

TxState musicians shine in opera production

David Hendricks of the San Antonio *Express News* published a very complimentary review of Opera Piccola's recent production of Donizetti's *Don Pasquale* with TxState professor and baritone **Ronald Ulen** in the title role. "Ulen employed every comic technique from the first scene. . . . Ulen sang as well as he acted." Texas State faculty **Kristin Roach** was praised for her musical directing. Alumnus **Brandon Morales** sang the role of Dr. Malatesta, and the cast also included alumni **Casandra LaRue** and **Erin Pivek**.



Morales (left), Ulen

photo by
Kristian Jaime

Navy Band chooses TxState students to perform

The United States Navy Band has extended an invitation for the Phoenix Saxophone Quartet to perform a 25-minute recital as part of the College Quartet Series at the 36th International Saxophone Symposium January 4-5, 2013. The College Quartet Series has quickly become one of the most popular events at the Symposium, and it is a big honor to be chosen. The event will be held at George Mason University Center for the Arts in Fairfax, Virginia. The Phoenix Saxophone Quartet is current TxState music students (from left below) **Gerald Martinez**, soprano saxophone, **Gilbert Garza**, alto saxophone, **Josue Mora**, tenor saxophone, **Joshua Weisbrod-Torres**, baritone saxophone.



Opening Minds to the World

Hank Hehmsoth has been named a Fulbright Specialist. His assignment will be to collaborate in projects with the Instituto Profesional Projazz in Santiago, Chile. He represented the School of Music there in May 2012 as guest artist, performing in Santiago and Valparaíso, and conducting a lecture/clinic. As a Fulbright Specialist, his activities go beyond the core Fulbright activities of



lecturing and research, and will include improvisation, jazz harmony and composition, as well as curriculum planning and institutional and faculty development. Approved by the Fulbright Commission and U.S. Embassy, Hehmsoth's specialist project is planned for summer, 2013.

Jazz for Cancer Charity

Jazz pianist **Hank Hehmsoth** and UT classical pianist Anton Nel performed in Austin October 2 at the Seton Breast Cancer Center charity fundraiser for patrons Joe R. and Teresa Lozano Long and Andrew and Maryann Heller.

Concerto smash hit with Austin Symphony

Dr. **Washington Garcia** was featured as guest soloist with the Austin Symphony Orchestra on October 19 & 20, performing Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1. The performances in Dell Hall at the Long Center for the Performing Arts were conducted by TxState Resident Artist **Peter Bay**, who is celebrating his 15th season as Austin Symphony Music Director.



As part of the event, Garcia was a guest of honor in the Arbor Series at Four Seasons in Austin.

The Arbor Series is a luncheon to introduce and recognize the soloist. Additionally, he was interviewed by Diane Donovan of KMFA radio and appeared in feature articles in the Austin American-Statesman and San Marcos Daily Record.

Maestro Bay also conducted the TxState Symphony Orchestra for the first time October 7 in a concert in Evans Auditorium featuring Dvorak's Symphony No. 7.

Quartet launches new chamber music series

The Artisan Quartet gave its inaugural performance on the new Austin Symphony Artisan Series on September 27, 2012. Along with other quartet members Richard Kilmer (violin), Bruce Williams (viola), and Douglas Harvey (cello), TxState faculty member **Paula Bird** performed works by Haydn, Mendelssohn, and Tchaikovsky. The Artisan Series is a chamber music series sponsored by the Austin Symphony and featuring the Artisan Quartet, which made its Carnegie Hall debut in March 2012.



Re-creating Russian Treasures

Dr. **Martin McCain**'s solo album entitled *Trombone Czar: Russian Treasures for Bass Trombone Recorded Live!* was recently released on the Kairoi Music record label. The album highlights works by Russian composers recorded in live performances within the past year. McCain founded Kairoi Music as a publishing company and record label that features low brass arrangements and specializes in unique EP recordings.

McCain performed with the San Antonio Symphony Brass in a collaborative concert featuring the music of Gabrieli with the San Antonio Choral Society. Dr.

McCain also performed at the 29th Annual Jazz'SAlive festival in San Antonio with his Modern Latin Big Band.



Musicians Forums focus on careers

On October 11, a Musicians Forum session co-sponsored by the School of Music and PACE, the new center on campus for first-year advising and career exploration, focused on the topic of "Preparing for Infinity and Beyond: Life After Texas State". Dr. **Mary Ellen Cavitt**

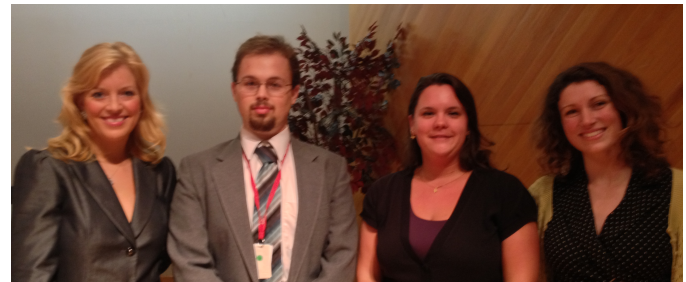


(left above) provided a mock job interview demonstration with senior **Jett Walker**, and Dr. **Adah Jones** (below) gave a presentation on how to research



prospective graduate programs. Dr. **Cynthia I. Gonzales**, Associate Professor of Music, is the College's Liaison for PACE, Personalized Academic Career Exploration, a new initiative at Texas State University to centralize orientation and advising for first-year students, as well as career exploration for all students.

On October 25 the collaboration of the School of Music and PACE continued with Musicians Forum featuring an alumni panel. Music alumni (below from left) **Sara Jane Daily** (voice performance), **Kris Brown** (music studies), **Krystyn Jensen** (BA Music) and **Lauren Gould** (flute performance) shared their experiences as they have pursued differing career paths, ranging from teaching



elementary music in the schools to opera singing to starting a small arts business to higher education administration. The audience was engaged, asked great questions, and got a good glimpse of some of their career options.