

NC ASTA NEWS

NC ASTA Newsletter

September 2017

Southeast String Festival

UNCG will again host the annual Southeast Honors String Festival and String Teachers Workshop, January 19-21, 2018. This year we will host Dr. Alex Jimenez, from Florida State University, as the festival's guest conductor. Alexander Jiménez serves as Professor of Conducting, Director of Orchestral Activities, and String Area Coordinator at the Florida State University College of Music. He has served on the faculties of San Francisco State University and Palm Beach Atlantic University. Jiménez is active as a guest conductor, teacher, and adjudicator throughout the United States and Europe where he has appeared in Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Israel, and Italy.

This year, the teachers' workshop will feature guest clinician, Mimi Zweig. Mimi Zweig is currently a professor of violin and director of the Indiana University String Academy. Since 1972 she has developed pre-college string programs across the United States. She has given master classes and pedagogy workshops in the United States, Mexico, Canada, Israel, Japan and Europe. She has recently produced StringPedagogy.com, an innovative web-based teaching tool. In the spring of 2006, American Public Television released the documentary, "Circling Around-The Violin Virtuosi" which features String Academy students. Her students have won numerous competitions, and teach and perform worldwide. Thank you, NC ASTA for joining the Hayes School of Music and Alfred Publishing in sponsoring this valuable event.



Guest Clinicians Dr. Alex Jimenez and Mimi Zweig.



Christen Mack and Mark Dillon work with teachers at SE String Festival

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Members of the North Carolina Chamber Music Institute

North Carolina Chamber Music Institute begins in September!

The North Carolina Chamber Music Institute (NCCMI) was founded in 2012 by Elizabeth Beilman (Associate Principal Cellist with NC Symphony) and Jimmy Gilmore (Principal Clarinet of NCS, ret.).

This unique and popular organization provides mentorship and chamber music education primarily to young people, aged 7-18. In the upcoming year, NCCMI will launch an exciting partnership with Chamber Music Raleigh; students perform in master classes for major ensembles including the Juilliard String Quartet, American Chamber Players and Pianist Laura Downes with Alexander Bernstein.

NCCMI students audition for admission to this outstanding program. Formed groups work together during the academic year to present polished performances of masterworks. They clearly develop a deep love of chamber music as witnessed by their multi-year commitment to the program. Faculty includes North Carolina Symphony musicians and other leading teachers. Students who go "above and beyond" the yearly requirements receive awards and recognition by NCCMI.

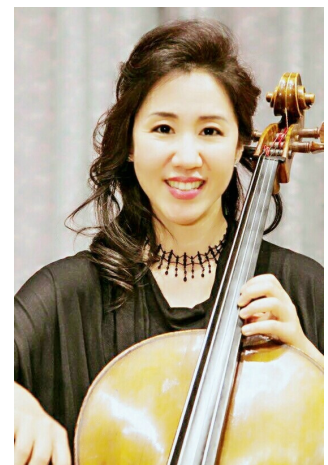
During the year, NCCMI Chamber Ensembles will perform more than 20 outreach events, master classes and workshops such as "Musical Ambassadorship", "The Business of Music" and other topics. Through our NCCMI Musical Engagement Program, students are trained to perform for events like weddings. These groups are eligible to earn payment for their work.

Partnerships are a key element of NCCMI's success. Chamber Music Raleigh, Edenton Street United Methodist Church and Church of the Nativity in N. Raleigh, Community Music School in Raleigh and WCPE Radio are among the important partners who provide invaluable and ongoing support.

Financial Aid or payment plans are available for families who are unable to afford tuition. NCCMI gratefully accepts contributions to support this important program. .

ASU Appoints New Assistant Cello Professor

The Hayes School of Music at Appalachian State University, Boone, NC announces the appointment of Dr. Ellie H. Wee to the position of Assistant Professor of Cello. Dr. Wee holds BM and MM degrees in cello performance from the New England Conservatory, a DMA from Arizona State University, and another MM degree in Historic Performance from Boston University. Born and raised in South Korea, Wee's early musical education began on the piano at age four, adding cello at age ten. The second place winner at the Yookyung National Competition, she was a member of the Seoul Junior Philharmonic Orchestra before she came to study at the New England Conservatory. After graduating NEC (Cum Laude), she pursued doctoral studies at Arizona State University on a full scholarship. Awards she received include the prestigious Anna Rosenzweig String Award, the Regents' Full Scholarship Award, and the Boston University Full Scholarship Award, to name a few.



Appalachian State Welcomes New Faculty

Dr. Adam Booker is the newly appointed full time Assistant Professor of Double Bass at the Hayes School of Music, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC. He holds a DMA from the University of Texas, Austin as well as a MM in Composition and a BM in Jazz Studies from Texas State University, San Marcos. In addition to Adam's academic instruction, he also studied with Francois Rabbath, Eric Revis, and the legendary Milt Hinton, as well as members of the San Antonio Symphony, Austin Symphony and the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra. Before coming to Appalachian State University, Dr. Booker served as Assistant Professor of Double Bass and Jazz Studies at the University of Minnesota Duluth.



A Message from the President

I want to share a few exciting updates with all of you, so you know what NC-ASTA is doing to help promote string teaching in our state.

1. If you are on Facebook and are not a member of the NC-ASTA Facebook group (NC ASTA), please consider joining. We have had a few recent posts, but I am sure that we can do better and make this a valuable part of our community of string teachers. Please consider posting a story or picture that highlights something wonderful that is happening in our state for strings or something you think that your string teaching colleagues from around the state would find interesting. We are a diverse group representing teachers of all levels as well including studio teachers, school teachers, and orchestra directors. It would be great to see all of you share at least one of your successes or questions in our Facebook group.

2. NC-ASTA is now on Twitter! We have finally gotten a Twitter account active, so if you are on Twitter, please follow @nc_asta. As with the Facebook group, we would love to share the exciting things that are happening in your teaching, so please tag us on your tweets.

3. Please watch for more information later this school year about the following events:

College Member Scholarship -- thanks to Amanda Turner for taking charge of this event and getting it restarted this past year

NC's ASTACAP Program -- thanks to Nancy Bargerstock for her leadership of this event

Solo Competition -- thanks to Brooks Whitehouse for his work with this annual event

New NC-ASTA String Orchestra -- thanks to Aaron Craven, NC-ASTA President-Elect, who is working to create this new state-wide event. We hope that this will be a valuable addition to what we offer for students.

New Regional Events -- we are hoping to create a couple regional events for teachers later this school year. This is in the very early planning stages, but I want to mention this now so you know what we want to have available for you this school year

4. NC ASTA has a new website, please visit at www.nc-asta.org. The new site is a work in progress, so please periodically check it out to see what is new. Thank you to Jessica MacNair for continuing to improve our newsletter and also taking on the role of webmaster.

The UNCG Collage Concert Travels to Raleigh

Ten years ago, the UNCG School of Music debuted its annual Collage Concert, which showcases the breadth and depth of North Carolina's largest and most comprehensive music school. With performances by nearly 300 students and many artist-faculty members, it quickly became one of the most in-demand tickets of the year, and the concert in UNCG Auditorium has been sold out for the past 7 years. Performances take place all around the auditorium, with special lighting making the experience even more spectacular. This year's performance in Greensboro is on September 9 at 7:30 p.m.

In celebration of the 125th anniversary of the university, UNCG is bringing this premier event to Raleigh for a special performance in Meymandi Concert Hall on September 16 at 8:00 p.m. All tickets were distributed and the concert was sold out nearly one month before! The students and faculty of the UNCG School of Music are excited to present Collage to a new audience in our state's capital.

NC-ASTA Events at NCMEA

Saturday, November 11, 2017 from 2:00 - 4:00 PM

NC-ASTA Annual New Music Reading Workshop at UNC School of the Arts, SMC Room 168, 1533 South Main Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27127

This session will include both new publications and tried and true repertoire for the string orchestra. Bring your instrument and be part of the reading orchestra.

Saturday, November 11, 2017 from 4:00 - 4:30 PM

NC-ASTA Annual Business meeting at UNC CSA SMC Room 168 (following the reading session)

Sunday, November 12, 2017 from 6:30 - 8:30 PM

NC-ASTA Annual Social at the Old Fourth Street Filling Station, 871 West 4th Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27127

Join us for conversation, live music, door prizes, and complimentary drink and hors d'oeuvres. All orchestra directors and string teachers are welcome to attend!

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"To enrich lives through the joy of teaching and playing stringed instruments."