

Three Generations of Music Teachers

Mollie Tower, her daughter and granddaughter were featured in the *Teaching Music Magazine* - August 2012 Edition. This NAFME (formerly MENC) periodical highlighted the three generations of music educators in the Tower-Tannert family who are currently serving in statewide positions in the Texas Music Educators Conference. Daughter Debbie Tannert is TMEC Past President, granddaughter Christina Tannert is Director of Internal Operations and Finance on the Collegiate Texas Music Educators Board, and Tower is TMEC Collegiate Chair. The article states, "From mother to daughter to



granddaughter, music education is at the core of one Texas family. These three women of the Lone Star State, each representing a different generation, have both an endemic love of music and lifetime exposure to a symphony of inspiration." The four-page article features a picture of Tower's great-grandfather, Edwin Eberhard, with students of the Eberhard Music School in the late 1800s in Seguin, Texas.

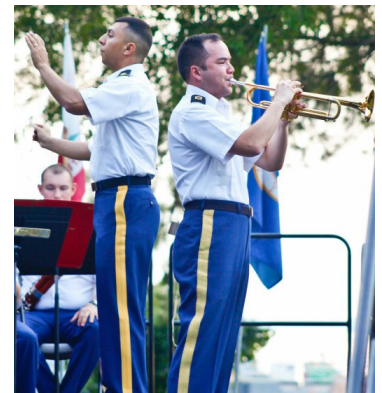
Texas State Team Award

The International Piano Festival was selected to receive the August 2012 Texas State Quarterly Team Award. The team, Dr. **Washington Garcia** and Dr. **Jason Kwak**, recruited for the festival through extensive international travel giving performances, presentations, and masterclasses. Texas State University is now recognized throughout the world for its top-level piano program, and every year students around the world audition for it.



Three Bobcat Alumni in One Army Band

In July, Major **Leo Peña** (vocal/conducting alumnus) was appointed as Commander and Conductor of the US Army Training and Doctrine Command Band based in Virginia. Alumnus **Larry Dean** has been principal trumpet of the band since 2008; his first performance with Major Peña was as soloist performing Curnow's *Concertpiece*. Also, the Executive Officer/Associate Conductor, Second Lieutenant **Silas Huff** (guitar alumnus), was assigned to the band earlier this year. Having three former music students from the Texas State School of Music in one organization is a rare circumstance in the US Army. All three express gratitude for the mentoring and core values received at Texas State that contributed to their success as military musicians.



Peña, Dean

TxState Prof Named Fulbright Specialist

The J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs, and the Council for International Exchange of Scholars have designated Prof. **Ian Davidson** for a place on the Fulbright Specialist Roster. Determined by extensive peer-review, the designation is for the next five years. Unlike the traditional Fulbright program that involves travel for as much as a year, Fulbright Specialists are utilized on a short-term basis, sometimes for assignments as short as two weeks.



Becoming a Published Composer

Alumna **Karol Ann Badget**, former student of **Russell Riepe**, has been named a featured composer for Alpha Major, an educational publishing company in Houston specializing in theory workbooks and musicianship lesson plans for teachers and now branching out into teaching literature. She has composed six sacred duets for one piano-four hands, six elementary violin and piano ensembles, seven primary piano solos (under consideration

for the Federated Music Clubs Junior Festivals list), and a song to a text of Emily Dickinson aimed at the high-school voice student. Her work was also presented at the Texas Music Teachers Association meeting in June.

TxState Music Alumni Get Teaching Jobs

Congratulations to these 32 recent graduates, music educators employed this fall in the following teaching position:

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| Mary Altura | General Music at Bellaire Elementary | Killeen ISD |
| Amy Beckman | Asst. Band Director Devine HS | Divine ISD |
| Jason Brown | Asst. Band Director, Wallace M.S. | Hays ISD |
| Michael Childress | Asst. Band, Floresville Middle School | Floresville ISD |
| Ashley Crowder | Asst. Band Director, Peterson MS | Kerrville ISD |
| Rebecca Gifford | General Music, De Zavala Elementary | San Antonio ISD |
| Erin Kelleher | Asst. Band, Southwest Early College HS | Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD |
| Donald Lacy IV | Asst. Band Director, Rhodes MS | San Antonio ISD |
| Joshua Munoz | Asst. Band Director, Canyon Ridge M.S. | Leander ISD |
| Raul Ochoa | General Music, Wright Elementary | Harlandale ISD |
| Andrew Richards | Gen. Music, Beckman Elem. and Asst. Band | Luling ISD |
| Kirsten Robinson | General Music, Paseman Elementary | Taylor ISD |
| Daniel Senties | General Music, Science Hall Elementary | Hays CISD |
| Christina Wishart | Asst. Band Director, Lake Travis MS | Lake Travis ISD |
| Julia Young | General Music, Macky Elementary | Mesquite ISD |
| Aaron Richards | General Music, Kleberg Elementary | Dallas ISD |
| Lewis McMahan | Orchestra Director, Fossum Middle School | McAllen ISD |
| Mark Maza | General Music, Pittman Elementary | Raymondville ISD |
| Sonja Caballero | General Music, Woodcreek Elementary | Katy ISD |
| Marty Lenard | Band Director, Peterson Middle School | Kerrville ISD |
| Tristi Tobias | General Music, Oak Hill and Kocurek Elem. | Austin ISD |
| Travis Elrod | Asst. Band Director, Temple HS | Temple ISD |
| Melissa Serrano | Asst. Choir Director Churchill & Canyon M.S. | Comal ISD |
| Elizabeth Bongat | Asst. Choir Director North Shore M.S. | Galena Park ISD |
| Sara Mahmalji | General Music, Palm Elementary | Austin ISD |
| Sean Morrow | Asst. Band Director Rogers MS/HS | Rogers ISD |
| Lucas Schoppe | General Music and Asst. Band Director | Florence ISD |
| Sam Parrott | General Music, Brooke Elementary | Austin ISD |
| Kendra Talley | General Music, Lee Elementary | Grand Prairie ISD |
| Karen Zientec Flora | Kindergarten, Early Childhood Center | Beeville ISD |
| Vanessa Montelongo | Graduate Asst. at Western Illinois University | Macomb, IL |
| Corina Cantu | General Music, Walzem Elementary | NEISD, San Antonio |

Best wishes to 12 other music education alumni who just started new teaching jobs:

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|---------------------------|---|--------------------|
| Joshua Turnipseed | Asst. Band Director, Brenham MS/HS | Brenham ISD |
| Rick Astorga | Asst. Band Director, Jefferson MS | NISD, San Antonio |
| Andy Carr | Asst. Band Director, Mountain Valley MS | Comal ISD |
| Bryan Pulver | Asst. Choir, Benoit Middle School | Georgetown ISD |
| Sean Michael | Asst. Band Director, Queen City High School | Queen City ISD |
| Bonnie Wolf Smith | Asst. Choir, Churchill High School | NEISD, San Antonio |
| Ramon Parker | Band Director, Rogers High School | Rogers ISD |
| Mario Contreras | Choir Director, Goodnight Middle School | San Marcos ISD |
| Jason Brown | General Music, Blanco Vista Elementary | Hays ISD |
| Ariana Pyburn | Elementary Band/Strings, HS Woodwind Tech. | Arlington, VA |
| Mark Urbina | Asst. Band Director, Running Brushy MS | Leander ISD |
| Jamieson McCaffity | Choir Director, Round Rock High School | Round Rock ISD |