

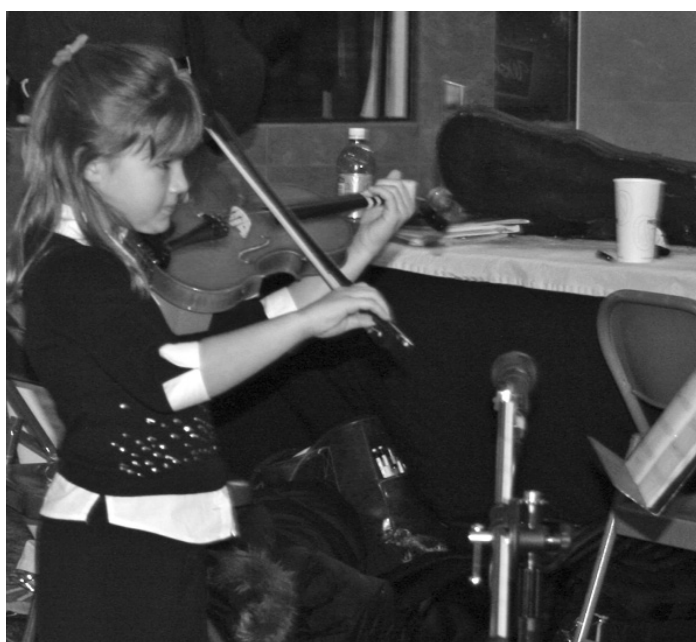
NISOM Northeast Iowa School of Music

Quarternotes

Communicating through music at NISOM

October 2011

Join Us at Playathon



Kaitlin Moran plays her violin at Playathon in the Kennedy Mall.

Join us on Saturday, November 12 at Kennedy Mall from 10:00AM to 2:00PM for Playathon, a grand public recital that will feature a variety of instruments and music. Sponsored by **American Bank & Trust** and **Phowler Boats**, the recital is free to public, but donations will be accepted.

In the weeks prior to the recital, students of all ages are collecting sponsorships as they compete for a variety of prizes donated by local businesses, including Mindframe Theater, Grand Harbor Water Park, US Bank, and many more. Playathon is an important fundraiser for NISOM, so when a student knocks on your door, please consider aiding in the continuation of quality music education in the Tri-State area.

Free DCSO & NHB Concert

On Monday, November 14 the Dubuque Community String Orchestra (DCSO) and New Horizons Band (NHB) will present a joint concert at 7:00PM at St. Luke's United Methodist Church. This concert is free and open to the public; donations will be accepted.



The DCSO, directed by Tracey Rush, will perform "Royal Gems," featuring music by Vaughn Williams and Holst. Harpist Nanette Felix will join the orchestra for "Five Variants of Dives and Lazarus." NHB is directed by John Woodin and Jim Sherry.

Both groups are non-auditioned adult ensembles sponsored by NISOM. DCSO was founded fourteen years ago to give non-professional adult string players an outlet for ensemble performance. The Dubuque NHB was introduced in fall of 2009 and is part of the international organization New Horizons Music for musicians age 50 and over. New members are welcome in both ensembles. Contact NISOM to join.

*Dubuque Community
String Orchestra*

Welcome, New Hires!

The NISOM family is growing! This fall we added two new staff positions: Development Director Pam Brookens will manage fund drives and donor relations, and Operations Assistant Ashleigh Wilson will help with events. We also have four new faculty members this year: Xiaoke Cheng (piano), Dr. Thomas Dickey (piano), Hannah Leffler (flute), and Judith Simundson (voice). Joining our Board of Directors are Diane Muir, Patrick Niemer, and Hillard Salas. Welcome, all!

About our new faculty members

Ms. Cheng holds two Master of Music degrees from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, one in Piano Performance and one in Piano Pedagogy, and a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance from University of Missouri-Columbia. She is currently on faculty at both Loras College and Clarke University in addition to NISOM.

Dr. Dickey holds degrees from Eastern Illinois University, Louisiana State University, and the University of Georgia. Currently, he is the Conductor of

the Dubuque Youth Symphony Orchestra, Director of Instrumental Music at the University of Dubuque, and Organist at First Congregational United Church of Christ.

Ms. Leffler is an Adjunct Professor of Flute at Luther College. She holds a Master's degree in flute performance from the University of Northern Iowa and a Bachelor's degree in flute performance from Oklahoma City University. She is currently a substitute flutist for the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony Orchestra and the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra.

Ms. Simundson studied voice at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota and has soloed with a variety of ensembles around the country. She has studied the Norwegian folk music style of kveding and singing stev for over 25 years and includes it as part of her repertoire of "telling tales of enchantment!"



Sponsor a Student

Two years ago we asked you for scholarship support for students like "S." Thanks to your generosity, today "S" is still taking lessons and is playing very well. She's especially excited to be a member of the Dubuque Youth Symphony this year.

Today we are asking for a sponsor for another young student. "R" has autism and is working with our certified music therapist Sue Fogel. Sue says, "'R' has really blossomed since he started music therapy. He used to utter single words, and now he is responding in full sentences."

"R's" family cannot afford to pay for these sessions, so we've awarded him a full scholarship. Unfortunately, we don't currently have enough scholarship funds available to him to cover the entire year. Please consider sponsoring this student, so that his instruction may continue at no cost to the family. A gift of \$700 would pay for his school year of lessons. Simply include a note with your donation to designate it for "R", or call to pledge your support. Once this sponsorship is raised, any additional funds received will go toward other students who are in need of financial assistance.

Note: NISOM does currently have additional scholarship funds available to students who live within the Dubuque city limits (a stipulation made by our scholarship grantor). Because "R" lives outside of town, he is not eligible for this funding.

Coming Soon...

STRINGFEVER, FEBRUARY 16

If you're looking for an evening's entertainment like you've never seen before, then meet Giles, Ralph, Graham & Neal Broadbent, aka *Stringfever*. With their electric instruments and live beat-boxing, the world's first genetically modified string quartet combines exceptional musical skill with a real talent for involving and engaging audiences to provide you with a night you'll never forget. NISOM is proud to bring this unique group to Dubuque for a concert on Thursday, February 16, 2012, 7:00PM at the Grand Opera House, sponsored in part by Premier Bank. For a preview, go to YouTube and search "Stringfever Bolero."

FLUTIST PEG CORNILS, APRIL 22

Join us on Sunday, April 22, 2012 at 2:00PM for a special treat for Dubuque audiences as Peg Cornils presents her Carnegie Hall flute recital in Clarke University's Jansen Hall.



JUILLIARD IN JUNE

Back by popular demand! NISOM-alumnus Michael Gilbertson will once again bring a small ensemble of Juilliard students and alumni home to Dubuque for a special chamber music concert. Details TBA.



Burger Night

Asbury Eagle's Club
Thursday, November 3
5:00 – 8:00 PM, \$7

Proceeds support NISOM's scholarship fund!



Burger Night is just one in our new series of *Dine Out with NISOM* events this year. Local restaurants will donate a portion of their sales to NISOM on these dates, so you can help support music education in our community as easily as taking your family and friends out to eat.

Dine Out with NISOM

Nov 3: Asbury Eagle's Club

Jan 9: Pizza Ranch

Feb 8: Buffalo Wild Wings*

March 18: Fried Green Tomatoes

*voucher required



2011-12 Events

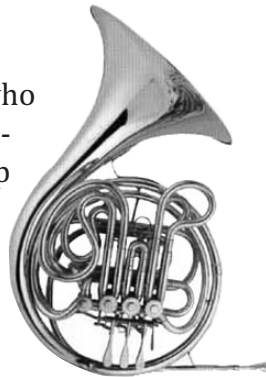
Nov. 3	Dine Out: Asbury Eagle's Club
Nov. 12	Playathon
Nov. 11-12	Younkers Community Days
Nov. 14	DCSO & NHB Concert
Jan. 9	Dine Out: Pizza Ranch
Feb. 8	Dine Out: BuffaloWild Wings
Feb. 16	Stringfever
March 3	Student recitals
March 18	Dine Out: Fried Green Tomatoes
March 26	DCSO Spring Concert
April 22	Flutist Peg Cornils
May 19	Student Recitals
June 2	Student Recitals
Date TBA	Juilliard in June

NOTEWORTHY news

A horn of plenty

Instructor Wendy Hinman is currently playing 2nd horn in the Muscatine Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Brian Dollinger. The next concert is November 12, 2011 at 7:30 pm at the Muscatine Center for the Performing Arts.

Recent graduate Austin Baugh, who studied at NISOM with Wendy, received a performance scholarship from DePaul University where he is currently studying music performance with Jonathan Boen, principal horn player of the Lyric Opera of Chicago.



Oh, say, can she sing!

Instructor Pam Crawford, who is also on faculty at NICC, had the wonderful experience of singing the National Anthem for President Obama's visit there in July!

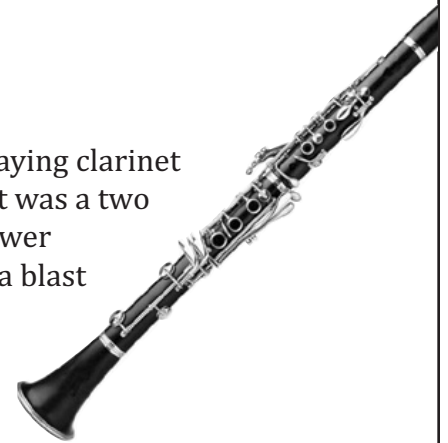
Pam Crawford is also an adjudicator for all-state choral auditions this fall, and over the summer she "resurrected" her "Nonsense" role of Sr. Hubert in her real-life sister's production in Minnesota.

Student Katherine Gneiser, who studies voice with Pam Crawford on scholarship, was selected for Opus Honor Choir.

You're never too old for music

Thanks to the New Horizon Band, instructor Mike Jozefowicz began playing clarinet again after a 45-year separation. His previous experience with clarinet was a two credit one semester class on clarinet techniques. Although there are fewer squeaks now, Mike is still hard at work practicing his horn and having a blast doing it.

Mike also plays trumpet for the Tri-State Wind Symphony and the Americana Band.



2010-11 Final Update:

Thanks to the generosity of the members of Club 602, our start-up loan was fully paid off in June. Last year we also toppled our goal of increasing enrollment by 10 percent when we increased it by more than 20 percent! Our 2010-11 donations and

fundraisers combined for a total \$58,000 in much-needed operational support, with Juilliard in June bringing in a whopping \$15,000!

Thank you for your support!

MUSIC & WELLNESS: *From Learning to Read to Preventing Hearing Loss*

“Research suggests cutting music education to concentrate on ‘the basics’ is based on a misunderstanding of the way young minds work.” *Tom Jacobs, Miller-McCune, October 4, 2011*

Tom Jacobs’s article “Music Training Enhances Children’s Verbal Intelligence” is from just one of many recent articles stating what we at NISOM already know: Participation in music can have a profound impact on mental and physical health.

Jacobs focuses on a study conducted at York University that showed participation in music education for children between the ages of 4 and 6 enhanced the children’s ability to understand words and raised their scores on a visual-intelligence test.

Lisa Rowell cites similar finding from other studies in “Music Improves Phonological and Phonemic Awareness” (ABC Music & Me, August 12, 2011). She states that the brain processes music in a way similar to processing language, and that children with greater phonological and phonemic awareness, which can be gained through music, are more successful at learning to read.

But music isn’t just good for the kids. In “How Music May Help Ward Off Hearing Loss As We Age” (NPR, August 22, 2011), Patti Neighmond explains that a study conducted at Northwestern University found a new benefit of participation in music for adults: It can help prevent hearing loss! Hearing requires neurons and chemicals in the inner ear, which can decline with age. By paying close



Members of the New Horizons Band practice their instruments.

“The famous Mozart effect was certainly overhyped and oversimplified, but it now appears that learning to appreciate complex music really can boost overall intelligence. Piping sonatas into your womb is unlikely to make a difference, but enrolling your kid in an early music-education class sounds like a very good idea.” - Tom Jacobs

attention to pitches and tones throughout life,

musicians build connections that strengthen the auditory system.

In the Northwestern study, adult musicians age 45-65 were 40 percent better than non-musicians at hearing and remembering sentences amidst background noise. Although there is no evidence yet that taking up music late in life will have the same effect on hearing, studies

in aging rodents did show increased levels of hearing-related chemicals in the brain. “The take-home message: If you’re an older musician, don’t stop playing. If you gave it up, it may be time to dust off that old violin” (Neighmond).

Visit nisom.com for links to these and other Music & Wellness articles.

Younkers Community Days

We have again coordinated Playathon with Younkers Community Day, a fundraiser for local non-profit organizations, on November 11 and 12. In addition to collecting sponsorships, students are selling Community Day coupon booklets to count toward their Playathon goal. Booklets are \$5 each and contain a \$10 off coupon, a 20% off savings pass, bonus buys, and more! NISOM keeps all the money from our booklets sales and can qualify for additional funds. Save money while supporting music education!

Spend \$5, Save \$10 and More!

Coupons are good on November 11-12 only (or during pre-sale) and are valid at any Bon-Ton store, including Boston Stores. Purchase your



booklet from a NISOM student, at our office, or in-store at the NISOM table on November 5 (10AM-12PM), and be sure to stop by the Playathon recital when shopping on November 12.



On April 5, 2011, 60 local string students had the rare experience of working with Dean Marshall and Barrage and then performing two pieces with the international ensemble at the evening concert. 500 people were in attendance for this special event, presented by NISOM and sponsored by Premier Bank.

Classes for the whole family

Sign up today for these second trimester group classes:

- Suzuki Cello for Ages 4-6
- Piano for Ages 7-11
- Voice: Let Loose! For Grades 3-5
- 4th Grade Instrument Program
- Cellobration Cello Choir
- Piano for Teens & Adults
- Women's Voice for Age 50+
- Or form your own class with two or three friends!

Visit nison.com for schedules and information. 2nd trimester begins November 14.





Our 2011-12 Need

As you can see, NISOM is busy with a variety of fundraisers this year. Although we made great strides last year, we still rely on grants, fundraisers, and donors to operate. This year to meet all of our expenses, we need to raise approximately \$45,000 in operational funding. While this is not as lofty as last year's goal of \$60,000 (which included paying off our loan), we will again need your support.

Please send donations payable to NISOM to 2728 Asbury Rd, Suite 200, Dubuque, IA 52001. If you would like to designate your contribution for a particular fund, such as scholarships, indicate this in the memo line of your check. Undesignated donations will be applied toward operational support or greatest need. You can also donate online at www.nisom.com. To donate to our endowment fund, send your gift payable to the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, 700 Locust St, Suite 150, Dubuque, IA 52001. Be sure to write NISOM on the memo line.

2011-12 Grants to Date

Thank you to the following organizations who have already awarded NISOM grants for the 2011-12 year:

- City of Dubuque – Operational Support
- Dubuque Racing Association/Mystique – Project Support for software update
- Leisure Services of Dubuque – Scholarships
- Rotary Club of Dubuque – Scholarships
- Tapestry – Scholarships

Thank you also to all the businesses who donated prizes for Playathon!



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Northeast Iowa School of Music (NISOM), a leader in music education, has known you as friends, family, former students, faculty or colleagues. We'd love to continue to send you our "Quarter Notes" newsletter, but we also recognize that you may receive more mail than you can enjoy and respond to.

Save a tree and sign up for our email list while staying informed about NISOM!

Help us send you the information you want to receive by updating your contact information and preferences. Return this form, email pambrookens@gmail.com or call (563) 690-0151.

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- Please remove me from your mailing list.
- Please keep me on your mailing list. I love to hear about your events and happenings.
- Please only send me information about events.
- The addressee is deceased or no longer lives here.