

2016–2017 Outstanding Achievement Awards

Outstanding Achievement, Graduate

Jazz Studies, Spencer Stevens and Patrick Atwater

Conducting, Martin Gaines, Rubén Darío Gómez,
and Manuel Monge-Mata

Piano, Hong Liang Ng

Music Education, Jessica Barnard

Outstanding Achievement, Undergraduate

Music History, Daniel Krenz

Vocal/General Music Education, Garrett Doo

Instrumental Music Education, Brittany Belcher and Catherine Betts

Percussion, Emily Magee, Daniel Del Moro, Andrew Chunn,
Jordan Bible, Cameron Read, and Jeff Upshaw

Jazz Drum Set, Jed Smith

Voice, Collin Peterson and Hannah Sims

Flute Performance, Alyssa Baranski

Music Industry, Jacob Farmer and Jacob W. Parks

Trombone Performance, Kristopher Rodgers

Euphonium Performance, Jack Lorens

Tuba Performance, Catherine Betts

2017 MTSU Solo Artist Competition Finalists and Winners

Alyssa Baranski, flute (First Prize)

Allison Centobene, flute

Michaela Cundari, clarinet (Third Prize)

Maria Gramelspacher, double bass

Jack Lorens, euphonium

Jernie Talles Millan, mezzo-soprano

Hong Liang Ng, piano

Hannah Sims, mezzo-soprano (Second Prize)

2017 Pi Kappa Lambda Inductees

Shane Burgess

Jacob Farmer

Raphael Llana

Jed Smith

John Pagan

Brittney Belcher

2016–2017 School of Music Graduates

Master of Music, Summer 2016

Morgan M. Roberts

Master of Music, Fall 2016

Zachary A. Patton

Master of Music candidates, Spring 2017

Patrick C. Atwater

Jessica J. Barnard

Linda B. Edmister

Martin I. Gaines

Gerald D. Gobert

Ruben Gomez Prada

Jacob O. Hendley

Eric S. Luminais

Manuel A. Monge-Mata

Hong Liang Ng

David P. Sartor

Spencer G. Stevens

Rebecca Turner

Derek M. Volkmann

Chenguang Zhou

Bachelor of Music, Summer 2016

Logan McAmis

Daniel L. Steele

Bachelor of Music, Fall 2016

Tabitha M. Atchley

Ciera M. Cope

Alexandra Escudero

Holly D. Evans

Colton I. Gibbs

Deborah L. Hickey

Kyiera A. Jackson

Megan M. McKinney

Joshua D. Moore

David A. Wyatt

Bachelor of Music candidates, Spring 2017

Alyssa L. Baranski

Brittany N. Belcher

Catherine N. Betts

David A. Brady

Rebecca K. Buckley

Jason D. Chafatelli

Michael D. Collins

David C. Crosslin

Garrett K. Doo

Linda G. Fry

Maria G. Gramelspacher

Luke H. Judkins

Daniel A. Krenz

Laura K. Kulp

Kimberlin G. Lacy

Jack A. Lorens

Jernie R. Millan

John C. Seale

Rachel C. Shepherd

Jed M. Smith

Shan Zheng

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

presents

The 2016–2017 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. Karen Petersen

Interim Dean, College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Michael Parkinson

Director, School of Music

Tuesday, April 18, 2017

11:30 a.m.

T. Earl Hinton Music Hall, Wright Music Building

Program

Welcome and Introduction Dr. Michael Parkinson, Director, School of Music

Greetings from the School of Music Advisory Council Morgan Pope, President

Remarks Dr. Karen Peterson, Interim 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, and other honors
MTSU Solo Artist Competition Finalists and Winners
Pi Kappa Lambda Recognition Dr. Jamila McWhirter, faculty sponsor

Recognition of Graduating Students Dr. Michael Parkinson
Undergraduate
Graduate

Recognition of Faculty and Achievements

Selected Performances

The Great Train Race for Solo Flute Ian Clarke
(1964–)

Alyssa Baranski, flute

Cruda Sorte (Cruel Fate) Gioachino Rossini
(1792–1868)

Hannah Sims, mezzo-soprano; Joseph Walker, piano

Arrival of the Queen of Sheba George Frideric Handel
(1685–1759)

Ryan Jerzak, Jacob Hendley, Gerard Gobert, and Michael Bevers, guitar

Trio for Oboe, Clarinet, and Bassoon Gordon Jacob
I. Allegro (1896–1984)

The Verum Trio: Taylor Meyers, flute; Michaela Cundari, clarinet; Nicole Neeley, bassoon

Up Jumped Spring Freddie Hubbard
(1938–2008)

Gabe Collins, saxophone; Patrick Atwater, bass; Derek Volkmann, guitar; Johnny Richeson, drums

Recognition of School of Music Distinguished Alumni Awards

Concluding Remarks Dr. Michael Parkinson

MTSU School of Music Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients



Mike Casteel has been a professional musician for the past 23 years. Residing in Nashville, he is a trumpet player heard on a diverse collection of projects including the feature film soundtrack *Billy Graham: The Early Years*, Yolanda Adams' *What a Wonderful Time*, and Hank Williams Jr.'s release "Gulf Shore Road." Castell is a Dove-nominated artist for *Praise and Worship Instrumental*, produced by Wayne Haun. In addition to his recording schedule, he is a sought-after performer and has shared the stage with artists such as Aretha Franklin, Shelby Lynne, The Temptations, Natalie Cole, Wayne Newton, Brenda Lee, Randy Brecker, and Debby Boone. Casteel has performed with the Nashville, Chattanooga, and Huntsville symphonies, Orchestra Nashville, and Mr. Jack Daniel's Original Silver Cornet Band and is a member of the Nashville Jazz Orchestra. He began his career with Danny Davis and the Nashville Brass and was featured with an unusual double, five-string banjo. He has continued to play banjo and is featured on several Big Idea VeggieTales Video projects. Casteel is also an orchestrator and arranger whose credits include the animated feature film *The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything . . . A VeggieTales Movie* and David Phelps' *The Voice* project. He is as a first-call copyist, serving clients around the world. Recent credits include copyist for An Evening with Sting: Symphoncities (at Carnegie Hall) and A Night of Music: Celebrating 10 Years of ONE and (RED) (featuring Bono and The Edge with Orchestra of St. Luke's at Carnegie Hall); music preparation for David Bowie's *Lazarus* (New York Theatre Workshop); and supervising copyist for Sting's *The Last Ship* (Broadway).



Dr. Jeffrey Phillips is in his 30th year of teaching and is director of fine arts at Hendersonville High School in Tennessee. Previously he taught at Pope John Paul II High School in Hendersonville, as adjunct trombone instructor at Western Kentucky University, and at the Tennessee Governor's School for the Arts. Phillips is in his 12th year on the applied music faculty at Belmont University, where he teaches trombone and performs with the Belmont Faculty Brass Quintet. He has earned degrees from MTSU, Western Kentucky University, Austin Peay, and California Coast University. Phillips also has conducted clinics throughout Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina, and Mississippi for students in middle school through college. He has published a variety of articles in the *Bandworld*, *School Band and Orchestra*, and *Tennessee Musician* magazines and was a co-author of the MENC's Strategies for Teaching series. Phillips has written numerous music reviews for the *National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors' Journal*. He has served as president of the American School Band Directors Association, Middle Tennessee School Band and Orchestra Association, the Tennessee Music Education Association, and the Tennessee Chapter of the International Association for Jazz Education. Phillips also was the TMEA state band chair for two years, as well as national treasurer for two years.



Student and Alumni Accomplishments 2016-2017

Maria Gramelspacher, double bassist, has been accepted with a graduate assistantship to both the University of Louisville and Florida State University. She has also been awarded a scholarship for study at the Sewanee Summer Music Festival.

The **MTSU Clarinet Choir** was selected through a competitive application process to perform at the International Clarinet Association's *ClarinetFest* in August, 2016, in Lawrence, Kansas.

The **MTSU Spectra Saxophone Quartet (Nelson Moore, Phillip Kigaita, P.J. Scott, Logan Barrett)** was invited to perform at the *International Saxophone Symposium* hosted by the United States Navy Band, Washington D.C., January, 2017.

MTSU Jazz bassist, **Tyler Enslow**, released a CD with vocalist and MTSU alum, **Nikki Elias**, and their band "The Cosmic Collective".

Evan Reichenfeld, Sophomore Music Education major, has been hired as a double bass instructor for the Lancaster County Schools (Pennsylvania) Summer Music Enrichment Program.

Randy Sifuentes (BM Instrumental Music Education '16) led his ensemble to a UIL Sweepstakes Award in his first year teaching at Sharyland North JH in McAllen, TX.

MTSU School of Music Alumnus, **John Mears**, was named teacher of the year at Central Magnet School in Murfreesboro.

MTSU School of Music Alumnus, **Scott Kinney** was named teacher of the year at Oakland Middle School in Murfreesboro.

Three MTSU School of Music alumni had their groups chosen as TMEA Selected Performance Ensembles and performed at the annual state conference in April, 2017: **David Aydelott** (Franklin HS Wind Ensemble), **John David Hazlett** (McGavock HS Wind Ensemble), and **Jazmin Jordan** (Stewarts Creek MS Band).

Current Music Education graduate students presented two sessions at the TMEA Professional Development Conference. **Jessica Barnard** and **Jessica Scruggs** presented "Let's Play! Student-Centered Music Lessons for K-3" with Dr. Jennifer Vannatta-Hall. **Sandra Hamilton**, **Jessica Scruggs**, and **Rebecca Turner** presented "Creativity Through Technology: Applications for All Levels" with Dr. Christopher Dye.

Alyssa Baranski was selected to play in the Indy Master Class Competition, was selected as a finalist in the Florida Flute Association Collegiate Artist Competition, and won first place in the MTSU Solo Artist Competition. She has been accepted into graduate programs at University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music, Indiana University, and University of Missouri – Kansas City.

Christine Barham is a winner of the 2017 National Flute Association's Collegiate Flute Choir Competition and will perform in Minneapolis in August.

Jacob Farmer is one of six students chosen to study abroad at *The Studio* in Kent, England, with Trevor Wye for the academic year 2017-18. He has recently been selected as a winner of the 2017 National Flute Association's Collegiate Flute Choir Competition and will perform in Minneapolis in August. Jacob is also a winner of the 2017 Mid-South Flute Society College Masterclass Competition and the 2017 South Carolina Flute Society Masterclass Competition. He has been accepted to attend the Rocky Ridge Summer Music Festival and the Summer Flute Institute.

Ashlee Hall toured with *NashSax* of Middle Tennessee as an assistant director. In the position, she also played alto saxophone, flute, Latin percussion, and directed the ensemble.

Alice Judy is a winner of the 2017 National Flute Association's Collegiate Flute Choir Competition and will perform in Minneapolis in August. She co-founded the **Adelphie Flute Duo** with Christine Barham.

Eric Luminais, graduate student flutist, attended Rocky Ridge Summer Music Festival on a full scholarship in the summer of 2016. He participated in the collegiate division and also was a counselor for the high school division.

MTSU Alumnus, **Silviu Ciulei**, won First Prizes at the *Colorado International Guitar Competition* and the *Texas International Guitar Competition*. He was invited to perform at the Eastern Shore Guitar Festival, Southern Guitar Festival, Rhode Island Festival, Appalachian State Festival. He currently holds a teaching position at Furman University.

MTSU Guitar Alumnus, **Matt Palmer**, toured Panama and played for U.S. and Cuban Ambassadors. He currently holds teaching a position at Washington College, MD.

The MTSU Tuba-Euphonium Ensemble hosted the Middle Tennessee Tuba Euphonium Ensemble Festival in January and recently completed a successful tour of schools in the Franklin, TN area.

The **MTSU Low Brass Studio** hosted several world-renowned performers this year: Avital Handler (Israel Symphony), Matthew van Emmerik (Soloist) and Neal Corwell (Soloist, and Composer)

Jack Lorens, senior euphonium Music Industry major, made his bass trumpet debut with the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra in January performing Richard Wagner's "The Ring Without Words."

Nick Thomas, junior trombone Music Education major, will debut with Nashville's new music group *Intersection* in April.

Alumnus, **Michael Min**, has been accepted to the DMA program in Piano Performance at the University of Minnesota with a full Graduate Assistantship.

Sophomore pianist, **John Pagan**, performed in a masterclass given by Dr. Charles Asche (Univ. California, Santa Barbara).

The **MTSU Singers**, under the direction of **Dr. Cedric Dent**, performed at the *Rutherford County Choral Festival*, the *MTSU Women's Choir Invitational*, and with 5-time Grammy nominee, Karrin Allyson, and the School of Music jazz faculty in April, 2017.

Katiana Nicholson successfully completed the requirements of the MTSU Honors program with her thesis and performance premiere with the MTSU Clarinet Choir of "Eric Whitacre's *Five Hebrew Love Songs for Clarinet Choir and Percussion*".

Graduate Wind Conducting Student, **Ruben Gomez**, has been awarded a full GTA to begin work on the DMA in Conducting at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Graduate Wind Conducting Student, **Martin Gaines**, has been awarded a full GTA to begin work on the DMA in Conducting at the University of Arizona.

Under the direction of Dr. Reed Thomas, the MTSU Wind Ensemble will soon release two CDs:

- "Earthrise - the Music of Nigel Clarke" to be released on **Toccata Classics** label June, 2017.
- "California - The Music of David Maslanka" to be released on **Devine Arts Recording** label July, 2017.

Austin Ford received a Full Scholarship to attend the *Savvy Arts Venture Challenge* in June 2017 at the University of South Carolina.

Jernie Talles Millan is serving as an intern at Paradigm Talent Agency in Nashville and also received a Gamma Kappa Grant from Delta Omicron, National Music Fraternity.

Daniel Krenz has been accepted to and will be attending Brandeis University for graduate study in musicology.

The following MTSU voice students competed in the Mid-South Regional NATS Student Auditions held at Belmont University in April: **Jackson Bieger, Jordan Blades, Austin Ford, Nolan Sexton, Nicholas True, David Richardson, Amelia Lufkin, Sunshine Scott, Nate Paul, Parker Sellers, Camille Winton, Kimberlin Lacy, and Collin Peterson**. Of this group, the following students progressed from the preliminaries to the semi final rounds: **Nolan Sexton, Nicholas True, David Richardson, Amelia Lufkin, Sunshine**

Scott, Nate Paul, Parker Sellers, Camille Winton, Kimberlin Lacy, and Collin Peterson. Winners were **Kimberlin Lacy** (3rd place Upper Class Women Musical Theater and second place Senior Women Classical) and **Collin Peterson** who won 1st place Senior Men Classical.

MTSU alumna **Erin McDaniels** will be pursuing a dual masters in voice performance and pedagogy at Penn State on a graduate assistantship.

Hong Liang Ng (MM Collab. Piano, May 2017) will be attending North Dakota State University for the DMA in Collaborative Piano with full graduate awards/stipends.

MTSU Alumna, **Elizabeth Chua**, is currently pursuing the DMA in Collaborative Piano at University of Minnesota. This summer, she will be participating in the *SongFest Recital Fellowship Program* in Los Angeles at the Colburn School, and will be pianist and coach for the Emerald City Opera.

Freshman pianist, **Faith Van Ryckeghem**, will be attending the Sewanee Summer Music Festival.

MTSU Alumna, **Sarah Wofford**, is entering the doctoral program at Shenandoah Conservatory after completing her MM in Vocal Performance this spring. She sang the Queen of the Night with Chautauqua Opera summer 2016.

MTSU Alumna, **Corinne Denny**, is in the Performer's Certificate program at the University of Denver. She is singing roles with Opera Colorado and Boulder Opera.

MTSU Alumnus, **Grant Farmer**, is entering the doctoral program at Indiana University in conducting after completing the Master's Degree at Westminster Choir College.

MTSU Alumnus, **Andrew Rader**, is a member of the professional ensemble Magnificat Baroque.

MTSU Alumna, **Morgan Roberts**, was contracted to sing in the chorus for an upcoming Disney commercial release of "The Hunchback of Notre Dame".

The following MTSU Graduate Students Presented Research at the 2017 TN Music Educators State Conference:

- **Jessica Barnard:** "A Survey Examining Tennessee Music Educator's Beliefs on Musical Creativity"
- **Rebecca Turner:** "A Survey of Tennessee Music Educators Concerning Loss of Instructional Time"
- **Sandra Hamilton:** "A Survey of K-12 Tennessee Music Educators Concerning Songwriting Courses and Curriculum"

MTSU vocalist, **Rebecca Buckley**, was a Finalist and Winner of the Donizetti Award at the 2017 Orpheus National Vocal Competition, Student Category.

Mezzo-soprano, **Hannah Sims**, was the Second place winner in the MTSU Solo Artist Competition.

MTSU Alumna, **Ciera Cope**, was awarded a Graduate Assistantship to Longy School of Music at Bard College for MM in Vocal Performance.

MTSU Vocalist, **Giuliana Chavez**, will attend the Harrower Summer Opera Program and is a scholarship recipient to Berkshire Choral Festival Apprentice Program.

MTSU Alumnus, **Scott Rife**, has been appointed Southern United States Sales Division Manager of Buffet Crampon, the world's leading manufacturer of professional clarinets.

The **MTSU Percussion Sextet (Jordan Bible, Andrew Chunn, Daniel Del Moro, Emily Magee, Cameron Read, Jeff Upshaw)** won First Place in the Collegiate Chamber Ensemble Competition at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention (PASIC) in Indianapolis, IN, November 2016.



Faculty Accomplishments 2016-2017

Dr. Brad Baumgardner's new Bass Clarinet Concerto, "Up to No Good", was premiered in 2016 by the U.S. Coast Guard Band with soloist Andrew Greci. The piece has since been performed by the University of North Florida and Andrews University.

Don Aliquo was invited to performed at the Jazz Education Network Annual Conference in New Orleans, January, 2017.

Don Aliquo's recent release, *Fathers and Sons*, recorded with his father, was recently ranked #8 nationally in radio airplay as reported by [Jazz Week](#).

Dr. Christopher Dye was appointed as Advocacy and Government Relations Chair for the Tennessee Music Education Association, through which he organized the first *Hill Day* for music education advocacy at the state capitol. Dr. Dye also published, with Dr. Lauren Kapalka Richerme of Indiana University, "Indiana Music Educators and Policy: An Examination of Awareness, Engagement, Trust, and Efficacy" in the *Bulletin of the Council for Research in Music Education*.

Dr. Jennifer Vannatta-Hall served as Collegiate Chair for the TN Music Educators Association and presented at the Southern Regional Association of Teacher Educators Conference in Reston, VA. She also serves as Interim Coordinator of MTSU Graduate Studies, adjudicated the Middle TN Vocal Association Choral Festival for Elementary and Middle Schools, served as Choral Clinician for the Maryville Spring Sing, and was accepted to present two sessions at the TN Music Educators Association Conference in Nashville, 2017.

Dr. Mei Han's album: "Mei Han and Red Chamber - Classical and Contemporary Chinese Music" has been nominated by *Songlines Magazine* (England) for its 2017 Music Awards. *Songlines* is the most authoritative magazine on world music.

Dr. Michael Parkinson was guest conductor for the Murfreesboro Symphony Orchestra and led the Trinity Jazz Ensemble in concerts to benefit the Salvation Army and Domestic Violence Center. He also presented a jazz clinic at the Alabama School of the Arts in Birmingham.

Prof. Craig Cornish served as guest conductor for the East Tennessee State Band and Orchestra Association 11-12 Honor Band, the Kentucky Music Educators Association All-State Concert Band, and the Murfreesboro Symphony Orchestra. He also led clinics for Centennial, White House, Heritage, Shelbyville Central, Spring Hill, Siegel, Oakland, and Antioch High Schools.

Dr. Reed Thomas served as Guest Conductor for Corazon Verde in Costa Rica, the University of South Florida Festival of Winds, The Northwestern University, Louisiana, and the Brevard College Band Festival. He hosted several MTSU Artists in Residence this year including trombonist Brett Baker; trumpet artist Jens Lindemann; cornetist Harmen VanHoorne; and composers Nigel Clarke, Peter Fischer, and David Maslanka.

Dr. Joseph Morgan released his second book: *A Biography of Carl Maria von Weber* in the *Listener's Companion Series from Rowman and Littlefield*. He also presented a paper last fall, "Weber's Program Music: Forms and Influence", at the International Conference on 19th Century Program Music in Lucca, Italy.

Dr. David Loucky performed this season on bass trumpet in Stravinsky's "Rite of Spring" with Nashville Symphony and as euphonium soloist on Holst's "The Planets."

Dr. Joshua Zink presented a Co-Masterclass with the Education Director of Nashville Opera entitled, "A Career in the Vocal Arts, in the Current Day Marketplace." He also performed Schubert's complete song cycle, "Winterreise", with **Dr. Arunesh Nadgir** in April, 2017.

Dr. Deanna Little was selected to perform "The Dolly Project" at the 2017 National Flute Association convention in Minneapolis, MN this coming August. She has also accepted the position of Collegiate Flute Choir Competition Coordinator for the NFA.

Dr. Jamila McWhirter released her book, "A Creative Duet: Mentoring Success for Emerging Music Educators", Oxford University Publishing. She also made a presentation at TMEA by the same title. Dr. McWhirter also began terms with the American Choral Directors Association National Committee on Education and Communication, National Association for Music Education Music Educators Journal Editorial Committee, and the Tennessee Music Educators Association Research Chair. She is continuing as Tennessee Music Educators Association SMTE Chair and is the Founder/Organizer of the First Tennessee Society for Music Teacher Education Symposium.

Dr. Christine Isley-Farmer performed recitals at Volunteer State Community College and Cleveland State Community College, and gave an Alexander Technique presentation and voice master class at Carson Newman University.

Dr. Todd Waldecker and **Dr. Adam Clark** performed guest Clarinet/Piano recitals and master classes at the University of Memphis and the *2017 Mississippi Single Reed Summit* at the University of Mississippi.

Dr. Chris Combest presented solo recitals and masterclasses at the University of Michigan, the University of Illinois, and MTSU. He performed at the Southeast Regional Tuba-Euphonium Conference, and with the Huntsville and Chattanooga Symphony. He serves as Associate Editor for the ITEA Journal, Competitions Chair for the International Tuba Euphonium Association and is a Board member for the Leonard Falcone International Tuba-Euphonium Competition.

Dr. Adam Clark, was invited to present, "Teaching Musicianship Through Technique", at the University of Memphis, the Nashville Area Music Teachers Association, and MTMTA. He performed solo recitals at UT-Chattanooga, Fisk University, TSU and MTSU; and was a concerto soloist with the San Luis Obispo Chamber Orchestra in California. He served as Junior Competition Coordinator for TMTA and as an adjudicator for the Alabama MTA State Piano Auditions.