

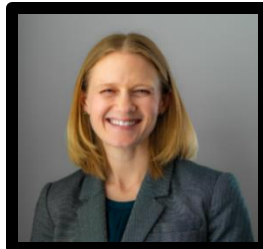


## NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

We're settling into the new semester and busy with final curricular changes (for now!), revisions to our assessment program, getting ready for the OMEA Professional Development Conference and upcoming choir/band/Muskie Rocks tour, working with current students on content, careers, and community, and meeting with prospective students to ensure a strong incoming class. It's been a busy year, but we're proud of the work we've done and continue to do each day and excited for how the program grows from here. There's a lot of wonderful content below, so I'll leave it here for now. Please keep in touch and let us know what you're up to; encourage interested students to apply for scholarships and talk to us about joining the program at Muskingum; and swing by campus to catch concerts and see the buzz in the building for yourself!

With warm regards,

Dr. Erin Bauer  
Chair and Associate Professor of Musicology



**MUSKINGUM**  
UNIVERSITY

## Alumni Reception at OMEA

ATTENTION ALUMNI! We're so excited to see you this week at the OMEA Professional Development Conference in Columbus! Our annual alumni reception will take place at Due Amici (67 E. Gay St.) on Friday, February 3, from 6-8 pm. RSVP to [dcrown@muskingum.edu](mailto:dcrown@muskingum.edu), stop by our booth at the conference, or just come! We hope to see you there!

## Pipeline Program

The music department has been selected to participate in a campus-wide pilot initiative on strategic pipelines, i.e., setting up systems to better attract and meet the needs of prospective students. We look forward to the opportunity to work with experts from across the campus community to construct and market our program in new

## Music Muskies Road Tour '23

For the first time since the pandemic grounded us all, our music students are going on tour! The Wind Ensemble, Concert Choir, and Muskie Rocks will join forces in March to head to Charleston, West Virginia, Weston, West Virginia, and Washington, D.C., with performances at schools and churches along the way and a variety of exciting music activities in Washington, D.C. We'd love to see you if you're in the area! We'll also present a launch concert on campus on Wednesday, March 1.

## Exciting News!

Congratulations to Music Education major and professional pickleball player, Jackie Bradshaw, for qualifying for the U.S. Open Pickleball Championships in Naples, Florida. We know you'll represent us well in all you do!



# Coffee with the Chair

Music students enjoyed cookies, coffee, and conversation with Dr. Bauer for our first “Coffee with the Chair” of the new year. By sharing ideas and concerns, students continuously take the lead in shaping the program to best serve their needs. These conversations represent the core of what we do at Muskingum: listening to the voices of our students and working together to create a welcoming and supportive environment.

We’ve already made one small but significant change, based on this student feedback: The coffee machine has been successfully relocated from the music office to the upstairs student lounge, making it newly accessible for our students! This change represents our commitment to ensuring that our students are comfortable and have access to the resources they need to succeed. Stop by next time you’re on campus to see the “buzz” for yourself as students caffeinate, build community, and support each other through classwork, career planning, and day-to-day life! It’s a special place.



## New Curriculum!

The music department has been hard at work updating and revising our curriculum. More details to come once everything is finalized. For now, we’ll share our key priorities in determining the new structure of the program— facilitating success for our students, contemporary relevance of our content, and a commitment to issues of social justice. Here’s the big picture:

- To help set our students up for success, we’ve moved the most rigorous foundational classes to the second year of the major. We’ve added introductory theory and history courses to the first year of the major. We’ve also updated the current music minors and added two new minors.
- We’ve combined the core history and theory classes into four levels of “Foundations of Western Art Music.” This change maintains but also decenters the traditional curriculum in Western Art Music. It also allows for additional courses in ethno/musicology and jazz.
- We’ve added seven new ethno/musicology courses that fulfill major, minor, and general education requirements. We’ve added courses in composition, audio/recording, song writing, and music entrepreneurship, as well as vocology, a course that represents the cutting edge of voice science.
- We’ve updated the Senior Recital requirement to a Senior Capstone experience and now allow for a range of projects to fulfill this requirement.

These changes move our program to the forefront of innovation in collegiate instruction, and we can’t wait to share them with our students! While we’re at it, here’s a taste of a few classes that have already been finalized:

**Women in Music:** This course explores a variety of issues concerning women in Western art music, non-Western musics, and popular music. These may include: the contributions of women as performers, composers, conductors, patrons, and teachers; the portrayal of women in opera, musical theater, and music videos; the objectification of women in the marketing and consumption of music; expressions of gender and sexuality in music; and feminist perspectives in musical criticism.

**Music and Disability:** This course explores the interactions between music and disability. It uses Western art music, non-Western musics, and popular songs to examine disability as a human condition and a social construction of identity. Topics include: the role of disability in shaping musical identities, the representation of disability in musical performances and narratives, and the reception of musical representations of disability.

**Vocology:** This course introduces students to voice physiology, voice acoustics, and the practice of voice habilitation. In this class, you will study each of the human voice’s five basic systems— Respiration, Phonation, Resonance, Articulation, and Cognition (specifically regarding motor learning and separately, pedagogical techniques), equipping you with a detailed, scientific understanding of how the vocal instrument functions. Special considerations of the voice in singing will be prioritized, but the information in this course is also highly applicable to speech as well, preparing you to succeed in any profession that requires significant voice use.

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

## New Audition Process

Music faculty met this month to start working through new audition requirements. More information to come, but we're excited to shift these procedures to better align with our new curricular priorities: setting our (prospective) students up for success, ensuring access across a range of backgrounds, and allowing for participation in the program outside of performance abilities alone. Stay tuned!

## Scholarship Auditions

Our final scholarship audition date of the academic year is coming up soon! We offer awards for music majors, minors, and participants. Students can submit an application and sign up for an audition time on their admission status webpage. A full list of audition requirements can be found on the music department webpage. The final upcoming audition date is Monday, February 20 (although we're happy to schedule an alternate date or virtual audition, depending on individual circumstances). Don't delay!

### **OPCICA Honors Band**

Congratulations to all music students who performed in the Ohio Private College Instrumental Conductors Association (OPCICA) Honors Concert Band in January at the 2023 Honors Festival in Cleveland. They performed a very challenging program and represented Muskingum beautifully!



## Alumni Updates

**Barbara Dickerman** (1951) sent a lovely update:

I received a Bachelor of Music from Muskingum (conservatory) in 1951, with a major in piano and minors in flute and voice. Thanks to my excellent teachers, I developed a passion for both music history and theory! Consequently, I received a fellowship, from Florida State University, where I studied theory and composition with John Boda and Ernst von Dohnanyi. (His grandson, Christoph— later, conductor of the Cleveland Symphony, was one of my classmates.) At that time, I was the only theory major (and the only girl) in the department! My thesis was on the music of Ernest Bloch, whom I had "met" while accompanying a violin major at Muskingum! I was fortunate in being able to engage in correspondence with Mr. Bloch and was the recipient of several interesting and informative letters.

After receiving my M. Mus., in the spring of 1952, I was hired by the conservatory at Wesleyan College in Macon, Georgia, to teach piano, flute, theory and music history, as well as become first flutist in the Macon Symphony. The conservatory had a very large, active preparatory department, where I also taught. After two years there, I married and moved to Iowa City, where my husband was finishing his Ph.D. Upon his graduation, we moved to Downers Grove, Illinois, and Charles was hired as a nuclear physicist at Argonne National Laboratory. In 1961, I was hired as choir director at the First Presbyterian Church, where I continued for 29 years! (I also returned to private teaching, which involved 40-45 students of flute and/or piano.)

In 1990, I became organist at First Presbyterian Church, Chicago, and remained there for 17 years. When the commute became a little too much, I returned to the local church, this time as organist, and remained there until the church was de-commissioned. Since that time, I have been substitute organist at St. Luke Presbyterian— which included services both Christmas Day and New Year's Day! I did, finally, retire from private teaching, due to COVID— although not by choice! I continue to accompany the choirs at Chesterton Academy— a private school, where all students are required to take choir, music history and theory!

I am eternally grateful for the education I received (especially in music), while at Muskingum. I credit them with my successes, through many years and I just turned 92! Thank you and keep up the good work!!!



## Contact Us!

Calling all alums! We'd love to hear what you've been up to since leaving Muskingum! Send a brief update to [music@muskingum.edu](mailto:music@muskingum.edu) 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)



## SEOSO CONCERT

Don't miss this weekend's SEOSO (Southeastern Ohio Symphony Orchestra) concert! It's a chamber performance and features a JAZZ string quartet with our own Laura Schumann on viola. Not to be missed!

**This Sunday, February 5, at 3:30 pm in Brown Chapel.**

See you there!



## Upcoming Senior Recitals



Senior Recital:  
David Hochstetler,  
percussion

Saturday, April 1, 2023  
5:00 pm  
Brown Chapel  
Free Admission/Open to Public

MUSKINGUM  
UNIVERSITY



Senior Recital:  
David McDonald,  
baritone

Saturday, April 15, 2023  
7:00 pm  
Brown Chapel  
Free Admission/Open to Public

MUSKINGUM  
UNIVERSITY



Senior Recital:  
Sarah Heading,  
saxophone

Saturday, April 22, 2023  
3:00 pm  
Walter Hall, Room 204  
Free Admission/Open to Public

MUSKINGUM  
UNIVERSITY

## Organist Opening!

Help spread the word! College Drive Presbyterian Church in New Concord (located right at the entrance to campus) is looking for a new organist. Please let us know if you're interested or know anyone who might be and we'll share more details. This is a wonderful opportunity for the right musician!

