

KASTA Newsletter

Spring 2017, Vol 16(2)

A photograph of four musicians standing on the stone steps of a building entrance. From left to right: a young woman in a black dress holding a violin, a woman in a black top and pants laughing with her hand on her chest while holding a violin, a woman in a black dress holding a violin and smiling, and a man in a black suit holding a cello. The building behind them has a large arched doorway with a glass door and windows. The text 'KASTA Newsletter' and 'Spring 2017, Vol 16(2)' is overlaid at the top in a white, serif font.

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Celebrating 10 years of Orchestra in USD 475

President's Corner



Dear KASTA Members,

Greetings! Another school year has wrapped up and I hope you are enjoying this edition of the KASTA Newsletter on a quiet morning with your favorite hot beverage as you relax and recharge.

Congratulations to all of the participants (and their teachers) in the 2017 KASTA Solo Competition. Be sure to congratulate these musicians and their teachers as you see them. I was impressed with the level of performance from all of the entries and as we attempt to make this an annual event. I hope more students and teachers will take advantage of this opportunity.

The KASTA website has been updated. This new look and improved function allows KASTA to get information to our members more effectively and will surely make an impression to those who might want to know more about our chapter. The new website also integrates our newsletter and should make it easier for members and non-members alike to access it. The national ASTA website has also been updated.

One of the perks of this job is the opportunity to recognize deserving teachers and contributors to string education from around the state. It was truly an honor for me to present KASTA Awards to Amos Hargrave, Cora Cooper, and Steve Phalp at the KASTA Luncheon at KMEA. Please enjoy reading more about our award winners in this edition of the newsletter. To that end, think of those deserving educators and contributors to string education and make plans to nominate them for an award this year.

Finally, drop everything you are doing and make plans to attend the KASTA Summer Workshop at Wichita State University on Friday and Saturday, June 23 and 24! Dr. Robert Gillespie will be presenting on a wide variety of topics and you can attend not one, but TWO music reading sessions! As valuable as all of those opportunities will be, I think encouragement gained from time spent with colleagues can be the most valuable part of any professional development activity. Bring a friend! NO! Bring two friends! I look forward to seeing you in Wichita!

Thank you,

Henry O. Littich

President, KASTA
Director of Orchestras
Smoky Valley USD 400

KASTA Newsletter

Spring 2017 Edition | Volume 16, Issue 2

Jacob M. Dakon, editor

KASTA.org

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Summer Music Education Masters Degree

Cover Photo: Kansas Wesleyan University Honors String Quartet

Kansas ASTA Summer Workshop

June 23 & 24

Wichita State University

Duerksen Fine Arts Building

Featuring Workshops from

Dr. Bob Gillespie

Friday, June 23

*8:30 a.m. registration/ sessions from 9-12 & 1-3/ 7:30 p.m. reading session
from Hal Leonard*

- ***It's All About the Bow, common problems and strategies to fix them***
- ***Left Hand & Cello extensions***
- ***Shifting & Vibrato for all instruments***
- ***Hal Leonard reading session and music give away***

Saturday, June 24

*9:30 a.m. Saturday registration/ sessions 10-12 & 1:30-4 with reading session at
4 p.m. sponsored by Senseney Music*

- ***Ear training skills***
- ***You be the teacher; video clips and evaluations
Of what works and what doesn't.***
- ***Rehearsal skills***
- ***How to relate better to students***
- ***Senseney Music reading session and give away***



Kansas
 American String Teachers Association
Summer Workshop 2017
June 23 & 24
Featuring: Dr. Robert Gillespie



Wichita State University
 Duerksen Fine Arts Center, Room C104

To register, please legibly complete and mail the following form with a check payable to KASTA to:

Beloit Elementary School
 Attn: Michael Harbaugh – KASTA Treasurer
 1201 N. Bell St.
 Beloit, KS 67420

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

KASTA Member? (circle one) YES NO (membership not required to attend)

School District: _____ Grade Level(s): _____

Registration Options (check one)

- Two Day Early Registration**
(must be postmarked by June 9, 2017)
\$125.00
- Two Day On-Site Registration**
\$150.00
- One Day Registration**
\$75.00 (circle one - June 23 –OR- 24)
- Student Registration**
(High School or Undergraduate)
\$25.00

Reading Session Preference (check one)

- Violin
- Viola
- Cello
- Bass
- I prefer to listen/watch

Graduate Credit Information
 Two hours of graduate credit are available through Wichita State University. All enrollments/payments must be done separately through WSU before June 22, 2017.

Course Number:
 MUSE 750AF: WSU Summer String Workshop
 Approx. Cost: \$675 (in addition to workshop fee)

Please contact Dr. Mark Laycock
 (mark.laycock@wichita.edu) with questions.

Hotel Information – Reserve by June 5, 2017
 For those needing hotel accommodations, rooms are available at a special rate at the Drury Plaza Hotel Broadview in downtown Wichita. To make reservations, please contact the hotel directly at (316) 262-5000 (ask for the KASTA group rate) or online: <https://www.druryhotels.com/Reservations.aspx?groupno=2309320>

After June 5, 2017 – Call the hotel directly and speak with Kristen Truman

KASTA Solo/Chamber Music Competition Winners

Junior Division

1st Prize: Ms. Leah Rosales - Symphonie Espagnole, Mvt. 1 – Lalo

2nd Prize: Ms. Carly Yi – Concertino, Op. 5 – O. Rieding



Leah Rosales is a violinist and graduate from Northeast Magnet High School. Next year she will be attending WSU on a \$36,000 scholarship to major in violin performance. She began playing the violin at age ten and started studying privately with Laura Black after her second year of playing. Since then, she has been involved with a variety of orchestras. She was a member of the Wichita Youth Symphony Orchestras program for five years, and finished her last semester as co-concertmaster and Youth Talent winner for the Youth Symphony, where she soloed on Lalo Symphonie Espagnole. She has also played with the SCKMEA District Orchestra and KMEA State Orchestra for three years and was the concertmaster of the District Orchestra in December 2016. In 2015, she was accepted into NAFME's All-National Honor Ensemble for the National Symphony Orchestra, and she played at the Grand Ole Opry

in Nashville, Tennessee conducted by Jung-Ho Pak. She was accepted again in 2016 to play in Grapevine, Texas at the Gaylord Hotel conducted by Dr. William LaRue Jones. She has also been involved with the Camp Allegro Wichita program, where she has had the opportunity to study with different professors, take masterclasses, and perform chamber music. She has been concertmaster of the Northeast Magnet Orchestra for four years and recently started the Tri-M Music Honor Society and served as president.

Senior Division

1st Place: KWU Honors String Quartet – Quartet in F Major, “American”, Mvt. 1 – Dvorak

2nd Place: Ryan Masotto – Sonata for Viola and Piano – Clarke

3rd Place: – Christina Minton - Violin Concerto, Mvt. 1 – Kabalevsky

The **KWU Honors String Quartet** is the premiere small string ensemble at Kansas Wesleyan University; its current members include Caroline Beckman, Alicia Mora, Taylor McClain and Thomas Forrester. The quartet performs regularly throughout Kansas, at both university and state-wide musical events, as well as regionally, having recently performed the Mark O'Connor's Strings and Threads Suite in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. This past February, the KWU Honors String Quartet was declared the Senior Division Win-

ners of the 2017 Kansas American String Teacher's Association Solo/Chamber Music Competition with their performance of the first movement of Antonin Dvořák's "American" String Quartet in F major, No. 12, Op. 96, and were also featured as soloists with the KWU String Orchestra at the ensemble's 2017 Kansas Music Educators Association State Convention debut. The quartet has performed at the Birger Sandzén Memorial Art Gallery in Lindsborg, Kansas, as well as various important Kansas Wesleyan events, including



Left to right: Caroline Beckman (vln.), Alicia Mora (vln.), Taylor McClain (vln.), and Thomas Forrester (vcl.)

the 2016 KWU String Salina Tour, the 2016 Fine Arts Board of Directors Dinner, and at the past three KWU International Music Festivals. The quartet also just completed their first recording in hopes of being invited to the 2018 KMEA State Convention. Their recording and upcoming 2017-18 concert schedule will be posted on the “Kansas Wesleyan University Music Department” Facebook page.

Violinist/Pianist **Caroline Beckman** hails from Lindsborg, Kansas having begun her formal music training at the age of six. She joined the Salina Youth Symphony Program in its inaugural year of the Preparatory Orchestra, and eventually became concertmaster of the Youth Symphony during the 2013-15 seasons. She has received numerous piano awards at the District and State Kansas Music Teachers Association (KMTA) competitions, and earned the assistant concertmaster apprenticeship with the Bethany Oratorio Society Messiah Festival Orchestra in 2014. Caroline’s family was nominated as the “2014 Kansas Musical Family of the Year” by the Kansas Music Federation Association (KMFA). Caroline fulfills her own passion of performing sacred music by serving weekly at her church as a piano accompanist. She has participated in violin and piano masterclasses with Felix Olschofka, Ching-Yi Lin, Cora Cooper, Matt Means, and Slawomir Dobrzanski. In 2015, Caroline entered and won the Salina Youth

Symphony Concerto Competition, which awarded her the opportunity to perform the world premiere of Kati Falk’s violin concerto, “Awakening,” with the Salina Symphony. Caroline’s collegiate musical involvements include serving as concertmaster of the Kansas Wesleyan University Philharmonic and String Orchestra, and first violinist in the KWU Honors String Quartet. She has performed with the Salina Symphony since 2011, and currently serves as assistant concertmaster. She will be a featured soloist in Vivaldi’s Concerto for Four Violins in B Minor with the orchestra in April, 2017. Caroline studies violin with Julliard graduate, Dr. T. David Lowe, and piano with Russian Virtuoso, Tatiana Tessman. She is serious about promoting music education while maintaining a private studio and working as a Salina Youth Symphony Assistant.

A Hutchinson native, violinist **Alicia Mora** graduated from Hutchinson High School in 2016, and is currently a freshman Music Performance Major at Kansas Wesleyan University. Alicia performs with the KWU String Orchestra, Philharmonic Orchestra, Philharmonic Choir, KWU Honors String Quartet and is a Salina Youth Symphony Assistant for the Preparatory Orchestra, under the direction of Lindsay Modin. Alicia has also been seen performing with the KWU String Orchestra at the 2017 KMEA State Music Convention and the 2017 KWU International Music Fes-

tival. In addition, she has participated in masterclasses with Cora Cooper, Matt Means and Martha Walvoord. Currently Alicia studies violin with Doug Beyer.

Violist **Taylor McClain** hails from Junction City, having appeared as a soloist, chamber and orchestral musician. She is in her fourth year as a member of the Salina Symphony Orchestra viola section, and in her third year as a member of the Kansas Wesleyan String Orchestra and Philharmonic, of which she is currently principal. Recent performances include appearances at the 2017 International Music Festival, KMEA State Music Convention, and a recent production of Messiah in Hutchinson, Kansas. She has participated in masterclasses with Matthew Means, Felix Olschofka, Shokhrukh Sadikov and Cora Cooper. McClain's teaching experience includes giving private lessons to young violists of the area. McClain studies viola with David Lowe as well as piano with Tatiana Tessman. McClain is a Junior Physics Major and Music Minor at Kansas Wesleyan University.

A Salina native, **Thomas Forrester** is a concert cellist with experience as a soloist, chamber and orchestral musician. Currently he is the Assistant Principal

Cellist of the Salina Symphony with whom he will make his solo debut this April performing the solo continuo cello part of the Vivaldi Concerto in B Minor for Four Violins. For the past two years, Thomas has been the acting Principal Cellist of the Kansas Wesleyan University String Orchestra and Philharmonic; he most recently has been seen performing at the 2017 International Music Festival and KMEA State Music Convention. He has participated in cello masterclasses with Steven Doane, and Edward Laut as well as chamber music masterclasses with Matthew Means and Felix Olschofka. As a teacher, he has taught as a Salina Youth Symphony Assistant for the past three years, and successfully runs a private cello studio. Currently Forrester is a cello student of Jesse Henkensiefken and also studies voice with Rebecca Copley. Forrester is a Junior Music Performance and Music Education Major at Kansas Wesleyan University.

The KWU Honors Quartet is coached by **Jesse Henkensiefken**, who serves as the Kansas Wesleyan University Director of Orchestras, as well as the assistant conductor and principal cellist of the Salina Symphony.

String Teacher's Hall of Fame Award



Stephen Phalp has been Director of Orchestras at Blue Valley North High School, Overland Trail Middle School and Overland Trail Elementary School or Valley Park Elementary School since 2001. His orchestras have performed for the Kansas Music Educators In-Service Workshop in Wichita, Helzberg Hall in the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts and Yardley Hall at Johnson County Community College in Kansas City Missouri and Overland Park Kansas. Stephen moved to Blue Valley after 25 years building the orchestra program at Park Hill High School in Kansas City Missouri. He is married to his wife Gloria and has two children, daughter Stephanie Hill and son Gerry Phalp as well as four grandchildren. Stephen is a graduate of the University of Kansas and did his graduate degrees at the University of Missouri - Kansas City.

Certificate of Merit Award



This year's winner of the KASTA Certificate of Merit Award is **Dr. Cora Cooper**. Dr. Cooper is Professor of Music at Kansas State University, where she teaches violin, viola, chamber music and string techniques. As a performer, Cooper has recorded for NAXOS American Classics and has professional symphony experience playing with the Vermont, Austin and Tallahassee Symphonies, and the Atlanta Baroque Orchestra. Her research on the music of women composers has led to multiple performances at the Festival of Women Composers at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and lectures in the United States and England. Published editions of her research include the four-volume *Violin Music by Women: A Graded Anthology, Easy and Progressive Violin Duets by Josephine Trott, Six Duettos by Joseph Gehot, and Six Duettos for Two Violins by Maddalena Lombardini-Sirmen*. Additionally, Cooper has served on the violin committee for the 1997 and 2009 editions of the ASTA String Syllabus, and has been a contributor to both the *AST Journal* and *GIA Publications' Teaching Music Through Performance in Orchestra*. She presented sessions at the 2003 and 2010 national ASTA conferences and adjudicated ASTA's Nagyvary Violin Competition in 2004. Cooper has twice attended the Starling-DeLay Symposium on Violin Pedagogy at the Juilliard School, and is certified in the Sassmannshaus Method. Thank you for all your work, Dr. Cooper.

Distinguished Service Award



Amos Hargrave studied violin making at the Violin Making School of America in Salt Lake City from 1974 to 1977 with luthiers, Paul Hart and Peter Prier. Additionally, he also worked in the repair and restoration workshop of Peter Prier Inc. from 1975 until 1979. In 1979, Amos accepted a position at Jacques Francais Rare Violins Inc. in New York, where he worked in the restoration department for three years under the guidance of Rene Morel. Amos opened his own shop first in Charlotte, N.C. in 1983, where produced fine violins, violas, and cellos patterned after and inspired by work of the best old Italian makers. In addition, his workshop became well known for professional maintenance, repair, and restoration work of fine instrument owners and musicians nationwide. As a recipient of four gold medals in international competitions for violin making, Amos was awarded the "Hors Concours" distinction by the Violin Society of America in 1984, and served as a workmanship judge for international stringed instrument making competitions on six occasions (for the Violin Society of America in '86 and '96, and for the International Society of Bassists in '03, '05, '07, and '09). In 1986, he was elected to full membership in the American Federation of Violin and Bow Makers. Amos has been a member of the greater Kansas City area since 1996 and in Lawrence since 2001, where he continues to offer his work, expertise, and instruments to the string community. We are so please to have Amos in our community and thank him for his years of distinguished service.

THE

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2017-2018 • 136th Season

David Littrell, conductor 1990-2018

Tuesday, September 19 An Evening of Dance Music

Offenbach • Overture to *Orpheus in the Underworld*
Delibes • Waltz from Act I of *Coppélia*
Léhar • Gold and Silver Waltz
Waldteufel • The Skaters' Waltz
Tchaikovsky • Waltz from Act I from *Swan Lake*
Shostakovich • Polka from *The Golden Age*
Shostakovich • The Second Waltz from Jazz Suite No. 2
Chicago Medley • Janie Brokenicky, soprano
Tchaikovsky • Dance of the Swans from *Swan Lake*
Tchaikovsky • Garland Waltz from Act I of *The Sleeping Beauty*

Tuesday, October 17

Beethoven • Symphony No. 6 "Pastoral"
John Mackey • Percussion Concerto • Kurt Gartner, percussionist
Amy Beach • Gaelic Symphony selected movements

Tuesday, December 5

A Grand Night for Singing: An Evening of Rodgers and Hammerstein

Tuesday, February 20

Laurel Littrell • Prairie Piece
Concerto Contest Winners
Borodin • Symphony No. 2

Tuesday, April 17 Farewell Concert—28 years as conductor of the K-State Orchestra

Beethoven • Overture to Egmont
Charpentier • "Depuis le jour" from *Louise* • Janie Brokenicky, soprano
Verdi • "Sempre libera" from *La Traviata* • Janie Brokenicky, soprano
Fauré • Elegy • David Littrell, cello • Paul Hunt, conductor
Parry • Jerusalem • K-State Concert Choir
Tchaikovsky • Symphony No. 5 in E Minor

KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY



Celebrating 10 years of Orchestra in the USD 475 School Curriculum

By: David A. Bernard, Sarah Jane Boyer,
& Anne Clark

Saturday, April 22, 2017, marked the 10th anniversary of the rebirth of the school orchestra program in Junction City, Kansas. At a time of concern for arts support and funding, Junction City offers some much-needed good news of the growth of string education in the public schools

The history of the orchestras in Junction City is rich and long. Mrs. J. Abbie Clarke Hogan started one of the first school orchestras in 1894. She continued until the 1920s, earning high honors in orchestra competitions in Kansas in 1917 and 1924. Upon her departure, a number of instructors continued the tradition until the 1950s. Sadly, at that point, like so many school orchestras in the U. S., tastes and funding changed and the program was discontinued.

In the late 1980's, two women in Junction City, Lydia Leek and Lois Moon, worked through the Junction City Arts Council to restart a Junction City-Ft. Riley community string orchestra program. Lydia designated her memorial for the effort, and Lois recruited Dr. Anne Clark. In the first 5 years of the string program, Clark taught out-of-school string classes and conducted the community orchestra using facilities of USD 475. With Lois as volunteer administrator, publicist, historian, and general director, the orchestra performed formal concerts and informal ones throughout the community. The program won Artist in Resident and Arts in Education grants from the Kansas Arts Commission. In the next years, a variety of local teachers, conductors, and college students continued the format. One of them, Henry Littich, is now himself a public-school orchestra teacher and guest conductor. Unfortunately, the grant money only lasted for a limited time, and in the late 1990s, the Arts Council decided to discontinue

the program. USD 475, however, stepped in to save the program as an after-school option for their students.

After the return of the Big Red 1 Army Division to Ft. Riley, the USD 475 School Board, together with school administrators, Charles Volland, Pat Anderson, and Dr. Ferrell Miller made the decision to create a full-fledged orchestra program within their school day. Junction City/Ft. Riley would no longer be the only 6A school district in Kansas without orchestra in its curriculum. Chris Smith was hired to teach at Junction City and Ft. Riley Middle Schools, and Dr. Clark worked part-time in the first year to start the high school class and teach one eighth-grade class at Ft. Riley Middle School. The district began purchasing instruments, equipment and music, and dedicating space to the program. Following that first year in 2006-2007, more teachers became involved including Mr. David Bernard-Stevens, Mr. Ethan Loewen, Mr. Carson Felt, Mr. Alan Clark, and Mr. Bob Mitchell. The program has grown from a few dozen to roughly 300 students over the last decade, employing three full-time teachers and an orchestra assistant.



The first Junction City High School Orchestra Class of 2007



String teachers, Chris Smith and Anne Clark (2006-2007), were the first string educators to offer string orchestra to grades 7-12 in the USD 475 music program.

The festival on April 22nd, 2017, included about 150 students, who took time outside of their busy spring semesters to add an extra concert. Students played with classmates from other buildings, and heard from college students and alumni who have had college success in music. Mr. Smith, Mr. Felt and Dr. Clark attended as guest conductors to supplement the current staff, and a number of alumni, graduates, and other adult players joined the finale performance in the new state-of-the-art Junction City Middle School concert hall. USD 475 is taking its place as a successful string program, brought back by the efforts of many dedicated supporters over many years.

With the successes of the USD 475 school program, efforts are now underway to consolidate support in the community. David Bernard-Stevens is reaching out to string players in the area to create a summer community orchestra, bringing the story of the school program full circle to its roots as a community-based program. It is hoped that with these two mutually supportive programs (the district providing instruments and student majorities, and the adult community players mentoring, tutoring, and encouraging the students year-round), that Junction City will become a permanent pillar of the string community in Kansas.

The program included music for first-, second-, and third-year orchestras, with high school students assisting the middle schoolers throughout the day. The program consisted of:

- Prairie Trail - Jeffrey S. Bishop (1st year)
- Fiddling Farmers - Carrie Lane Gruselle (1st year)
- March of the Meistersingers - arr. Dackow (2nd year)
- Time Trial - Andrew Dabczynski (2nd year)
- Tango d'Amore - Richard Meyer (3rd year)
- Gauntlet - Doug Spata (3rd year)
- Ode to Joy - arr. Caponegro (combined finale)
- String Explosion - Frank Rodgers (combined encore)

The authors have requested that, if possible, other members of the string education community continue to contribute to this history through the KASTA Newsletter.

David A. Bernard is the Junction City High School Orchestra Director and Flint Hills Community Orchestra Director.

Sarah Jane Boyer is the Orchestra and Choral Assistant at Junction City High School.

Dr. Anne Clark is a cellist and studio string teacher at Glenn's Music Store, as well as the Community Chamber Orchestra Director in Morganville, Kansas.

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Kansas City, MO 64154
816-746-0500



WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY

Register for the WSU Summer Symphony Orchestra

Join the **WSU Summer Symphony Orchestra**! We will perform Rimsky-Korsakov's Scheherazade, a thrilling tone poem of symphonic proportions based on the collection of tales known as The Thousand and One Nights. Evgeny Zvonnikov, Associate Concertmaster of the Wichita Symphony Orchestra, will be the featured soloist. The program will also include Samuel Barber's First Essay for Orchestra and Copland's Four Dance Episodes from Rodeo.

Participation fee: \$50; register online at http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=fa_cfai&p=/registration_form/

Rehearsals: Monday/Wednesday, 7-9:30pm, June 5-26

Rehearsal location: Duerksen Fine Arts Center, room C104

Dress rehearsal: Tuesday, June 27, 7-10pm

Concert: Wednesday, June 28, 7:30pm

Concert location: Miller Concert Hall

For information, contact Dr. Mark Laycock, Director of Orchestras (316-978-6202; mark.laycock@wichita.edu)



Members of the WSU Symphony Orchestra accompanied jazz guitarist Pat Metheny in concert Saturday, April 15, at the Orpheum Theatre in downtown Wichita. The concert, part of the Wichita Jazz Festival, featured percussionist Matt Wilson, a WSU alumnus, and bassist Martin Wind.

String Fling @ Kansas State University January 13-14, 2018



An easy-to-use registration process will be implemented this fall to greatly ease teachers' workloads. All registrations will be online, and school districts may make direct deposits for tuition payments. The website will be updated with 2018 information by this August. Mailings are a thing of the past, so please bookmark <http://string-flingsu.weebly.com> to see registration information by mid-October.

This will be David Littrell's 31st and last year as Director of String Fling because he will be retiring from Kansas State University in June 2018.

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING NEW FOR CONTEST?

An advertisement for a music anthology. The background is a photograph of a woman in a black top and a long, flowing yellow and pink dress, playing a violin in a green field. The sky is blue with white clouds. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

**VIOLIN MUSIC BY WOMEN:
A Graded Anthology**

Four volumes, graded from beginning to advanced, compiled and edited by Dr. Cora Cooper of Kansas State University.

For more information, recordings, or to order, visit:
www.violinmusicbywomen.com

University of Kansas String Studio News



KU string students are looking forward to a great summer! **Anne Schneller** (BM, violin) received a scholarship to study at the Round Top Music Festival, and will be a Festival Scholar at the Heartland Chamber Music Festival. **Sunnat Ibrahim** (MM, cello) and **Mandy Wang** (DMA, violin) received a scholarship to perform at the Aspen International Music Festival. **Caroline Beazley** (BM, violin) will study at the Vianden International Festival in Luxembourg. **Avery Parkhurst** (BM, violin) will continue his Suzuki teacher certification and will attend the Heartland Chamber Music Festival. **Henry Setton** (BM, violin) will study at the Green Mountain Festival on a full scholarship, and **Xiaolai Zhou** (DMA, cello) will attend the Tanglewood Music Center. **Katherine Okesson** (DMA, violin) won a position with the Hot Spring Music Festival as an orchestral apprentice, and received a scholarship to pursue Orff-Schulwerk certification.

KU violin student **Aaron Chang** and KU alumnus **Kelly Bohling** (MM, 2016) were invited to perform a series of chamber music and chamber orchestra concerts in Eutin (Germany) during the Classical Beat International Music Festival. Students from Europe and America were invited to participate in this prestigious event.



This past January, violinists **Mandy Wang** and **Aaron Chang** (studio of Dr. Mathieu) received a fellowship to join the International Chamber Orchestra of Puerto Rico (ICOPR). The ensemble toured Puerto Rico, played several outreach concerts, and performed twice on live TV. The ICOPR invites faculty members of renowned music schools to play alongside talented students.



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Interested in submitting your ideas to the KASTA Newsletter?

We welcome your thoughts. Please submit all materials and query letters to:

Jacob M. Dakon, editor | Email: jmdakon@ku.edu

Submissions to the KASTA Newsletter should be of interest to string musicians and educators or members of the community with a stake in string education. Our audience consists of K-12 school string and orchestra educators, non-collegiate and collegiate studio teachers, music education professors, students, conductors, performers, and other interested parties.

Our Mission

The KASTA Newsletter is a tri-annual publication of the Kansas Chapter of the American String Teachers Association. Our mission is to promote communication and a sense community between collegiate, pre-service, and professional string educators throughout the state of Kansas by disseminating critical thought and opinion through discussion of string-specific topics. These include, but are not limited to:

- Articles examining pedagogical, curricular, and other educational perspectives;
- Articles that highlight a program's noteworthy experiences;
- Articles examining psychological perspectives pertaining to music and human behavior;
- Historical accounts of Kansas music programs or related material;
- Students' creative or music-educational writings;
- Research abstracts or reports that suggest direct application to instructional environments;
- Reviews (e.g., books, music, research); and
- Rebuttals and letters that promote healthy and progressive discussion.

We believe that sharing knowledge and skills is one of the primary means of advancing string education. Such advancements, we hope, will continue to enhance educational experiences for all Kansan music students and teachers, past, present, and future.

Length & Format:

Article submissions may be 250 to 3,000 words maximum. Three thousand words are equivalent to 6–9 typed, double-spaced pages. Musical examples, sidebars, references, tables may constitute the equivalent of one or two pages in addition to the text. Articles should be in either APA or Chicago format.

Articles may not promote products or commercial programs. An author may mention his/her studio, school or ensemble only in the context of one example among many. Mentioning programs or products should be solely for the sake of example to highlight a point in the article.

Given copyright restrictions, please do not submit works that have been previously published in other newsletters or journals without written permission from the entity in possession of the copyright.