# The Muskingum Beat

April 2023



In collegiate music departments, March sometimes feels like the calm before the storm of April concerts, juries, and finals. Hard to believe, but we're very rapidly nearing the end of this academic year! Following a successful tour of Ohio, West Virginia, and Washington, D.C., and a welldeserved break, we've been plugging away through classes and preparations for the end-of-the-year festivities. We have three senior recitals scheduled for April: David Hochstetler (percussion), David McDonald (voice), and Sarah Heading (saxophone), in addition to the full slate of chamber ensembles, the musical theatre ensemble, jazz ensemble, guest artists (Gerald Lee on piano!), the spring choir concert, the Southeastern Ohio Symphony Orchestra (SEOSO) season finale, and the joint spring pops concert by the Wind Ensemble and Muskingum Valley Symphonic Winds, featuring music alumna and current instructor of voice, Stacy Russell. For anyone interested in attending Muskingum in the fall, it's not too late to apply, audition for music scholarships, and enroll in classes (majors, minors, and participants). It's an exciting time to be in the music program at Muskingum!

With warm regards,

Dr. Erin Bauer Chair and Associate Professor of Musicology





#### **New Courses!**

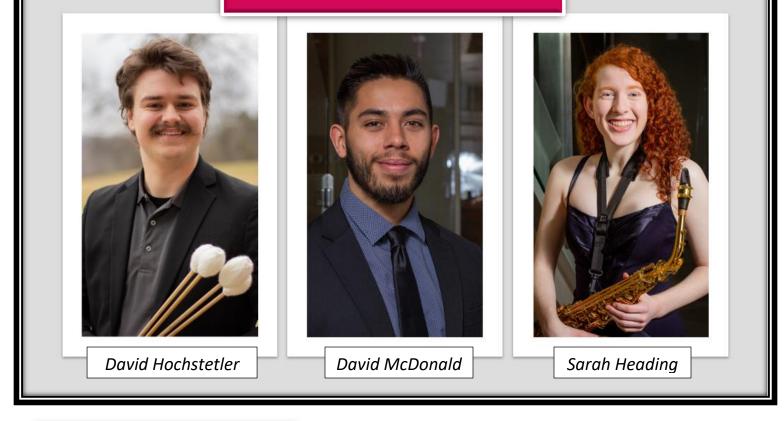
As you've likely heard, the music department has been hard at work updating and revising our curriculum. For now, we'll share a few more new classes that have already been finalized. For those of you who know something about typical music programs, these represent some cutting-edge changes!

First, we are combining the six-core history and theory classes into four levels of "Foundations of Western Art Music." This maintains but also decenters the traditional curriculum in Western Art Music while allowing for additional courses (as you've likely seen) in ethno/musicology and jazz. We're very excited for this change and confident that the content and structure of these courses will help set our students up for success in their academic programs, graduate school experiences, and future careers.

Then, we are expanding the senior capstone requirement to maintain a recital option for students focused on performance but allow for a range of additional options based on student interest, ability, and career goals. These include: a senior recital, a composition/orchestration, major major а conducting experience, an internship, a senior thesis, or alternative project (lecture recital, podcast, community engagement project, major recording experience, etc.), as determined in consultation with the supervising faculty member. We're excited to provide our majors with opportunities to best demonstrate their musical strengths!

Stay tuned! The full new program should be in place by Fall of 2023.

## **APRIL RECITALS**



# SENIOR RECITALS

#### Saturday, April 1 at 5:00 pm DAVID HOCHSTETLER, percussion

featuring Kassandra McConaha, percussion Jim Lindroth, percussion Victoria Vankirk-Hochstetler, voice **Brown Chapel** 

#### Saturday, April 15 at 7:00 pm DAVID MCDONALD, baritone

*Caroline Heading, collaborative pianist* **Brown Chapel** 

#### Saturday, April 22 at 3:00 pm SARAH HEADING, saxophone

featuring Frankie Wantuch, saxophone Harsha Abeyaratne & Caroline Heading, collaborative pianists **Walter Hall, Room 204** 

## Guest Artist Recital: 4/16

Mark your calendars! On Sunday, April 16, guest artist Gerald Lee will present a piano recital at 7:00 pm in Brown Chapel. Dr. Lee is Professor of Piano at West Liberty University in West Virginia. He holds degrees in piano performance from Illinois Wesleyan University (BM), Indiana University (MM), and the University of Michigan (DMA). He is passionate about the works of Alexander Scriabin and has performed Scriabin's piano sonatas at numerous concerts and conferences. He has also won prizes at a range of performance competitions and frequently presents master classes and adjudication. This concert is free and open to the public, with no tickets required. Don't miss it!



# FALL COURSE SCHEDULE

Fall registration has already begun! In addition to our usual slate of lessons, ensembles, and classes intended for music majors and minors, the music department is offering 6(!) general education classes that simultaneously fulfill requirements for the music majors and minors.

**MUSC 110 | History of Popular Music:** TTh 12:30-1:45 pm. Fulfills Category 13 of the General Education Requirements. The Blues to Beyonce and everything in between!

**MUSC 121 | Music and Ideas:** TTh 9:30-10:45 am. Fulfills Category 12 of the General Education Requirements. Music and the Nation, Music of the "Other," Music and the Written Word, Music and Science Fiction, and much more!

**MUSC 208 | Women in Music:** TTh 2:00-3:15 pm. Fulfills Category 10 of the General Education Requirements. Fanny Mendelssohn to Celia Cruz to Dolly Parton.

**MUSC 280 | Vocology:** TTh 3:30-4:45 pm. Fulfills Category 7 (non-lab) of the General Education Requirements. Perfect for anyone who intends to use their voice for a living (musicians, actors, journalists, teachers...).

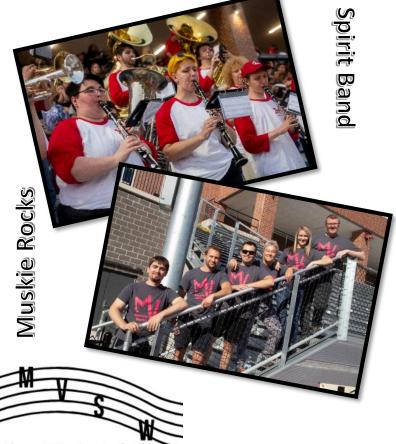
**MUSC 310 | Excursions in World Music:** MWF 9:00-9:50 am. Fulfills Category 11 of the General Education Requirements. Explores music in Africa, Asia, and the Americas.

**MSUC 311 | Music and Disability:** TTh 12:30-1:45 pm. Fulfills Category 10 of the General Education Requirements. Tracing inclusion and representation in all musics.

Many of these are brand new courses! We can't wait to teach these and look forward to robust discussions stimulated by a range of student experiences. If you or anyone you know will be attending Muskingum in the fall, please enroll or encourage them to enroll in one or more of these classes!

#### Fall Lessons & Ensembles

As always, music lessons and ensembles are open to students of all majors! We offer Wind Ensemble, Concert Choir, Musical Theatre Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, Spirit Band, Steel Drum Band, String Ensemble, Muskie Rocks, and many more. For more advanced students, we offer three auditioned/semiprofessional ensembles: Chamber Singers, Muskingum Valley Symphonic Winds, and the Southeastern Ohio Symphony Orchestra (SEOSO). Enroll today or contact us for more information!





• Muskingum Valley Symphonic Winds



Our Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, Wind Ensemble, and Muskie Rocks enjoyed a successful tour of Ohio, West Virginia, and Washington, D.C. Our students rocked their performances at schools and churches across the states, got the entire (K-12) student body to join in on "Country Roads" and enjoyed a performance by "The President's Own" United States Marine Band and sightseeing throughout our nation's capital. If you missed it, check out the recording of our on-campus kick-off concert from Orbit Media (vimeo.com/orbitmediatv). Where should we go next year?!!









# Musical Theatre

Calling all high schoolers! Registration for the 2023 Summer High School Music Theatre CAMP at Muskingum University is now open. Held on campus from June 18-24, this program offers an exciting residential opportunity for students in grades 9-12 who want to discover and improve their skills of singing, acting, dancing and performing for the Broadway musical theatre genre! Applications are due by April 21, 2023. Learn more on the CAMP webpage: www.muskingum.edu/music-theatre-camp.

### All-State Scholarships!

Did you, your students, or someone you know earn acceptance to one of the 2023 OMEA All-State Ensembles (Orchestra, Choir, Jazz Ensemble, or Band)? All students who participated in one of this year's All-State Ensembles are now eligible for a scholarship to major, minor, or participate in music at Muskingum (no audition required; applicable whenever students enter college)! Students will receive more details soon in formal offer letters delivered to their high schools, but please reach out to discuss this offer or our program in more detail. We understand and appreciate the dedication it takes to earn a place at All-State and welcome these talented musicians into our program!

## ALUMNI UPDATES

Rev. Torie Rundels Front (1987): I was privileged to receive a small music scholarship while attending Muskingum College in the '80s! I alternated between singing in the choir (alto) and playing in the band (trumpet). I enjoyed Marching Band and Spirit Band as well, and maintained a post-graduation connection with Dr. William Schlacks, who played trumpet at my wedding in 1994! I currently serve as the pastor at St. John United Church of Christ in Reading (Cincinnati) and continue to sing in the choir (still alto) and play trumpet, and during COVID, I took up the French Horn as well. My music experiences at Muskingum were invaluable and enjoyable and I thank you for the skills I learned way back then that are still being used today.

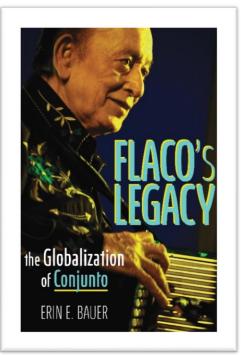
#### **Research Corner**

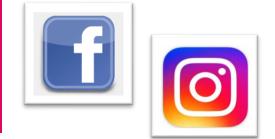
Dr. Bauer's new book, Flaco's Legacy: The Globalization of Conjunto (University of Illinois Press) is available now for preorder from wherever you buy books online (Amazon, Barnes & Noble, the press itself, etc.), with a release date of May 2023.

A combination of button accordion and bajo sexto, conjunto originated in the Texas-Mexico borderlands as a popular dance music and became a powerful form of regional identity. Today, listeners and musicians around the world have embraced the genre and the work of conjunto masters like Flaco Jiménez and Mingo Saldívar.

Erin E. Bauer follows conjunto from its local origins through three processes of globalization—migration via media, hybridization, and appropriation— that boosted the music's reach. As Bauer shows, conjunto's encounter with globalizing forces raises fundamental questions. What is conjunto stylistically and socioculturally? Does context change how we categorize it? Do we consider the music to be conjunto based on its musical characteristics or due to its performance by Jiménez and other regional players? How do similar local genres like Tejano and norteño relate to ideas of categorization?

A rare look at a fascinating musical phenomenon, Flaco's Legacy reveals how conjunto came to encompass new people, places, and styles.





# Contact Us!

Calling all alums! We'd love to hear what you've been up to since leaving Muskingum! Send a brief update to <u>music@muskingum.edu</u> for inclusion in an upcoming newsletter.

## Follow Us!

Be sure to follow us on social media to stay in the loop about everything happening in the department! Facebook (MuskingumMusic) Instagram (Music at Muskingum)