

Fall 2016

Note Worthy

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#1

Note from the First Chair



DON HLUS
MUSIC DEPARTMENT
CHAIR

The 2016 fall term is upon us and the change of season also foreshadows some colourful and refreshing changes that are happening with the KPU music program. As part of this evolution, I am very proud to introduce the first e-newsletter of the KPU Music Department, titled Noteworthy.

We have taken the liberty of sending you this first issue of our bi-annual newsletter. We hope you will find the content interesting and informative as we share information about forthcoming events, achievements and activities of current and past students, share the latest news about our program, as well as put a spotlight on the latest faculty

contributions to the music community. If you ever find that what we offer is not for you, simply reply to this email and write ‘unsubscribe’ in the subject heading.

Finally, we want this newsletter to be valuable and relevant to you so we invite your feedback. Please email your suggestions regarding the newsletter, submissions you would like us to consider including in an upcoming issue, and announcements or updates about your music journey to music@kpu.ca. In the meantime, I hope you will enjoy this first edition.

Musically yours,

Don Hlus | Chair, Music Department

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FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

In Memory of

Dr. Elizabeth Lamberton

In Memory of Dr. Elizabeth Lamberton

DR. ELIZABETH
LAMBERTON



Dr. Elizabeth Lamberton passed away peacefully at Peace Arch Hospital on Tuesday March 1, after a long bout with cancer which she endured with admirable composure. Elizabeth taught musicology as a faculty member at KPU from 1993 to 2012.

Dr. Lamberton began piano studies at age four with her mother, and achieved her A.Mus (Western Board) at age eighteen, winning the silver medal. She completed her B.Mus. with a major in piano at the University of Regina, where she received the University Prize in Arts. She continued her studies at the University of British Columbia, where her focus shifted to musicology, resulting in her M.A. thesis on Brahms's piano quintet in 1978 and her Ph.D. dissertation on the writings of the nineteenth-century French music critic Ernest Reyer in 1988.

Dr. Lamberton's life was shaped by her profound commitment to teaching. She began as a sessional lecturer at UBC in 1989, and joined the music department at KPU in 1993, where she taught music history until illness forced her withdrawal from teaching in 2012. Elizabeth was very involved in the life of the department, and served a term as Chair of the B.C. Post-Secondary Music Forum.

Dr. Lamberton's research led to the presentation of papers on Reyer at chapter meetings of the American Musicological Society and at a national

meeting of the Canadian University Music society, as well as to an article on Reyer for the Dictionnaire Berlioz (Paris, 2003). She was active in the arts community as a speaker and a writer on music. In 2001 she was invited by the Vancouver Recital Society to give pre-concert talks and to write program music notes, activities she continued for several years. Elizabeth also cultivated an interest in early music, writing articles for Musick (the quarterly journal of Early Music Vancouver), and serving as a member of the Editorial Committee for nearly a decade.

Although Elizabeth was a historical musicologist, writer, and editor, her zeal was for the front of the classroom. She was passionate about teaching and her heart and face lit up when she spoke about her students. Her students were her family. And her kindness towards them was demonstrated in very practical ways. For example, every Friday she brought treats for those in her music history class. She cared deeply about her students and was always open to those needing assistance in their studies or guidance in their careers. She was an inspiring teacher and mentor to her many students over the years.

Dr. Lamberton was a valued colleague who was dedicated to the development of young musicians and music scholars. Elizabeth was also a very warm and caring soul who will be deeply missed.



FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

KPU Music Instructors Nominated for Awards

Paolo Bortolussi

Paolo Bortolussi

Works by a Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) music instructor have been nominated for two prestigious Western Canadian Music Awards.

Paolo Bortolussi is a renowned flautist who has premiered over 150 solo and chamber works, performed across North America and abroad, and has been sharing his talent with music students at KPU Langley since 2006.

He is nominated in the classical artist/ensemble of the year category for his CD *Israfel*, which was produced with the help of a professional development grant from KPU. 'Birds of Paradise Lost' by John Oliver, one of the songs on the CD, is also nominated for classical composition of the year.

"I'm honoured to have been nominated for my CD *Israfel* and I'm also very pleased that the recording of John Oliver's fantastic piece "Birds of Paradise Lost" from the same album has been nominated for composition of the year," said Bortolussi. "This CD was made possible by a KPU grant – I'm deeply appreciative for this support, and grateful to my fellow faculty members and the students at KPU for making the music department such a great place to work.

"KPU's Department of Music has a truly remarkable faculty, and I hope this album is one of many more to come from Kwantlen Polytechnic University."

Bortolussi's KPU colleague Jane Hayes is also nominated in the classical artist/ensemble of the year category as a member of Turning Point Ensemble.

Her nomination in the category follows the one she received last year for the album *Sassicaia*. She was also nominated in the classical composition of the year category for a piece called 'Duotone', written by Owen Underhill.

"I think this type of recognition is important for current and future KPU music students," said Don Hlus, chair of the Department of Music at KPU. "What they realize is that KPU music instructors are not just academics sitting in ivory towers but practising musicians who have street savvy, and are involved in the current music industry."

"KPU music instructors, like Paolo and Jane, are top-notch professional musicians who also enjoy teaching and helping others develop their art, and guiding students so that they can realize their own musical goals," he added.

Israfel, released by Redshift Records and recorded in the KPU Langley auditorium, features four recordings that highlight flute, and some of the incredible developments that have taken place in the world of electronic music. Listen and learn more here.

The 2016 Western Canadian Music Awards are part of BreakOut West, a four-day multi-genre music festival hosted in Regina this October. More information on the Western Canadian Music Awards categories and nominees is available here.

To learn about KPU's Department of Music, visit kpu.ca/music.



STUDENT SUCCESS

Yen-Jen Lin

Yen-Jen Lin

In the last several years, music students at Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) have experienced a lot of success at the local, provincial and national levels.

“Their accomplishments become a gift to the entire community. We all get to enjoy their talents when we hear them perform. The accomplishment of Yen-Jen Lin is just the latest of many recent successes for our students. It’s a very exciting time for the university’s music programs, and the development of art and culture in the Fraser Valley,” said Bo Peng, faculty member in KPU’s Department of Music.

With the guidance and instruction of mentors including Peng, Lin’s natural music talent has continued to flourish. Winning prestigious competitions on cello and double bass as early as the age of seven, his most recent achievement is a first-place win in the Fraser Valley Symphony Student Solo Competition.

“Yen-Jen’s success is yet another illustration of why KPU’s music program is attracting first-rate students. Prospective students have been choosing our program, with

smaller classes and a professional faculty committed to teaching, to guide them in developing a professional career for today’s music industry. We may be smaller than the big schools, but the training and individual attention music students receive at KPU is equal to—and even exceeds—what they would receive elsewhere,” said Don Hlus, chair of the KPU Music Department.

Lin’s success follows a series of wins for KPU music students, namely the university’s ‘AJA Trio’, who were recognized as some of Canada’s best young musicians with a first-place win at the 45th National Music Festival. This year, students also impressed judges at the Kiwanis Fraser Valley International Music Festival, the 2015 Performing Arts BC Festival and the 61st Annual Young Musicians Competition.

For more information on KPU’s Langley-based music programs, visit kpu.ca/music.

Josh Denny-Keys

JOSH DENNY-KEYS

Please introduce yourself and briefly tell us what you are working on now.

My name is Joshua Denny-Keys and I am a graduate of Kwantlen Polytechnic University's Bachelor of Music in the Musical Arts Degree Program from 2013. Currently, I am working as a Music Therapy Intern with Providence Health Care at St.Paul's Hospital (in mental health) and the Parkview Units at Youville Residences (with psychogeriatric populations).

What is your favourite part of your work?

Everyday I have the opportunity to meet and work with people at varying points in their lives, and often not the high points. I enjoy being able to aid in their recovery process, offering my voice, guitar, piano, or simply my listening ear to do this. Connecting through music can be an important tool in establishing trust in the therapeutic process.

What is a fact about your work that people might find surprising?

When speaking with friends, family, and colleagues, they most often find the scope of populations that Music Therapists can work with to be the most surprising. The science and

support behind music therapy has been well-established for some time now, and it is a fact that music therapists are used in a myriad of different populations - from children living with ASD, to mental health and addictions, dementia populations, and even palliative care (to name a few).

What do you hope to accomplish in the next five years? 10 years?

In the next five years I hope to establish myself as a successful working Music Therapist. To me, this will mean not only finding consistent work as a Music Therapist, but impacting the people I work with in a positive way. In the next ten years, I hope to have completed a Masters level degree, possibly in Counselling or Music Therapy, as well as to continue advocating for the ever-growing field of music therapy.

What was your favourite moment at KPU?

One of my favourite moments at KPU was during my final Wind Symphony Concert. It was an ethereal experience, being so connected to 40 or so other musicians, creating beautiful music with the irreplaceable Dr. Wayne Jeffrey at the conductors helm. I felt completely encompassed by the music, filled with immense joy and fulfillment.

INTERVIEW WITH
JOSH DENNY-KEYS
(con't)

What was your favourite class at KPU, and why?

It is hard to pinpoint one class in particular, so perhaps I will name a facet of the degree that I found to be the most beneficial to my musical learning: theory. To be honest, I'm not sure how many other musicians would pick theory as their favourite class, but the groundwork it laid in my understanding of how music works, and why pieces and songs are written the way they are, has proven invaluable. To be able to apply this knowledge to my instruments — whether French Horn (my major instrument at KPU) o, piano, or guitar — has enriched my musicianship and ability to speak the language of music.

How has your education at KPU prepared you for what you're doing now?

My education at KPU meant that I entered the music therapy program at Capilano University with an

exceptional level of musicianship. From the theory and history, to electives like Composition and Chamber Singers, the program and faculty at KPU stressed musicianship above all else. With enough practice, almost anyone can play technically with near flawlessness - the musicality and passion for music that was present in the program at KPU was what made studying there so unique.

Do you have any last words or take-aways you'd like to share about our program and your experience?

I will always consider KPU to be “my” school, even though I have studied elsewhere. It provided the essential building blocks that have allowed me to get where I am today, and for that I will always be grateful.



Congratulations to the following students
who graduated between October 26, 2015
and May 30, 2016

Music Grads

Bachelor of Music in Musical Arts,
General

- Elisa Margareta Hunter
- Canita Mai
- Candice Marie Metz
- Layla Eilene Nelson
- Claire Marianne Oliverio with Distinction
- Cindy Michelle Rosales
- Kelly Ryan Thiessen
- Matthew Jacob Tressel

Diploma in Music—General Studies

- Kelly Marie Brew
- Faith Choi
- Makaela Mae Cox
- Alexa Hildebrandt
- Lukas Addison Hildebrandt with Distinction
- Yan Ting Lau
- Madeline Paige Young With Distinction

IN PHOTO (left to right)

Gail Suderman (faculty), Layla Nelson, Lukas Hildebrandt, Elisa Hunter, Don Hlus (Department Chair), Candice Metz, Canita Mai, Makaela Cox, Cindy Rosales, Jane Hayes (faculty), Claire Oliverio, Faith Choi, Meijane Quong (faculty)



Upcoming Events Calendar

Be the first to know about upcoming events, join our mailing list at kpu.ca/arts/music/events

For our full events listing, further details, and admission costs please visit kpu.ca/arts/music/events

All events are at the **Langley Campus Auditorium** unless otherwise indicated

Oct 20 7:30pm
Kwantlen Wind Symphony Concert

Oct 21 7:30pm
Faculty Showcase–String Showcase

Oct 27 4:15pm
Community Percussion Workshop
(room 1230)

Oct 29 1:00pm
Transfer Student Music Information
Session (room 1030)

Nov 5 1:00pm
Music Information Session (room 1030)

Nov 24 4:15pm
Community Percussion Workshop
(room 1230)

Nov 25 7:30pm
Kwantlen Chorus Concert

Nov 30 7:30pm
KPU Jazz Band and Jazz Combo
Concert

Dec 2 7:30pm
Kwantlen Wind Symphony Concert

Jan 14 1:00pm
Music Information Session
(room 1030)

Jan 26 4:15pm
Community Percussion Workshop
(room 1230)

Feb 3 7:30pm
Faculty Showcase–Wind Showcase

Feb 9 7:30pm
Kwantlen Wind Symphony

Feb 10 7:30pm
Visiting Scholar Recital

Feb 11 1:00pm
Music Information Session
(room 1030)

Feb 25 7:30pm
Fraser Valley Acoustic Guitar Festival
Featured Concert

Mar 3 7:30pm
Faculty Showcase – Choral Showcase

Mar 10 7:30pm
Faculty Recital (Piano and Cello)

Mar 24 7:30pm
Kwantlen Chorus Concert

Mar 29 7:30pm
KPU Jazz Band and Jazz Combo
Concert

Mar 31 7:30pm
Kwantlen Wind Symphony Concert

Apr 1 1:00pm
Music Information Session
(room 1030)

Noteworthy #1

KPU MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

