

Music fundamentals at San Marcos Public Library

For their Pedagogy of Music Theory course, graduate students supervised by Dr. **Nico Schüler**, Service Learning Faculty Fellow at Texas State, offered free sessions on music fundamentals in the San Marcos Public Library. The sessions focused on basic music notation, rhythm and meter, scales and keys, intervals, melody, sight singing, and melodic dictation. In its third year of this initiative, these community outreach sessions are of special interest to middle and high school students, and amateur musicians.



Front, from left: **CZ Stollon, Laura Jones, Jose Garza, Amy Hatch, Elena Funk, Ruth Vecchio, Yu-Ci Liao** Back, from left: **Brandon Stroud, Felipe Garcia, Eric Gutierrez, Kevin McClarney, Richard Vandertulip, Jeff McMillen, David Lester, Eugene Alfaro, Nico Schüler**

Musicians get smart with SmartMusic

The School of Music hosted a symposium on Innovative Use of Technology in Music Instruction September 27-29. The presenter, Mr. Leigh Kallestad of MakeMusic Inc., offered instruction on the software "SmartMusic" to brass and woodwind methods classes, the voice and theory faculty, and, assisted by students, offered presentations on both the Musician's Forum and Somos Músicos series. On Saturday, area music educators participated in a SmartMusic workshop in the School of Music Recital Hall and computer lab. Organizer for all events was TxState trombone professor **Charles R. Hurt**.



Associate Professor **Cynthia I. Gonzales** presented in San Diego, CA, at the joint conference of the College Music Society and the Association for Technology in Music Instruction. Her talk, "SmartMusic for the College Level Aural Skills Curriculum," included data supporting the efficacy of SmartMusic software to increase students' sight-singing abilities.



Singers race for the cure

Members of the TState Women's Choir traveled to Austin to participate in the recent Susan G. Comen *race for the cure*.



From left: **Brook Whelan, Jonathan Hill, Kaitlyn Dismuke, Rachel Hendricks, Ilanna Tarrif, Lindsey Wurdeman, Sarah Arce, Taylor Robichaux, Carrie Wiggins**

Many Texas women sing together

The Texas State Women's Choir directed by Dr. **Lynn Brinckmeyer** attended the 2012 Texas Collegiate Women's Choir Festival at UT-San Antonio in October. Ladies from six Texas universities rehearsed all day with guest conductor Dr. Janet Galvan from Ithaca College. Each choir performed individually and also with the Festival Choir at the evening concert.



Día del Trombón

Professor **Charles R. Hurt** recently presented a "Trombone Day" at New Braunfels High School at the invitation of Dana Pradervand, Director of Bands. The "Trombone Days" involve private lessons, master classes, section rehearsals, and recitals. "Trombone Days" is part of an on going outreach initiative sponsored by the School of Music.



Alumnus wins concerto competition

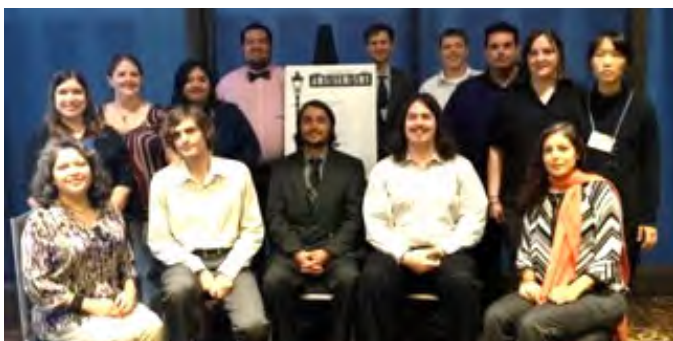
Donnie De La Rosa, a 2011 Texas State graduate and currently a teaching assistant at Eastern Illinois University, won the graduate division of the Eastern Illinois University Concerto Competition. Donnie, a former trumpet student of Dr. **Keith Winking**, will be performing the Tomasi Concerto with the Eastern Symphony Orchestra.

Alumnus launches Formula One media center

Circuit of The Americas featured website crew, The Taecho Group. Music alumnus **Adam McCombs**, former trumpet student of **Jack Laumer**, and his two friends formed the San Marcos-based website design and development company and launched an updated version of an on-line media center that was used during the recent Formula One races in Austin. "We tweaked our branding and launched a new website" for Circuit of The Americas. Stories ran in the [Austin Business Journal](#) and the [San Marcos Daily Record](#), with photos showing Adam in the media room during the races.

Music scholars pilgrimage to New Orleans

Twelve graduate students and three faculty attended a joint meeting of the Society for Music Theory, the American Musicological Society, and the Society for Ethnomusicology in New Orleans, Oct 31- Nov 4. It was the largest gathering of music scholars in recent years in the United States, which gave students the opportunity to hear numerous presentations and to meet scholars with similar research interests.



Back row (left to right): **Amy Dixon Hatch**, **Laura Jones**, **Stefanie Martinez**, **Jorge Torres**, **Dr. Sean Johnston**, **Kevin McClarney**, **Joseph Vecchio**, **Ruth Vecchio**, **Shao Ying Ho**
Front Row: **Dr. Cynthia I. Gonzales**, **Cliff Burden**, **Felipe Garcia**, **Michael Squilla**, **Dr. Ludim Pedroza**
Not Pictured: **Sze Wing Ho**



Darja live at Lampasas

Freshman jazz piano major **Darja Tomanovic** performed at the Honors College forum celebrating the 100th birthday of the Lampasas building on campus.

Another big win for Texas State Mariachi

For a third straight year, Texas State's Mariachi Nueva Generación won *FIRST PLACE* in the annual Mariachi Vargas Extravaganza at the San Antonio Convention Center. This is also our sixth time in the last seven years to take the top honors in this prestigious competition.



The Vargas Extravaganza also includes a solo vocalist competition on Saturday morning. Bobcat singer **Nelson Ruiz** took 3rd place and our very own **Karen Zavala** won the highest award – this year's *BEST IN THE U.S.* vocalist! Congratulations to all our great mariachi students! Faculty directors and coaches, including **John Lopez**, **Bobby Lopez**, and vocal coach **Michelle Quintero**, share their students' success.



Karen (red skirt) and Nelson hold their trophies with their backup mariachi

Angelic opera production wins national competition

Texas State Opera Theatre's production of *Angelique* was named the 1st place winner of the National Opera Production Competition. Chosen in a blind competition of submissions from opera programs across the nation, this is the highest national honor a University Opera production can receive. Of particular pride is the fact that the production bested submissions from programs such as Cincinnati Conservatory and University of Colorado. The Award will be presented at the National Opera Association Convention in Portland, OR, on January 5th. Congratulations to the students of Texas State Opera, Orchestra, lighting designer **Gaila Raymer**, conductor **Oliver Worthington**, the voice faculty, and Opera Theatre Director **Samuel Mungo**!