News & Notes

David Wallace, Juilliard School faculty and New York Philharmonic Senior Teaching Artist, has been appointed String Department chair at the Berklee College of Music in Boston. He was the ASTA Keynote Speaker in 2010 and has performed with Mark O’Connor and the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. David was a viola student of Lawrence Wheeler and CLASS Valedictorian.

John Grimmett (BM ‘11, Music Ed, studios of Rob Smith and Brian Kauk) composition Rain Down the Ruin with Jason Carlson was presented by The Graduate Music Theatre Writing Program at New York University on July 19-21 as part of The Collaborative, Development and Production (CDP) Series, an initiative to provide an opportunity to present new works by upcoming writers.

The Men of Moores released their first single, an arrangement of Radiohead’s 1992 hit Creep on iTunes, Spotify and Amazon MP3. The Men of Moores, a student-led a cappella group, is made up of students from the school’s various choral ensembles. Founded five years ago by MSM students, and run by a student director, the group sings their own arrangements of pop and contemporary tunes and performs as an MSM outreach in Houston area schools.

Members include: Austin Beck, Troy Burnett, Nick Camacho, Vocal Percussion Anthony Larson, Josh Levine, Saleel Menon, Abel Rocha, Ryan Rogers, Justin Shen, Chris Song, Austin Whiteley, Jake Woodson, Gregory Brigham Asst. Director; and, Matt Mazzola, Musical Director.

Joni Perez (BM ‘05, Music Ed, studio of Nancy Goodearl) “Respect the Process” The approach that earned Joni Perez and The Woodlands High School band the 2013 BOA Grand National Championship” was the cover article in the June 2014 issue of the SBO:School Band and Orchestra magazine.

César Torruella (studio of Timothy Jones), performed the role of Sir John in the Utopia Opera’s production of Verdi’s Falstaff in New York City this past June. He also performed the role of Dulcamara in Donizetti’s L’elisir d’amore in Cincinnati in August. In September, Torruella will be in Zaragoza, Spain to participate in the prestigious Montserrat Caballe Competition.

Joseph Gaines (BM ’01, Applied Music, studio of Joseph Evans) is now a Principal Artist at the Metropolitan Opera. At the Opera Theater Pittsburgh, he performed the roles of The Four Servants in The Tales of Hoffmann and Belfiore in The Secret Gardener. Gaines performed the role of Malcolm in Verdi’s Macbeth with Pittsburgh’s Resonance Works. His debut performance with the Utah Opera in March included his role as Pong in the Doucet/Barbe production of Turandot followed by his role of Goro in Madama Butterfly. Other recent appearances include Carmina Burana with The Erie Philharmonic, a gala performance of Candide (title role) at the Moores School of Music, a debut with The Philadelphia Orchestra in the performance of Strauss’ Salome, and a return to Central City Opera for both Mozart’s Le Nozze Di Figaro and Heggie’s Dead Man Walking.
Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday, September 9, 7:30 pm
Dan Gelok, saxophone
Woody Witt, saxophone
Tali Morgulis, piano
Works by Hindemith with world premieres by LoCascio, Nelson, Gelok

Sunday, September 14, 2:30 pm
Lawrence Wheeler, viola
Thomas Jaber, guest piano
Andrea Jaber, guest mezzo-soprano
Erik Wheeler, guest cello
The Three B’s: Works by Bach, Beethoven, Brahms

Thursday, September 18, 7:30 pm
UNIVERSITY BANDS
David Bertman, Marc Martin, directors
March Madness: Works by Sousa, King
TDECU Stadium (MOH, if inclement weather)

Tuesday, September 23, 7:30 pm
MOORES OPERA CENTER
Buck Ross, producer/director
What’s Opera, Duck?
“Celebrate the start of the Moores Opera Center’s new season at the famed Mucky Duck with an informal cabaret evening of favorite arias and musical theatre songs, wryly hosted by director Buck Ross. Leave the stuffed shirt at home. It’s a party!”
McGonigel’s Mucky Duck
2425 Norfolk
Tickets/Info: www.mcgonigels.com
All proceeds benefit the Moores Opera Center.

Saturday, September 27, 2:30 pm
Guest Recital
h2/4 Duo
Jeffrey Loeffert, Jonathan Nichol, guest saxophones
Works by Read Thomas, Mellits, Itoh, Rossé, Cockcroft
Dudley Recital Hall