

Moore Tidings

A treble clef is positioned to the left of the word 'Tidings'. To the right of the word 'Moore' is a single eighth note with a stem.

**DEPARTMENT
OF MUSIC**

UNC Pembroke Department of Music Newsletter

Spring 2024

Dr. Joseph Van Hassel, chair



Moore Tidings

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Moore Tidings

I am very excited for the return of the UNCP Music newsletter, *Moore Tidings*! It has been several years since its last publication, and I'm glad it's back. Thanks so much to Travis Moffitt for designing and to Dr. Joshua Busman for editing.

In this newsletter you will find information about music department (students and faculty) happenings from 2022-2023 and our plans for 2023-2024. As always, there is a lot going on! We offer many free concerts on-campus, including student ensembles and recitals, faculty recitals, guest artists, and more. Please refer to the UNCP Music Department website or the end of this newsletter for the most current information on concerts:

<https://www.uncp.edu/departments/music/calendar-events>

This newsletter gives only a small sampling of all of the fabulous endeavors that our faculty and students take part in. Please enjoy reading through the newsletter and checking out the photos and videos!

Thank you for your support of UNCP Music.

- Joseph Van Hassel, chair



Musical Theatre

The 2023-2024 academic year is off to a great start for the Musical Theatre Program. First, we have a new Director of Musical Theatre, Mr. Daniel Bukin. Daniel is returning to his home state of North Carolina after living in New Mexico for the last few years teaching K-12 music and directing various musical theatre productions in the Albuquerque area. He is an alumnus of Appalachian State University and the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. Daniel is also a published composer/arranger with both T.U.X. People's Music and ALRY Publications. For more information, check out his profiles below:

<https://www.tuxpeoplesmusic.com/daniel-bukin.html>

<https://ummpstore.com/collections/bukin-daniel>

The fall semester musical production was *Songs For A New World* with music and lyrics by Jason Robert Brown. The show is a theatrical song cycle that visits its characters as they each face a turning point in their lives: a deep realization, a difficult decision, or an opportunity to take a stand. The score features a diverse array of genres from R&B and gospel to pop and rock and provided a fabulous showcase for our students.

Voice Studies

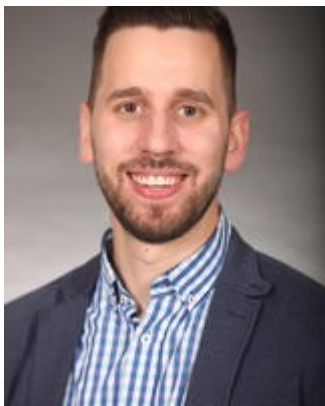
Piper Pack-Smith joined the UNCP music faculty in Fall 2023 and is excited to bring musical theatre singing to its best year yet! Before making the trip across the country, Dr. Pack-Smith had a busy summer in 2023, musically directing *Kinky Boots!* to sold-out crowds in Phoenix, Arizona. The message of acceptance and the delightful musical score made her forever a fan.

In June, she also directed two camps. A voice and choir camp, which had high school students singing solos, playing theory games, and joining together for some great pop choral numbers—as well as a musical theatre camp, where middle school and high schoolers put on a mini-show, costumes and everything, after just one week of rehearsals!

Dr. Pack-Smith hopes to bring her experiences in camps for local students as well as exploring the amazing world of music theatre to UNCP. Already this Fall, she geared up some of the more experienced singers to participate in North Carolina's NATS Music Theatre auditions. This was an exciting chance for others to see what UNCP brings to the scene!

Daniel Bukin - Musical Theatre

Daniel has a string of notable musical direction credits to his name. He has lent his expertise to productions such as *Blood Brothers* at Winston-Salem Theatre Alliance, *Route 66* at Kernersville Little Theatre, *A Chorus Line: High School Edition* at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, *Big Fish & Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* at Musical Theatre Southwest, and *Grease* at Albuquerque Little Theatre.



He is also an accomplished composer and arranger. His original works have been premiered by ensembles including Loadbang, the Seattle Pacific University Chamber Orchestra, and the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. Many of his compositions can be found in the catalogs of T.U.X. People's Music and ALRY Publications.

A few of Daniel's conducting highlights include three years with the Triad Area Medical Orchestra, initially as an assistant conductor before taking on the role of full-time music director. He also served as Assistant Conductor for two seasons of the University of North Carolina School of the Arts' production of *The Nutcracker*. Notably, he assumed the role of Assistant Conductor for the A.J. Fletcher Opera Institute's productions of Daniel Catán's *Florencia en el Amazonas* and Gioachino Rossini's *La Cenerentola*. Daniel also served as a Conducting Fellow with the Winston-Salem Symphony.

As a music educator, Daniel has served in a variety of positions and programs throughout North Carolina and New Mexico. His work in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School District, Albuquerque Public Schools District, and the Moriarty-Edgewood School District includes serving as a guest clinician, accompanist, private lesson instructor in piano, voice, and bassoon, and full-time teacher of the Moriarty High School piano and Moriarty Middle School choir programs.

Daniel holds a Bachelor's degree in Music Theory/Composition from Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina, and a Master's degree in Orchestral Conducting from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

He is a student of Dr. Scott Meister, Dr. Ben Hjertmann, and Christopher James Lees.

Cameron Collar - Low Brass



Cameron Collar is an active freelance trombonist and private lessons instructor based out of the Triangle area of North Carolina. Cameron completed his bachelor of music degree in trombone performance at Appalachian State University in Boone, NC, where he studied with Dr. Drew Leslie and Dr. Joseph Brown. Upon graduation, Cameron continued his studies at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY, where he studied with Larry Zalkind, and earned his master of music degree in trombone performance and literature. Some of Cameron's recent performance highlights include performing on occasion with the Southern Tier Symphony, the Durham Symphony, and with UNCP's Faculty

Brass Quintet. Cameron is a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, and the Pi Kappa Lambda music honor society.

Piper Pack-Smith - Lecturer of Voice

Dr. Pack-Smith is a veteran Mezzo Soprano, making a mark in productions both on stage and in musical direction. Her operatic work as soloist and chorister includes the Los Angeles Opera, the Santa Fe Opera, the Phoenix Symphony, Opera Memphis, Opera Pacific, Lyric Opera Dan Diego, Arizona Chorus, Memphis Symphony, and the Bronx Opera.



Dr. Pack-Smith's extensive work outside of opera includes creating the role of Mama in the Off-Broadway production *Valentino*, singing Mrs. Lovett with Theatre Cedar Rapids, national sold-out tours in Gilbert and Sullivan as both Buttercup and Ruth, and Julia Child with Milwaukee Opera Theater. She has performed and recorded original music and was ensemble lead in a long run of *Do! Jump!* at the Geffen theater in Los Angeles. Most recently, she sang the principal role of MC in the American premiere of *Rhondda Rips It Up!* and has recorded the role of Thea 4 for the new musical *Woman in the Moon*.

As a musical director, Dr. Pack-Smith has prepared and conducted *Romance, Romance, A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*, MTI's *All Together Now!* cabaret and *Kinky Boots*. In addition to preparing incidental music for *Secret in the Wings* she has held positions at Pepperdine University, Augustana College and Paradise Valley Community College, teaching voice, music theatre, voice for actors, and audition workshops. She has a passion for music theatre camps, which she has now run for four years.

Dr. Pack Smith's research on the complex gender identity of the contralto and Rossini's historical relationship with the voice type has been published by the Opera Journal and presented at the Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities. She holds degrees from the University of Arizona, UC Irvine and Pepperdine University.

Dr. Pack-Smith has received the PVCC "Arty" award for excellence in fine arts faculty multiple times and an MONCA award for the Los Angeles region.

Holland Phillips - Strings

Violinist and violist Holland Phillips was born in Mississippi and raised by North Carolinian parents. It was only natural that she would eventually call North Carolina home. She and her family relocated to Rockingham, North Carolina from Portland, Oregon in October of 2020. In Oregon, she taught at Pacific University and Lewis and Clark College. She simultaneously served as the principal violist of the Eugene Symphony. Her busy career also included performing regularly with musicians of the Oregon Symphony, the 45th Parallel Universe, Mousai REMIX string quartet, the Oregon Bach Festival, and the Portland Chamber Orchestra. She has played under the batons of John Williams, Giancarlo Guerrero, Helmuth Rilling, and Marin Alsop as well as accompanied Itzhak Perlman, Joshua Bell, and Renée Fleming. Holland continues to travel back west to perform as principal violist of both *OrchestraNext* (Eugene Ballet) and the Sunriver Music Festival.



She has been a featured soloist with several orchestras, including the Eugene Symphony, Salem Chamber Orchestra, Corban University Orchestra (as faculty soloist), and the Starkville/Mississippi State University Symphony. Reviewers have praised the “spirit and clear tone” of her playing (*Leipziger Volkszeitung*) and the “serious intensity” that she brings to performances (*Register-Guard*). She has also been invited to perform and present research papers at regional and national conferences, including SEAMUS (Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the United States), SASS (Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study), AMS (American Musicological Society), and MTNA (Music Teachers National Association).

She currently teaches at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke and plays in several orchestras in the North Carolina region, including as a member of the first violin section of the Fayetteville Symphony. She is also working to build musical communities through chamber music performances and educational outreach in underserved areas of North Carolina, currently focusing on the Sandhills region.

Holland completed her doctoral studies at the University of Oregon with her dissertation, “*Tidens Fylde: Temporality and Tradition in Carl Nielsen’s Works for Violin.*” She also holds degrees from Vanderbilt University (*summa cum laude*), and the New England Conservatory (honors). She also holds diplomas from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts and the Leipzig Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Leipzig, Germany.

Matthew Rybicki - Bass, Jazz

Raised in Cleveland, Ohio, Matthew Rybicki has performed with Wynton Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, Ernie Watts, Laurence Hobgood, Hilary Kole, Wycliffe Gordon, Ted Rosenthal, Mark Gould, Nnenna Freelon, Renee Fleming, Terell Stafford, Winard Harper, Mark Whitfield, Victor Goines and Marcus Printup. He has also had the great fortune of performing at many well-respected venues in New York such as The Village Vanguard and The Blue Note, as well as concert halls and festivals in locations ranging from Italy, to Qatar, to Taiwan. Rybicki maintains an active performing schedule, working with his own ensembles and with many accomplished colleagues and mentors such as Lew Tabackin, Lewis Nash, Dan Nimmer, Oscar Perez, Christian Sands, Gerald Clayton, David Berger, and Charenee Wade.



An adept educator, Matthew is a faculty member at The Juilliard School and was an artist/instructor for Jazz at Lincoln Center where he developed and taught the inaugural bass course in the Essentially Ellington Band Director Academy. He has also been the Music Director for several educational performance initiatives, including Jazz in the Schools and hospital tours in conjunction with Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts' Department of Services for People with Disabilities. In addition, Rybicki was a program coordinator for Midori and Friends and has led musical workshops at both The Whitney Museum of American Art and The Guggenheim, where he designed and presented educational performances that incorporate jazz with fine art.

Matthew has presented educational clinics in a wide variety of settings worldwide. Highlights include master-classes and clinics at the International Society of Bassists Annual Convention (Rochester, NY), Qatar Music Academy (Doha, Qatar), The Vitoria Jazz Festival (Vitoria, Spain), Georgia State University (Atlanta, GA), Snow College (Ephraim, UT), Centro Nacional de las Artes (Mexico City, Mexico), Spoleto Music Festival (Spoleto, Italy), and The National Jazz Museum in Harlem (New York, NY).

He has also authored books for Hal Leonard Publications including *The Hal Leonard Jazz Bass Method*, released in 2016, and *Ray Brown: Legendary Jazz Bassist* and the *Goldmine Series for Bass*, both of which were released in 2015.

Driven, Matthew's debut recording released in 2009, allowed him to formally be acknowledged on the jazz scene as a performer and composer of note. Recording with jazz greats Ron Blake, Freddie Hendrix, Gerald Clayton, and Ulysses Owens, he was able to capture innovative and sophisticated performances of newly created original works that maintain close ties to the history of jazz.

Matthew received his graduate degree from The Juilliard School in 2004 and his Bachelor of Music from Berklee College of Music in 1995.

Peter Swanson - Cello

Praised for his "fiery playing," "dramatic performance," and "stunning orchestral playing," rising cellist Peter Swanson has performed across the United States as soloist, cutting-edge collaborator, and orchestral leader. Recent highlights include concerto performances with the Lake Superior Chamber Orchestra and Northshore Philharmonic Orchestra



(both MN), as well as multiple tours of entirely unaccompanied recitals. His passion for the modern cello repertoire has led him to tackle the works of Hindemith, Crumb, Britten, Ligeti, Barber, Shostakovich, Dutilleux, Lutoslawski, Golijov, Augusta Read Thomas, Peter Vukmirovich Stevens, and John Luther Adams. His debut CD "Anti-Compass" was released in August 2021 through the Sheva Collection (United Kingdom) label.

As an orchestral musician, his leadership roles span nearly a dozen orchestras at the community, collegiate, and professional level. Accolades include a full fellowship to the National Orchestral Institute, the inaugural Prince George's Philharmonic Cello Internship (MD), and two years as endowed principal of the Luther College Symphony and Chamber Orchestras. He can also be heard on the Grammy-nominated NAXOS recording of the National Orchestral Institute performing masterworks by Ruggles, Stucky, and Harbison (2018). As a chamber musician, he performs throughout the country as cellist of Catchfire Collective, an innovative chamber ensemble based in North Carolina, and with pianist Meagan Lacher as Duo 336. Other chamber tenures include the Ekklesia Trio, Music In The Shape Of A Pear, the TEMPO Ensemble, the Gate City Camerata, Present~Continuous, and the Di Domani Quartet. In these groups he has premiered numerous pieces and promoted recent compositions from around the world.

Dr. Swanson has also been recognized for his scholarship and compositions. He has published numerous articles for The Cello Museum on the works of German composer Max Reger, and has been a prize-winner in multiple composition competitions. His music had been performed around the nation and has explored new territory in classical music.

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Many of his works can be heard on his website and on YouTube.

He serves on the faculty of the University of North Carolina-Pembroke, Methodist University, Guilford College, Catawba Valley Community College, and the UNC-School of the Arts Community Music School. He holds degrees from the University of North Carolina-Greensboro, the University of Maryland, and Luther College (IA). Mentors include Alex Ezerman, Eric Kutz, Cole Tutino, and Rebecca Peterson. He has performed in master-classes for Andres Diaz, Robert DeMaine Cecylia Barczyk, Richard Belcher, Tulio Rondon, Christine Kim, and Lawrence Stombeck. He is a winner of the National School Orchestra Award, the Luther Music Excellence Award, and the Burlington Industries Music Award. Peter plays a 2013 Beckmann cello specially commissioned by Givens Violins in Minneapolis.



Julie Welch - Voice

Soprano Julie Welch has performed regionally with the Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma for two consecutive summers. She originated the role of Mulan in the brand-new stage production of Disney's *When You Wish: A Celebration of The Disney Song Book* and recently performed the role of Pamina in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*. She has been a Concerto Aria Competition winner at Oklahoma Baptist University and a featured performer at the OK Mozart Music Festival. Welch, a versatile singing actress, feels comfortable in opera, operetta, and musical theater. She has had extensive dance training and has been featured in several collegiate productions.



In addition to her performance career, Welch has a Bachelor of Music in voice performance from Oklahoma Baptist University where she was a music mentor and tutor for aural skills, music theory, music history, and lyric diction. She also holds a Master of Music degree in voice performance and pedagogy from Nazareth University where she was the assistant director and assistant stage manager for the opera production, *Hansel and Gretel*.

She is currently working on a Doctorate in Musical Arts at the University of South Carolina where she teaches music appreciation, private voice lessons, and recently stage managed for Opera at USC. Her field of research is focused on how to incorporate ballet techniques into training singers.

Crystal Wood - Administrative Support Specialist

Crystal Wood is a Chicago native who grew up with music in her blood. At the age of 10 she started her traditional music training, and continued throughout her life. She attended the United States Merchant Marine Academy in NY, and the University of North Carolina at Pembroke in NC. Crystal is a trained oboist and voice instructor who also teaches very beginning piano and violin for the “newest aspiring virtuosos.”



Most recently Crystal has been working as a vocalist and outreach coordinator for the nonprofit CAMMO (Center for American Military Music Opportunities). Under CAMMO, she performs nationwide with the groups “Voices of Service” and the “American Military Spouses Choir.” Screen credits include *America’s Got Talent Season 8*, the *Military Channel*, *Hallmark Home and Family*, the *PBS Kennedy Center Lincoln Awards*, *Oprah’s Life You Want Tour* and the *Queen Latifah show*. In addition to her screen credits, she also travels the country with the American Military Spouses Choir and has performed at such venues as the Kennedy Center, Sea World, the Pearl Harbor Memorial, Radio City Music Hall, and Capital Records with artists such as the Cincinnati Pops, Jewel, Aloe Blacc, Chris Botti, David Foster, Arturo

Sandoval, Chaka Khan, as well as many others. In addition to CAMMO, Crystal is also a member of the group Deep River Singers, which recently performed at Carnegie Hall in NYC. Deep River Singers promotes the history of African American spirituals and repertoire, and performs nationwide at various events and venues.

One of the most rewarding roles she currently serves in is as co-director/teacher for a children’s choir called “CAMMO Kids.” “CAMMO Kids” is a completely volunteer run children’s choir that offers music education for the children of military families for free. This is a cause that is very near to her heart because she was an active-duty Army spouse for 20 years and is a mother to a seventeen-year-old daughter. Crystal also has been a music teacher for the Metropolitan School of the Arts in Alexandria, Virginia; Music and Arts in Fayetteville, NC; and Cumberland County Schools in NC where she was a finalist for the 2023 Beginner Teacher of the Year award.

Overall, Crystal believes that music fundamentals are critical and lay the foundation to becoming a successful musician. Perhaps more important, Crystal believes that music should be FUN and engaging. She is full of energy and strives to not only teach the technical aspects of music education, but constantly encourages students to go above and beyond what they thought they were capable of. Music not only develops the mind, but also touches the soul.

Larry Arnold



Dr. Larry Arnold, Professor of Music and Media Integration, retired in May after a 33-year career at UNCP. He taught audio production, music theory, jazz combo, bass viol, composition, and media integration. He is a founding member of the UNCP Digital Academy and the UNC Digital Content Consortium. Dr. Arnold averaged more than 150 professional performances each year (bass, piano, and guitar).

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The Music Department created an annual award to recognize our many accomplished Music graduates that have studied at UNCP over the last 80 years since the university began awarding Music degrees. Distinguished Alumni are recognized at our annual Honors Recital, where they speak and perform or display their works. They give masterclasses to our students during their visit. They are also treated to a catered dinner in their honor at the Chancellor's Dining Room.



2022 Distinguished Alumni Award

Richard Iacona is a 1969 graduate of UNCP, then Pembroke State College (PSC). While at PSC, Iacona was in the College Chorus and College Singers, was a student-director of the College Swingers jazz band, and was president of the PSC chapter of the Music Educators National Conference (MENC), now known as the National Association for Music Educators (NAfME). After receiving a Bachelor of Science in Music, Iacona went on to study composition before continuing his education at Long Island University, where he received a master's degree in theory and composition. Iacona has been a member of the LIU faculty since 1998, teaching courses in jazz piano, music theory, and composition and directing jazz ensembles. Iacona's professional experience includes composing the theme song for the Telemundo series "12 Corazones," working as the arranger for The Rainbow Room orchestra at Rockefeller Center in New York, and orchestrating the recording of "Feliz Navidad" on Celine Dion's 1998 release *These Are Special Times*. He has also arranged music that has appeared in several movies and has composed and arranged several pieces for choir.

2023 Distinguished Alumni Award

Brittany J. Green is a North Carolina-based composer, creative, and educator. Her music facilitates intimate musical spaces that ignite visceral responses at the intersection of sound, video, movement, and text. Recent works engage sonification and black feminist theory as tools for sonic world-building, exploring the construction, displacement, and rupture of systems. Her artistic practice includes spoken and

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electronic performance, interdisciplinary collaboration, experiential projects, and acoustic and electroacoustic chamber and large ensemble works. Her music has been featured at TIME:SPANS, NYC Electronic Music Festival, WoCo Fest, and Experimental Sound Studio. Her collaborators include the International Contemporary



Ensemble, JACK Quartet, Transient Canvas, Castle of our Skins, Emory University Symphony Orchestra, and Wachovia Winds. Brittany holds awards from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, ASCAP Foundation, and New Music USA. She is a doctoral candidate at Duke University, pursuing a PhD in music composition as a Dean's Graduate Fellow.

Tim Altman - Band, Trumpet

I'm starting my 25th year of teaching here at UNCP (32nd year of teaching music... started with high school band) and this past spring and summer still provided me with new opportunities. I performed and taught at the conservatory in Riva Del Garda, Italy in May. Here is an article about that amazing experience. <https://www.uncp.edu/news/uncp-professor-tim-altman-leads-italian-conservatory-masterclass>

Professor Ivano Ascari who teaches trumpet at the conservatories in Riva Del Garda and in Trento (Italy) played a solo with the UNCP Band on the October 10 concert in GPAC.



My wife and I moved to Raleigh so I have had some performing opportunities up there. I played Verdi's Requiem with the NC Master Chorale in Meymandi Hall and got to play principal trumpet with Carolina Ballet's *Orpheus and Eurydice* in Memorial Hall (Raleigh).

We hosted the 44th Annual UNCP Honor Band in March with almost 100 public schools participating (students and directors). Composer, Randall Standridge conducted the high school band and Phillip Riggs (Grammy winning music educator) and Ed Kiefer (composer) conducted the middle school band. March 16, 2024 is the date of the UNCP Honor Band this year. We are excited that Andrea Brown from the University of Maryland will conduct the high school group!

We also hosted MPA (Music Performance Assessment or concert festival as some of you know it) for the South Eastern District Bandmasters Association. Meggan Hollis and Travis Moffitt were instrumental (a little pun...) in making this event happen. I'm so grateful for all their work.



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I conducted the All-County high school band in Sampson and Columbus County in the Spring. I really enjoyed these two-day events and was so proud of the student's work. This spring, I will conduct the Duplin All-County high school band.

I am a Yamaha Performing Artist and serve as principal trumpet for the Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra and the Carolina Philharmonic. I have been with the Fayetteville Symphony for nearly 20 years. I started conducting with them while they did a search in 2004. I still do some substitute conducting for Stefan Sanders, the current conductor of the Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra. I was thrilled to get to perform the entire Neruda concerto with FSO last season. I hope we can get students to attend some of these symphony performances this year.



I conducted the Moore County Band (a community band that meets in Pinehurst) in several concerts last year. I also conducted a concert of the Fayetteville Youth Symphony last year.



Governor Roy Cooper appointed me to the Board of Trustees of the North Carolina Symphony. NC Symphony is one of the largest fine arts organizations in the state with more than 30 million dollars in endowment and a very large infrastructure.

I was a Fulbright U.S. Scholar in 2019 and have been able



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to remain involved. I am on the Peer Review committee for Fulbright U.S. Scholars. We reviewed the applications in October for the 2024-2025 Fulbright U.S. Scholars.

Near the end of August, I completed several Technical Reviews for the Bi-national Fulbright Commission in Egypt (AY2024-2025 Fulbright Egyptian Student Program). These are Egyptian citizens (usually music graduate students) who have applied to come study in the U.S.



I led a consortium to compose (commission) a work for Dr. Bob Romine. Dr. Romine was the band director and trumpet teacher (the position I am in) at UNCP for 22 years and passed away. I finally premiered the work, *Crisp* (by Jim Stephenson), in November of last year.

Joshua Busman - Musicology



The 2022-2023 school year was a hugely productive one for me as both a scholar and teacher. At the end of the spring semester, I was awarded tenure and promotion to the rank of Associate Professor in the Music Department, and I have also continued my work as Assistant Dean of the Esther G. Maynor Honors College. Additionally, I continued my role as a faculty advisor for UNCP's Kappa chapter of the Alpha Chi National College Honor Society. This year, three members of our chap-

ter organized the first-ever TEDxUNCPembroke event, and I was thrilled to be asked to serve as faculty sponsor and emcee. Their extraordinary work earned them recognition from the national office of Alpha Chi as well as the "Red-Tailed Hawk Organization of the Year" from UNCP Campus Engagement and Leadership.

One of my biggest teaching activities this year has been developing and delivering the new "Indigenous Cultures and Communities" curriculum for our general education music classes. This began last summer with the help of UNCP Music alumna and current Ph.D. student in ethnomusicology at the University of Alberta, Alexis Baril. Together, Alexis and I developed two full weeks of lectures, readings, and media examples for instructors to draw from, and in August 2022 I conducted a training for instructors that guided them through the materials we created.



Over the summer, I was fortunate enough to represent UNCP at several national and international academic gatherings including the Liturgy Conference at the Yale Institute of Sacred Music and the Christian Congregational Music Conference at Ripon College Cuddesdon in the UK. My trip to New Haven also included a private tour of Yale's famous Beinecke Rare Book Library, where I got to see dozens of musical and devotional manuscripts dating back to the third century CE!



Article

"A Fun and Funky Disco Pastiche": David Crowder Confronts Evangelical Performance Anxiety

Joshua Kalin Busman

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Abstract: Within evangelical communities, "worship" and "performance" are often diametrically opposed, with the latter instantly evoking damning connotations of pretense or artifice. This leads many artists to utilize a strategy of disavowal to legitimize their music-making as worship—erasing the "performance" category in order to highlight the ultimate worshipful aim of their actions. David Crowder, especially during his lengthy tenure with the David Crowder Band (DCB), places performative elements front and center through calculated uses of sound in live performances and on recordings. My analysis in this essay will focus on the ways that David Crowder legitimates "performance" as its own distinct musical space, using a dialectical move to navigate the performance/worship problem by emphasizing its divide rather than simply trying to erase it.

Keywords: evangelicalism; worship; performance; liturgy

This spring, I also had a journal article, "["A Fun and Funky Disco Pastiche": David Crowder Confronts Evangelical Performance Anxiety,"](#)" published in the open-source peer-reviewed journal *Religions* for a special issue on the role of performance in religious ritual. Another article titled "'Church is the New Radio': Worship and the WOW Series (1996-

2019)," co-authored with Debbie Wong, a colleague from Duke Divinity School will be forthcoming in the journal *Liturgy*, in the next month. Additionally, I continued my public-facing work with the Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra as their "Music Nerd-in-Residence," writing program notes, emceeding events, and providing pre-concert talks for their Masterworks series.

Kalem Graham - Athletic Bands, Low Brass

In Fall of 2022 the Spirit of the Carolinas Marching Band performed their show "Break Free: Who I'm Meant to Be" featuring music from Ariana Grande, Katy Perry,



The Greatest Showman, Taylor Swift, and Keri Hilson. The band performed at five home games as well as Pembroke Day, the UNCP Homecoming Parade, The Pembroke Twilight Christmas Parade, and The UNCP Music Department's Holiday Extravaganza.

This year, the show theme is "Mixtape: Vol. 1" and includes music from Whitney Houston, Madonna, Seal, and Britney Spears.

The band performed at six home games while also performing exhibitions at Midway, Clinton, and Brunswick County.

The band also performed at Pembroke Day, the UNCP Homecoming Parade, the Pembroke Twilight Christmas Parade, the Lumberton Christmas Parade, and the Laurinburg Christmas Parade. The band was also invited to perform in the MLK Parade by the city of Wilmington.



Lindsey Jacob - Theory, Saxophone

I traveled with UNCP saxophone students to the 43rd International Saxophone Symposium on January 13 and 14, 2023. The event, hosted by the United States Navy Band, was held at George Mason University Center for the Arts in Fairfax, Virginia.



The symposium featured a diverse selection of saxophone performances, masterclasses, and lectures. Students attended professional performances by the U.S. Navy Concert Band, the Navy Band Commodores jazz ensemble, and featured performances by Melissa Aldana, Robert Young, and Timothy McAllister. Students also attended lectures from distinguished professionals covering saxophone-related topics, including tone, breath control, improvisation, altissimo, and performance anxiety. Fall saxophone students are currently preparing applications for performance and opportunities at the 44th International Saxophone Symposium held January 2024 at George Mason University.

I also presented research on the benefits, strategies, and challenges of integrating course content from aural skills, applied music, class music, and ensembles into the music theory classroom at the 2023 Fine Arts Conference hosted by the North Carolina Community College System Associate in Fine Arts (NCCCS AFA) Association. The presentation, "Integrating Core Music Curriculum into the Music Theory Classroom" focused on core music curriculum for the first two years of an undergraduate music degree.

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Jaeyoon Kim - Choir, Voice

On Jan. 30, 2023, Voice Faculty members Dr. Jaeyoon Kim and Dr. Rebecca Loar presented "Ein Liederabend" accompanied by Dr. Seung Ah Kim at Moore Hall Auditorium. The program featured German art song selections by Beethoven, Wolf, Brahms, Strauss and Schubert. Dr. Kevin Streich also joined for Schubert's lied for soprano, clarinet and piano.



Dr. Jaeyoon & Seung Ah Kim also presented Kims's Recital as a part of Fayetteville State University International Music Festival at the Seabrook Auditorium in FSU on March 11, 2023.

Dr. Kim directed the Robeson County 2023 All County High School Chorus on March 10 at the First Baptist Church of Lumberton. Ms. Tomoko Galeano served as the accompanist for this concert.

A guest choir from South Korea, The Korale, visited UNCP during their US concert tour, and presented a choir concert at the Berea Baptist Church on January 17, 2023. They had a joint class/rehearsal with Pembroke Singers on the same day. At the end of the program, both choirs performed two pieces together as the combined choir, conducted by Dr. Jaeyoon Kim and Mr. Seung Yong Shin. Dr. Kim was a member of this choir when he was a college student in Korea.

Pembroke Singers resumed their high school visitations. In 2022-2023 Singers visited South Columbus High School in Fall 2022 and Gray's



Creek Cleveland High Schools in Spring 2023. They presented choral concerts as well as some students solo performances.

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On April 23, 2023 Pembroke Singers presented a church concert at Southern Pines United Methodist Church, where Singers alumna Taylor Hickey works as the music director. The program included "Remember the Songs," directed by the composer, Adam Griffiths.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=-xA7CT5mSLc>

Pembroke Singers was chosen as featured performers for the North Carolina ACDA (American Choral Directors Association) conference this fall and presented a choral concert at Duke Chapel on October 13th. This will be their third appearance at NC ACDA.



José Rivera - Music Education, Choir



Last year, the Music Department hosted the 8th Annual Music Education Lecture Series. The series features prominent music education scholars, practitioners, and guest clinicians who shared their expertise with our students and area teachers. In addition, our NAFME (National Association for Music Education) Student Chapter hosted their 1st UNCP Music Education Alumni Concert.

Congratulations for the outstanding leadership of our UNCP Collegiate Chapter Officers led by Eduardo Carranza, Amanda Botto, Casey Bell, and Hunter Warren.

The University Chorale directed by Dr. José Rivera, Sandhills Community College Choirs directed by Dr. Terri Sinclair, and Pinecrest High School Choirs directed by Kristen Foyles joined forces to perform at our first UNCP Unity Concert last Spring at Pinecrest High Auditorium.



Mark Tollefsen - Theory, Piano



The UNCP Piano Studio had an active 2022-2023 year, highlighted by a terrific senior recital by Jaelyn Wilson that included standards by Chopin, Clara Schumann, Debussy, Prokofiev, Albeniz and Joplin. Kudos to Jaelyn for also performing a concerto with the UNCP Concert Band and being a featured soloist at the 2023 Alpha Chi National Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Congrats to Jackson Mills on his performances in the PURC Symposium and S.C. Jazz Festival and to Zachary

Peschken and Elaina Price on their rousing performance during the Holiday Extravaganza. Zach, Jackson and Elaina were also awarded the Margaret Jones Award, a Faculty Recognition Award, and the Cindy Campbell Award, respectively. In addition to performing as soloists and accompanists on campus and throughout the region, the UNCP piano majors gave back to the community as teachers and church musicians.

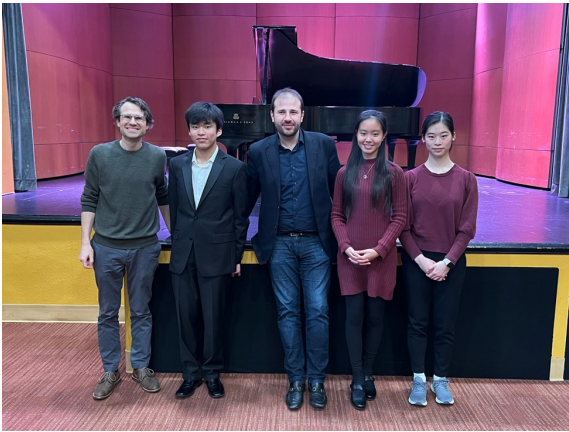
The year also featured notable guest performances, starting with Connor Chee's inspiring recital on November 16. Co-sponsored by the Department of American Indian Studies, Chee's concert featured his own compositions, which draw from his Navajo Heritage. Mikael Darmanie, a Red Springs native and one of New York's most in-demand interpreters of new music, presented a thought-provoking recital on April 4. On January 25, acclaimed and award-winning pianist Stanislav Khristenko conducted a masterclass with pianists from Florence Ko's pre-college studio. The 2023-2024 year will include more guest artists, including Miki Sawada on October 3, the fifth annual Piano Day on February 10, and the debut performance of a studio commission from new faculty member Lindsey Jacob.



Dr. Tollefsen collaborated with Dr. Timothy Altman for two recitals at UNCP as well

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as performances at Midway High School and Laurinburg Presbyterian Church. Recitals with Dr. Joseph Van Hassel occurred at UNCP and the University of Cincinnati. Dr. Tollefsen



judged for the Elizabeth Bullard Competition for High School Pianists, sponsored by the Cary-Apex Piano Teachers Association and presented "Ten Fun (and Not So Fun) Exercises to Improve Your Students' Sight-

Reading" for the Tidewater Music Teachers Forum in Norfolk, Virginia. He continued as the state chair for the North Carolina competitions of the Music Teachers National Association, organizing and running the event at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. His research for the upcoming year includes study



of the piano works of Emahoy Tsegué-Maryam Guèbrou, an Ethiopian nun who died in 2023 at the age of ninety-nine, as well as a solo recital featuring works by George Antheil, Martin Bresnick, Michael Fiday, Mark Isaacs, Alexina Louie and Meredith Monk.



Aaron Vandermeer - Music Industry, Jazz



Dr. Aaron Vandermeer (Jazz Studies/Music Industry) is in his 17th year at UNCP. He continues to coordinate the Jazz Studies and Music Industry programs. At the end of the Spring 2023 term, he was promoted to [Full] Professor of Music and was selected by the Faculty Awards Committee to receive a UNCP Outstanding Teaching Award. He was also selected to present “Beginning Improvisation and the Blues” at the 2023 NCMEA Conference. He is the chairperson of the Distinguished Music Alumni Award Committee and organizes New Music Student Orientation.

The Jazz Studies program continues to thrive, featuring a large ensemble, four combos, and the Vocal Jazz Ensemble.

Jazz Combo I, under the direction of Dr. Vandermeer, had a very busy 2022-23 academic year, giving 27 performances. Highlights include performances at the South Carolina Jazz Festival, *JEN*erations Jazz Festival (Orlando), Honors Recital, Faculty Appreciation Banquet, and a tour of seven regional schools with the Percussion Ensemble. They were also accepted to perform the original student compositions (Wyatt Radford, Silas Seigler, Jackson Mills) at the UNCP PURC Symposium. We hosted our 14th Annual Honor Jazz Festival in the spring, featuring Nashville recording artist Roland Barber on trombone (and conch shell). We had 91 high school participants from 20 different schools. Participants enjoyed rehearsals, master classes, and seminars throughout the day, including History of Jazz, You’ve Got Rhythm, Beginning Jazz Theory, College Preparation Forum, Beginning Improvisation and the Blues, and Advanced Improvisation. The participants gave a culminating performance in GPAC featuring Roland Barber with the UNCP Jazz Ensemble.

The Music Department has fortified its performance curriculum with the addition of Studio Class and Sight-Reading Juries. Every semester, in addition to departmental recitals and juries, each Music major enrolled in private lessons will participate in sight-reading juries and eight 50-minute studio classes that cover instrument-specific topics such as literature, significant performers, history and evolution of the instrument, performance practice, and more!

Joseph Van Hassel - Percussion

Percussion Studio

2022-2023 was a busy year for the percussion studio! The Percussion Ensemble performed two full on-campus concerts, several performances with guest artists, at the UNCP Holiday Extravaganza, and a Spring tour. Our Fall concert consisted of classics in the percussion ensemble repertoire by Michael Colgrass, Steve Reich, John Cage, and Charles Boone. We also premiered *Le Dérive* by George Lewis, Professor of American Music at Columbia University (https://youtu.be/RqIjPPKJpps?si=u8_RixhWmSIM2ign), and *Ándate Por Los Andes* by Venezuelan composer Arcángel Castillo-Olivari. Both works were written for the UNC-Pembroke Percussion Ensemble.



During the Spring Semester, the percussion ensemble performed another full concert on-campus. The concert consisted of pieces by Joe Green, George Hamilton Green, Chick Corea, Michael Colgrass, and Andrea Venet. We also had the privilege of performing a work with UNCP adjunct percussion instructor Isaac Pyatt as soloist. Furthermore, we performed two world

premieres written especially for us: *Sliinky* by Brittany Green, alumna of UNCP and PhD student in Music Composition at Duke University (also winner of the 2023 Music Department Distinguished Alumni Award!) (<https://youtu.be/djT0qfDtj1U?si=aGFOOn-X9JnPOwl4L>), and *I Wish I Had Done*

More by California-based composer Kevin Good. Three percussion students, Phillip Brown, Marc Garcia, and Hunter Warren, performed solos with the percussion ensemble.

Additionally, members of the percussion ensemble performed with guest artists James Culley (Professor of Percussion, University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music/Percussive Arts Society Hall of Fame/Founding Member, Percussion Group Cincinnati), Andy Harnsberger (composer and Professor of Percussion, Lee University), Takayoshi Yoshioka (Japanese freelance composer and percussionist), and Reiko Shiohama (Japanese



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freelance percussionist). The percussion ensemble also performed steel drum music at the Holiday Extravaganza, playing outside of GPAC before the concert started.

<https://youtu.be/SYFEYoKLOww?si=fTUMVW-w8W4pOmmf>

At the end of the Spring semester the UNCP Percussion Ensemble took part in a high school tour with the UNCP Jazz Combo I, visiting Overhills High School,



Southern Pines Episcopal Day School, Union Pines High School, Midway High School, West Brunswick High School, and South Brunswick High School.

Members of the percussion studio attended the 2022 Percussive Arts Society International Convention in Indianapolis, IN. This four-day event is the largest percussion gathering in the world with students, artists, educators, and industry leaders attending for numerous sessions and exhibits

covering all areas of percussion. This was an exciting trip and we attended again in November 2023.

2023-2024 looks to be another great year for the percussion studio! The UNCP Percussion Ensemble will perform its regular on-campus concerts each semester and were scheduled to perform at the Pinehurst Flutterby Festival, which was canceled due to rain. We will also host a number of guests, including jazz vibraphonist Jason DeCristofaro, flute and marimba Duo 彩 AYA, Viennese vibraphonist Berndt Thurner, Benjamin Toth (Professor of Percussion, The Hartt School), and mixed chamber group Khemia Ensemble.

Joseph Van Hassel

Dr. Van Hassel continues his second year as music department chair while still teaching percussion ensemble, private lessons, and studio class. He also continues to perform timpani and percussion with the Carolina Philharmonic, Fayetteville Symphony, Long Bay Symphony, and Florence Symphony. As president of the North Carolina Chapter of the Percussive Arts Society, he took part in a presentation on high school-level percussion ensemble



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music at the 2022 North Carolina Music Educators Association Conference. In 2023 he took part in a presentation on high school-level solo percussion music.



Dr. Van Hassel had several notable performances during 2022-2023, including a recital with UNCP faculty member Dr. Mark Tollefsen at their alma mater, University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music. He also travelled to Japan this past July to perform percussion as a soloist and ensemble member. His first engagement was performing on a concert of the percussion music of Takayoshi Yoshioka at the Takasaki City Theater in Takasaki, Japan. This concert included a

performance by Van Hassel of Yoshioka's Suite No. 4 for solo marimba, which was composed for him and premiered in April at UNC-Pembroke.

Dr. Van Hassel then travelled to the Senzoku Gakuen College of Music for a percussion masterclass and recital performance for the percussion students and faculty.

Read more about Dr. Van Hassel's trip to Japan here: <https://www.uncp.edu/news/uncps-joseph-van-hassel-performs-percussion-concert-japan>

While visiting Japan, Dr. Van Hassel had the honor of visiting legendary marimbist Keiko Abe at her house in Tokyo. Ms. Abe is 86 years old and a significant figure in the history of percussion, being integral in developing the solo marimba as the instrument we know today.

Other performances this year include a solo recital at UNCP, and solo and ensemble engagements at The Hartt School, University of Delaware, and Towson University. He will also perform as a member of the Two Rivers Percussion Quartet at East Carolina University and UNCP. Dr. Van Hassel continues to write new literature reviews for *Percussive Notes* (the journal of the Percussive Arts Society) and chairs the New Music/Research Committee of the Percussive Arts Society.



2022/23 Department of Music Graduates

Bachelor of Arts

- Priscilla Contreras
- Zhaire Carter
- James Clark
- Cassandra Edge
- Randi Gabbert
- Erin Gainer
- Taylor Graham
- Gabriel Jenkins
- Nicholas McNeill
- Jaelyn Wilson
- Brandon Womack

Music Education

- Holly Riedesel
- Mary Rosenberg

Music Industry

- Jeremy Hill
- DeWhitt Locklear

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Calendar of Events

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Spring 2024

All events are located in the Moore Hall Auditorium unless otherwise specified

Monday, January 22 - 7:30 PM

Faculty Lecture Recital: Jaeyoon Kim, tenor, Aaron Vandermeer, trumpet,
Seung Ah Kim, piano

Tuesday, January 30 - 7:30 PM

Senior Recital, Wyatt Radford, saxophone

Friday, February 9 - 7:30 PM

Guest Artist Recital: Two Rivers Percussion Quartet

Tuesday, February 20 - 7:30 PM

Jazz Combos Concert

Tuesday, February 27 - 7:30 PM (GPAC)

UNCP Band Concert

Thursday, March 14 - 7:30 PM

Percussion Ensemble Concert

Saturday, March 16

UNCP Honor Band Clinic

Thursday, March 21 - 7:30 PM

Senior Recital: Silas Siegler, drum set

Saturday, March 23

UNCP Honor Choir Clinic

Saturday, April 6

UNCP Honor Jazz Festival



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Thursday, April 11 - 7:30 PM

Percussion Ensemble Concert

Tuesday, April 16 - 7:30 PM

Jazz Combos Concert

Wednesday, April 17 - 7:30 PM

Guest Artist Recital: Khemia Ensemble

Friday, April 19 - 7:30 PM (Site TBD)

UNCP Combined Choirs Concert

Sunday, April 21 - 5:00 PM (Southern Pines Community Congregational Church)

Pembroke Singers Concert

[Visit the Department of Music's website for the most up-to-date calendar information](#)



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Helpful Links

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Carnegie Hall

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At the University of North Carolina at Pembroke Department of Music, we believe in the highest level of training and opportunity for every student. With this in mind, the University Music Society was founded to match students with the resources they need to support their dedication to music. While we believe talent can be found in any student, many are denied the opportunity for study and growth for financial reasons.

As a member of the University Music Society, your donation will provide the foundation for students who desire a future in the field of music. These students do all the work, bringing with them the commitment, energy and drive. The countless hours of practice, lessons, ear-training and study are taking place all around us, and each year new students graduate armed with the credentials for a career keeping the arts alive in our schools and our community.

Join us in this goal of supporting the study, performance and creativity of our young people. The UNCP Music Department Scholarship Program relies on the generosity of community members at all times, but now more than ever as the arts continue to be threatened, here in North Carolina and around the nation. Making your gift now will help nurture the talent present in the next generation of performers. Thank you!

Become a member and support the Music Program at UNC Pembroke

(Please complete this form and mail it to: The UNCP Department of Music, P.O. Box 1510, Pembroke, NC (28372-1510)

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