. On November 10, the Portland Youth Philharmonic will play the west coast premiere of Jim Stephenson's (IAC 79-84, 86; IAA 83-86; IAC Fac 04, 08) clarinet concerto "Liquid Melancholy” featuring soloist,

Heather Maxwell (AS 82, IAA 82-83) is the voice of “America's Host” and producer of "Music Time in Africa," a radio show and blog of pan African music in the English to Africa service. The show is broadcast weekly to English speaking Africa. Heather was a voice major at the Academy and is a native of Flint, Michigan. She earned a doctorate in ethnomusicology and has lived extensively in Africa. Heather also maintains an active singing career in jazz and afrojazz music.

Bert Shimabukuro (AS 82, IAA 83-87) serves as the human resources manager and recruiter at FireHost, Inc.

Marianne (Leitch) Breneman (AS 84-86, IAC 87) teaches clarinet at the University of West Georgia and also at Wesleyan School in Atlanta. She is a founding member of Conundrum, a quartet of soprano, flute, clarinet, and piano. Conundrum tours and commissions new works. In July 2012 the ensemble recorded a CD of works written for them. The expected release date is March 2013. She is also active as a freelancer in the Atlanta area where she lives with her husband Brian and two exuberant golden retrievers.

David Greenspan (ICA St 86-04) will be a panelist at the 133rd Audio Engineering Society conference.

Michael Sundell (IAC 86-87, 89, IAC St 95) is entering his second season as contrabassoonist with the Montreal Symphony and is also on the faculty of the National Youth Orchestra of Canada.

Nicholas Baumgartner (IAC 88-90, IAA 90-94, IAC Staff 94-96) serves as the assistant general counsel at Citi.
Ranardo-Domeico Grays (AS 88, IAC 89, IAA 89-90, IAC St 91) performs with VISIONS Contemporary Ballet. The company performed "Graciousness" (2012) in the American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer-Central Park-Performance on October 21, 2012 at the bandshell in Central Park.

Rosalee (Billingslea) Rush (IAA 88-92) received her doctorate degree in 2011 from Western Michigan University. She is currently the assistant vice president for marketing and communications at Bloomsburg University.

C. Neil Parsons (IAA 91-93, IAC St 93-95) is bass trombonist/choreographer with The Fourth Wall, a hybrid arts ensemble that blends music, dance and theatre. The Fourth Wall, founded in 2010, recently completed its Terrible Twos Tour 2012, performing in seven states and premiering three new hybrid arts works.

Michael Bepko (IAC 92) serves as the global online community manager for Whole Foods. He was nominated for a Shorty Award for Best Social Media Manager, as he is responsible for managing the @WholeFoods Twitter handle, which was listed as one of "The 140 Best Twitter Feeds of 2011."

Claire Chase (IAC 92-93) was honored as a 2012 MacArthur Fellow.

Moira Meltzer-Cohen (IAA 92-95) and Meghan DuPuis Maurus, Esq., founded the New York Law Collective, offering a full spectrum of direct legal services, as well as tools for dialogue and advocacy to communities in the five boroughs, Long Island and New Jersey.

Manisha Snoyer (IAC 93, IAA 96-99) serves as the director of “Act French” a French language school and theater production company dedicated to promoting contemporary French theater and culture in New York City.
Casey Stratton (IAA 93-94) accepted a position teaching music to grades 1-12 at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Grand Rapids Youth Commonwealth in the greater Grand Rapids, Michigan area.

Meriah "Lin" Foulk (IAC 94, AS Fac 07) is assistant professor of horn at Western Michigan University and co-hosted the 2012 International Women's Brass Conference in Kalamazoo, Michigan in June.

A. Phoenix Delgado (IAA 95-96) conducted his debut concert as the new music director and conductor of the New Valley Symphony on October 28, 2012 at the Forest Lawn Hall of Liberty.

Laura Kaufmann (IAC 95-97, IAC St 99) accepted a new position with American Greetings Properties. Laura will be charged with expanding domestic consumer product licensing, most notably for their legacy brands Care Bears and Strawberry Shortcake. In addition, Ms. Kaufmann’s role with Children’s Media Association was recently expanded, with her now serving as chief strategy officer for the non-profit organization. Previously Laura spent over seven years growing the global experiential licensing business for Nickelodeon.

Jeniva Miller (IAC 95, 97, IAA 96-98) and Ricardo Jones welcomed their second child, Elliot Miller Jones into the world on October 6, 2012.

Laurie Gray (IAC 97) recently took on the position as a child and adolescent psychiatry fellow at the Cambridge Health Alliance. In June, Laurie married Benjamin Shiller at the Clouds Hill Victorian House Museum in Warwick, Rhode Island.

Rebecca Hayes Schankula (IAA 97-98) married David M. Fairbanks Schankula on Saturday, October 27, 2012 in Glen Arbor, Michigan. Alumni in attendance included Molly Kuras (IAC 91-92, AS 93-94, IAC 97, IAA 97-
Mary Bartling (AS 67), Rick Bartling (AS 67), Gary Gatzke (AS 92, 94, IAC 95, IAA 96-98, IAC St 06-present) and Jordan Anderson (IAC 97-99) as the wedding DJ of Mr. Music DJ Services of Traverse City.

Alana Parvey Zalas (IAC 97-98, IAA 99-01, IAC St 04) serves as the business manager for Route 66 Theatre Company, which reprises its show "A Twist of Water" off-Broadway at 59E59 Theaters this month.

William (Billy) Hestand (IAA 99-01) has been named the second bassoon of the Cleveland Orchestra.

Abby Elzemeyer Phillips (IAA 00-02) started the first Memphis Fashion Weekend in Memphis this past March to two sold out shows. The runway shows featured nine designers both local to Memphis and international. She is now planning for next year's shows set for April 2013. This year Abby has created an Emerging Memphis Designers Project to help showcase new designers and build the fashion industry in Memphis. Previously Abby owned Elzemeyer Talent Agency, booking models and actors for print, film, and TV. ETA had offices in Memphis and Nashville and was a thriving agency for five years. In June she sold the company to an agency in Nashville, Macs/AMAX.

Hank (Enrique) C. Feldman (ICCA 02-03) serves as the director of education at F.A.M.E Foundation.

Jordan Pemberton (IAC 02-07, IAA 07-09) won the 2012 Poetry Contest for Emerging Poets sponsored by Boulevard Magazine, published by Saint Louis University.

David A. Gregory's (IAC 03) new play "She Walks in Beauty" will be presented by the Manhattan Repertory Theatre as part of their Fall Play Festival 2012 on November 7, 9 and 11, 2012.
Joseph Beribak (IAC 04-05) is a member of the Los Angeles-based percussion ensemble "The Smoke and Mirrors Ensemble." Their debut album will be released this month.

Megan Caplan (IAC Fac 04-08) is now technical director at MCC Theater, in New York City.

Lucy Sharp (IAC 06, IAA 07-08) has joined the third season of the period drama Downton Abbey. Lucy plays Reed, the lady's maid.

Samuel Johnson (IAA 07-09) is in his fourth year at the University of Michigan in the music composition program. Two of Samuel's piano pieces were featured in the score of the independent film "Until the Dawn."

Tyler Trykowski (IAC 07, IAA 07-08) serves as an editorial assistant for Playboy Magazine.

Henry Shotwell (IAC 09) was a guest cast member on the sitcom “Ben and Kate” last month. Henry played young Ben.

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In Memoriam: November 2012

November 1, 2012

Geraldine Megee (IAC 39-40) of Ann Arbor, Michigan passed away on October 6, 2012.

Virginia (Reubene) Garrett (UW 53) from Portland, Oregon passed away September 25, 2012.

Evelyn Petersen (IAC St 65) of Traverse City, Michigan passed away on October 18, 2012.


Ara Zerounian (IAC Fac 60-78) of Ridgefield, Connecticut passed away on October 29, 2012. Ara had many pupils during his years on faculty including Kim Kashkashian (IAC 65, IAA 65-69), Jorja Fleezanis (AS 63-64, IAC 65-66 IAA 66-67, 68-69), Michael Ouzounian (AS 62-63, IAC 64-65) and his stepdaughters, Ani Kavafian (AS 60, IAC 62-65, IAC Fac 77) and Ida Kavafian (IAC 63-68, IAA 68-69, IAC Fac 78) and many others.

Sophia (Mackie) Travis (IAA 82-83) of Bloomington, Indiana passed away on September 19, 2012.
Tallon Perkes (IAA Fac 03-04, IAC Fac 04-11) of San Antonio, Texas passed away on October 20, 2012.

Beth Fischer (Friend of Interlochen) of Madison, Wisconsin passed away on October 10, 2012.

See More: In Memoriam, November 2012

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