



2019-20 HIGHLIGHTS & NEWS

FACULTY

- Prof **Caryl Clark** was a co-editor of *The Cambridge Haydn Encyclopedia* that was published in April 2019 by Cambridge University Press.
- Professor Emeritus and former Dean **Russell Hartenberger** was awarded a 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Toronto Musicians' Association, Local 149.
- Opera Division Prof **Sandra Horst** received an Honorary Doctor of Music Degree from her alma mater Wilfrid Laurier University in June 2019.
- Piano instructor **Boyanna Toyich** (BMusPerf 1970) passed away on June 19, 2019. "A beacon of positivity," a devoted teacher, and an innovator dedicated to music education, she was the founder of RomeSMARTS, a summer program combining musical instruction and cultural education. Her legacy lives on in the Boyanna Toyich Leadership in Music Scholarship that will be awarded each year to a graduate student who exhibits qualities of leadership, academic engagement, creativity, and community outreach. Donations continue to be collected in her memory and will be matched dollar for dollar by the office of UofT Provost Cheryl Regehr. See donate.utoronto.ca/music.
- Prof **Derek Holman** CM passed away on May 20, 2019. He was an organist, composer, choir master, and professor for almost 30 years in the Faculty of Music's Department of Theory and Composition. A busy composer, he received commissions from the CBC, Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, and the TSO, among others. He was awarded the Order of Canada for his services to music, and received an honorary degree of Doctor of Sacred Letters from Trinity College.
- One of the inaugural instructors of the Faculty of Music Jazz program, **Gary Williamson**, passed away on April 17, 2019. A celebrated pianist, he started playing professionally in 1964 and played with everyone from Thad Jones and Dexter Gordon to Phil Nimmons and Dave McMurdo.
- On April 1, 2019 at the age of 90, **Vladimir Orloff** passed away. Prior to joining UofT Music as cello professor in 1971, he had a long performance and recording career in Vienna. He retired in 1991.
- Long-time Professor of Violin **David Zafer** passed away on April 20, 2019 at the age of 85. In addition to teaching at the Faculty from 1966 to 1999, Prof Zafer was conductor of the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra for 25 years. Established in his memory, the Zafer Family Scholarship continues to grow with gifts made by friends and former students. Gifts to this scholarship will be matched dollar for dollar by the office of UofT Provost Cheryl Regehr. See donate.utoronto.ca/music.
- Ethnomusicologist Prof **James Kippen** and Dr. **Annette Sanger** retired from the Faculty of Music last summer. They joined the Faculty in 1990. Prof Kippen led research in Indian and Hindustani music and Dr. Sanger taught a wide range of courses including Balinese gamelan ensemble.
- Long-time Director of the Electronic Music Studio and composer Prof **Dennis Patrick** (MMus 1975, BMus 1974) retired after over 40 years of service to the Faculty of Music.
- Music Education Prof **Cam Walter** (MMus 1976, BMus 1975) retired after 25 years at the Faculty of Music coaching brass ensembles, conducting, and teaching instrumental music education courses.
- After 11 years, Director of Advancement **Bruce Blandford** retired from UofT in October 2019. He has moved on to part-time work for his alma mater, Mount Allison University.
- *Trace* by Red Sky Performance with composition by Prof **Eliot Britton** won the Dora Mavor Moore Award for Outstanding Sound Design/Composition - Dance.
- Violinist Prof **Mark Fewer** (BMusPerf 1995) and harpsichordist Hank Knox released their album *Vivaldi: Manchester Sonatas* in January 2020.
- Assistant Prof of Musicology **Sarah Gutsche-Miller** was named one of 52 Connaught New Researcher Award winners, for her project "Ballet at the Opéra-Comique: Tradition, Modernism, and Nationalism."
- In January 2020 Sarah Slean and Symphony Nova Scotia released a new album featuring "Lamento" and "Ecstasy" by composer Prof **Christos Hatzis**.
- Prof **Bina John** (PhD 2002, MMus 1994), **Chris Donnelly** (MMus 2007, BMusPerf 2005) and colleagues from UofT received a Canadian Institutes of Health Research Award for "The Virtual Music Teacher: Children of all abilities banding together in early childhood music education" in June 2019.

- In 2020 Prof **Lorna MacDonald** was named Master Teacher for the National Association of Teachers of Singing Intern Program, the second Canadian to receive this honour.

- Prof **Gillian MacKay** and Acadia University Prof **Mark Hopkins** (BMus 1982) were the 2019 Canadian Band Association National Band Award recipients.

- Prof **Monica Whicher** (OpDip 1990, BMusPerf 1988) was appointed Head of Voice Studies in January 2020.

- Prof **Ryan McClelland**'s essay "Hemiola as Agent of Metric Resolution in the Music of Brahms" was one of eight contributions to *Brahms and the Shaping of Time* (ed. S. Murphy), which was recently awarded the 2019 Outstanding Multi-Author Collection Award from the Society for Music Theory.

- Jazz saxophonist Prof **Mike Murley** released two new albums, *Taking Flight* – featuring bass instructors **Steve Wallace** and **Jim Vivian** – and *The North Plays the Music of Kenny Wheeler* – featuring pianist Prof **David Braid** (BMusPerf 1998).

- The Faculty of Music gave out Teaching Awards in May 2019 to Voice Studies Prof **Monica Whicher** (OpDip 1990, BMusPerf 1998) and Music Education Prof **Nasim Niknafs**.

- In 2019 Prof Emeritus **Stephen Ralls** and **Bruce Ubukata** generously donated the Aldeburgh Connection archives to the Faculty of Music Library. The Aldeburgh Connection ran from 1982-2013.

- Prof **Steven Vande Moortele** was awarded the American Musicological Society's 2019 Roland Jackson Award for exceptional merit in the field of music analysis for "Murder, Trauma, and the Half-Diminished Seventh Chord in Schoenberg's 'Song of the Wood Dove.'"

- In 2019 the Faculty of Music's 100th Anniversary website was nominated for a Heritage Toronto Public History Award. Designed with alumna **Mary Bella** (MMus 1999, OpDip 1998) and featuring in depth articles by Prof **Robin Elliott** (PhD 1990, MA Music 1981, BMus 1978), the site was curated and edited by **Tyler Greenleaf**. See: faculty100.music.utoronto.ca.

- The Contemporary Music Ensemble, under the direction of Prof **Wallace Halladay** (BMusPerf 2000), was recognized as a Major Ensemble at the Faculty for the first time in the 2019-20 year.

- In 2019 the Music and Health Research Collaboratory (MaHRC), under the direction of Prof **Michael Thaut**, had: 12 peer reviewed full journal papers, 3 peer reviewed abstracts, 1 book – *The Oxford Handbook of*

Music and the Brain – edited by **Michael Thaut** and Donald Hodges, and 5 chapters in books, review articles, and special editions.

STUDENTS

- Congratulations to 4th-year trumpet performance student **Charles Watson** on winning the 2nd Trumpet audition for the Canadian Opera Company Orchestra.

- Ethnomusicology PhD student **Nil Basdurak** received an honorable mention for the 2019 Charles Seeger Prize from the Society for Ethnomusicology. Her paper was titled: "The Little Buskers of Istanbul: Ethico-political Soundscape of Children's Street Labour."

- DMA student pianist **Bryn Blackwood** won the 2019 Eckhardt-Gramatté National Music Competition. Alumna pianist **Jana Luksts** (BMusPerf 2016) won second prize.

- **Bryn Blackwood** also won the 2019 DMA Recital Competition at the Faculty. He performed his winner's recital in January 2020. Clarinetist **Tiago Delgado** was given an honorable mention.

- 3rd-year violinist **Emily Bosenius** won first prize at the Oakville Chamber Orchestra Concerto Competition. She will perform a full concerto in the 2020-21 season.

- Congratulations to outstanding Faculty of Music students **Rebekah Tam** (BMus 2019), **Kevin Vuong** (BMus 2019), **Nina Jeftic** (BMus 2019), and **Alexander Bowie** (BMusPerf 2019), recipients of 2019 UofT Gordon Cressy Student Leadership Awards!

- In fall 2019 DMA student saxophonist **Tristan De Borba** (BMusPerf 2007) accepted a one-year appointment as Lecturer at Acadia University, teaching saxophone as well as conducting the Symphonic Band and String Orchestra.

- Master's student double-bassist **Peter Eratostene** (ACP 2018) was named to the 2020 COC Orchestra Academy.

- Composers Dr. **Parisa Sabet** (DMA 2019, MMus 2014) and Dr. **Bekah Simms** (DMA 2019, MMus 2015) won the 2019 Tecumseh Sherman Rogers and William and Phyllis Waters Graduating Award, respectively, each receiving \$25,000.

- 2nd-year pianist **Vivid Ma** won the 2019 Hagood and Martha Hardy Protégé Award from the Minstrel Foundation.

- 4th-year Jazz bassist **Evan Gratham** and alumna soprano **Sara Schabas** (BMusPerf 2012) were awarded 2019 Hnatyshyn Foundation Developing Artist Grants worth \$10,000 each.

- Music Education PhD student **Scott Jones** (MA 2018) was selected as one of the programmers for the eighth annual Human Rights Film Festival in Toronto in December 2019.
- 4th-year composition student **Shreya Jha** wrote and composed a new musical *Connections*, premiered by the Trinity College Dramatic Society in November 2019.
- Music and Health Science PhD student **Kyurim Kang** won one of three PhD scholarships from the Korean Canadian Scholarship Foundation.
- The Canadian University Music Society and the SOCAN Foundation awarded PhD student **Carolyne Sumner** the 2019 SOCAN Foundation/MusCan Award for Writings on Canadian Music (in English) for her paper entitled: “Musical Networks and Cultural Expression in Canada: The Post-centennial Years.”
- The UofT Campus Philharmonic Orchestra enjoyed their second season of concerts led by Conducting DMA student **Lorenzo Guggenheim**. The CPO is a newly formed campus-wide orchestra for non-music majors, faculty, staff and community members.
- The Polaris Trio – 3rd-year pianist **Michelle Lin**, violinist **Ryan Shen** (BMusPerf 2019), and 3rd-year cellist **Christopher Chan** – won the 2019 Felix Galimir Chamber Music Award. They went on to the Canadian Music Competition where they placed first in the chamber music division.
- Ethnomusicology PhD student **Hamidreza Salehyar** won the Canadian Society for Traditional Music Student Paper Prize for his paper “‘Martyrs’ of Islam or of the Nation? Ambiguity in Shia Rituals of Muharram in Iran.”
- DMA student saxophonist **Chelsea Shanoff** (BMusPerf 2009) presented her research on saxophonists’ playing-related injuries and posture at the 2019 Performing Arts Medicine Association Conference in Los Angeles.
- 4th-year pianist **Joshua Su** won Third Prize at the PianoHouse International Competition, Category F. Chopin in New York.
- 2nd-year soprano **Gabrielle Turgeon** was a Finalist in the 2020 National YoungArts Foundation Competition in Miami.
- The Faculty of Music held its 2nd Undergraduate Research Showcase in April 2019 – the winners were:
1st Place – **Karina Stellato** – *The War on Score: Ontarian Women’s Songs During the Great War*
2nd Place: **Renée Olo** – *Saints and Whores: The Birth of the Professional Female Singer in Sixteenth-Century Ferrara*

3rd Place: **Nolan Sprangers** (BMus 2019) – *Reviving Music and Myth: Neoclassical Aesthetics in Stravinsky’s ‘Orpheus’*

- The University of Toronto Jazz Orchestra (dir. Prof **Gordon Foote**) released their new album *Embargo* in January 2020. *Embargo* features student-composed music and is available wherever you get your music. The album was produced in part by a generous gift from John and Claudine Bailey and the Faculty of Music Undergraduate Association.
- Congratulations to the winners of this year’s UTSO concerto competition: pianist **Anastasia Kulikova**, percussionist **Britton-René Collins**, and violinist **Emily Bosenius**. The winners will perform their concerti in the 2020-21 season.
- Historical performance ACP student **Jonathan Wong** (BMus 2019) has continued his leadership of the UTSC Alumni and Community Choir: Ruckus.
- 1st-year pianist **Naomi Wong** and alumnus saxophonist **George Liu** (MMus 2018) placed first and second respectively in the Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Orchestra competition in January 2020.

ALUMNI

- Composer and jazz pianist **Kris Davis** (BMusPerf 2001) released her new album *Diatom Ribbons* in October 2019. The album was named the #1 Jazz Album of 2019 by the *New York Times*. She returned to UofT Music for a residency last fall.
- In May 2019 soprano **Xin Wang** (AD 2004, OpDip 2002) and DMA student pianist **Jialiang Zhu** (MMus 2013, BMusPerf 2011) performed at the Beijing Modern Music Festival. The Canadian Embassy in China released an official note praising the Canadian music education system, specifically the Faculty of Music. Xin also gave a lecture and performance at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing.
- Mezzo-soprano **Kristina Agur** (MMus 2016, BMusPerf 2014) joined the chorus of the Vienna State Opera in fall 2019.
- Bass-baritone **Joel Allison** (MMus 2018), currently of the COC Ensemble Studio, won First Place at the Metropolitan Opera National Council – Central Region Competition and secured a spot in the semifinals at the Metropolitan Opera in New York in February 2020.
- Harrison² – saxophonists **Harrison Argatoff** (BMusPerf 2018) and faculty member **Mike Murley**, bassist **Steve Wallace**, and drummer **Harry Vetro** (BMusPerf 2018) – released their new album *Trout in Swimwear* in February 2020.

- Last year **Neville Austin** (MA Music 1984, BMus 1983) graciously established the Neville Austin Musicology Scholarship to support outstanding musicology graduate students.
- **Brenda Berge** (OpDip 1981) had an endowed scholarship generously created in her honor last year by her student Lynn Bevan. The Brenda Berge Artistic Development Award will be awarded to an undergrad performance student with academic and performance excellence. Donations continue to be collected in her honor. See donate.utoronto.ca/music.
- With thanks to Dean **Don McLean** (PhD 1997, MA Music 1978, BMus 1977) and his wife Diane Martello for establishing the Martello McLean Graduate Scholarship last year.
- Jazz vocalist **Heather Bambrick** (BMusPerf 1997) released her new album *Fine State* in June 2019.
- With tenor **Fabian Arciniegas** (MMus 2012) joining her, soprano **Maureen Batt** (MMus 2009) took her fourth *Crossing Borders* program to Colombia last fall.
- **Nicole Becic** (BMus 2018) released her new album *Tvoja za Sva Vremena* in June 2019.
- The Cy Youngs with pianist **Alexa Belgrave** (BMusPerf 2018) and **Max Forster** (BMusPerf 2017) on trumpet released their EP *Wakeup Call* in February 2020.
- **Measha Brueggergosman** (BMusPerf 1999) was featured in the Toronto run of *Caroline, or Change* at the Winter Garden Theatre in February 2020.
- Conductor **Darko Butorac** (BMusPerf 2000) joined the Asheville Symphony Orchestra as Music Director after 12 years as conductor of the Missoula Symphony Orchestra.
- **Robert Carli** (BMusPerf 1993) co-authored *The Awesome Music Project: Songs of Hope and Happiness*. Proceeds from this book will fund research initiatives involving music and mental health, a collaboration with CAMH and the Music and Health Research Collaboratory of the Faculty of Music. Robert also won a 2019 Domestic TV Music Award – Fiction, from SOCAN for his composition work on *Murdoch Mysteries*.
- This past year's '30 Hot Canadian Classical Musicians Under 30' by CBC included DMA student pianist **Bryn Blackwood**, mezzo-soprano **Sarah Bissonnette** (BMusPerf 2016), guitarist **Abshir Miller** (BMusPerf 2018), violist **Meagan Turner** (ACP 2016, BMusPerf 2015), and tenor **Matthew Cairns** (MMus 2019, BMusPerf 2017).
- Jazz drummer and bandleader **Ernesto Cervini** (BMusPerf 2003) won the 2019 Hagood Hardy Award from SOCAN.
- Dr. **Elaine Choi** (DMA 2018, MMus 2010, BMus 2008) and her SATB choir Babel embarked on their first international tour to Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan in June 2019.
- Violinist **Caryl Clark** (BMusPerf 1976) is the current President of the Newfoundland and Labrador Registered Music Teachers' Association.
- Current MMus student soprano **Midori Marsh**, bass-baritone **Alex Halliday** (MMus 2019), and collaborative pianist **Frances Thielmann** (MMus 2019) will join the Canadian Opera Company's Ensemble Studio for the 2020-21 season.
- **Midori Marsh** won First Prize and the Audience Choice Award at the 2019 COC Ensemble Studio Competition, **Alex Halliday** (MMus 2019) won Second Prize, and **Charlotte Siegel** (BMusPerf 2017) won Third Prize. The CBC Music Young Artist Development Prize went to tenor **Marcel d'Entremont** (MMus 2015). Alumni **Sarah Bissonnette** (BMusPerf 2016) and **Brenden Friesen** (MMus 2018) were also finalists.
- We are sad to share that composer **Rebekah Cummings** (MMus 2018) passed away on March 23, 2019 after being diagnosed with cancer in December 2018. She was a tremendous talent, both as visual artist and composer. While at UofT she was a co-winner of the 2018-19 Karen Kieser Prize in composition and winner of the 2016 UofT String Quartet Composition Competition and 2016 competition for the Ann H. Atkinson Prize in Electroacoustic Composition.
- Mezzo-soprano **Emily D'Angelo** (BMusPerf 2016) was named a 2020 Lincoln Center Emerging Artist in New York. Her 2019-20 season includes debuts with Opéra de Rouen, the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées in the title role of Handel's *Serse*, and the Vienna Staatsoper as Cherubino in *Le nozze di Figaro*.
- Soprano **Barbara Hannigan** (MMus 1999, BMusPerf 1993) and mezzo **Krisztina Szabó** (Faculty) were both featured on the GRAMMY-nominated recording of George Benjamin's *Lessons in Love and Violence*.
- The Most Reverend **Linda Nicholls** (BMusEd 1976) is the newly elected Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada. She is the first woman to head the Anglican Church nationally, and the second female primate in the international Anglican Communion.
- Following his time as Executive Director of Soundstreams in Toronto, **Ben Dietschi** (MMus 2009) joined the DeVos Institute of Arts Management at the University of Maryland as a senior consultant.

- Soundstreams announced **Menon Dwarka** (MMus 1994, BMus 1991) as Executive Director in January 2020, following **Tim Crouch** (MMus 2009) who joined as Director of Marketing in 2019.

- **Jesse Dietschi** (MMus 2013) joined Sinfonia Toronto as their Principal Double Bassist in October 2019.

- Pianist **Cheryl Duvall** (MMus 2010) and composer Dr. **Anna Höstman** (DMA 2013) released their full-length album *Harbour* in January 2020.

- Music theorist Dr. **Dan Deutsch** (PhD 2018) started an Azrieli postdoctoral fellowship at Hebrew University (Jerusalem) in September 2019.

- Many grads were nominated for East Coast Music Awards:

CLASSICAL RECORDING OF THE YEAR:

The Bayfield Sessions – Atlantic String Machine; with violinist **Karen Graves** (BMusPerf 1992)

JAZZ RECORDING OF THE YEAR:

The Island of Form – Ethan Ardelli (BMusPerf 2006) with pianist **Chris Donnelly** (MMus 2007, BMusPerf 2005)

First Spring – Florian Hoefner; with bassist **Andrew Downing** (MMus 2008, BMusPerf 1996) and drummer **Nick Fraser** (Faculty)

**Also nominated for INSTRUMENTAL

RECORDING OF THE YEAR

Fine State – Heather Bambrick (BMusPerf 1997) with **Kelly Jefferson** (Faculty) and **Chase Sanborn** (Faculty)

- Pianist **Eve Egoyan** (MMus 1992) was awarded the Toronto Arts Foundation Muriel Sherrin Award, which celebrates an artist or creator who has made a contribution to the cultural life of Toronto through outstanding achievement in music or dance.

- Ensemble Made in Canada – pianist **Angela Park** (MMus 2003, BMusPerf 2001), violinist **Elissa Lee** (MMus 1998, BMusPerf 1997), cellist **Rachel Mercer** (BMusPerf 1998), and violist Sharon Wei – released their new album *Mosaïque* in January 2020.

- Following a year sharing stages with Alessia Cara, Scott Helman, and Walk Off The Earth, Featurette – singer **Lexie Jay** (BMusPerf 2013) and drummer **Jon Fedorsen** (BMusPerf 2002) – released their new album, *Dream Riot*, in January 2020.

- Dr. **Megan Forsyth** (PhD 2011) joined the School of Music at Memorial University as Assistant Professor of Ethnomusicology.

- Dr. **Kate Galloway** (PhD 2010, MA Music 2005) joined Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in New York as Lecturer in Music.

- In 2019 **Genevieve Graham** (BMusPerf 1986) released her historical romance novel *At the Mountain's Edge* with publisher Simon & Schuster.

- **Paolo Griffin** (BMus 2013) founded the 'Freesound Series' that aims to present contemporary music for large chamber ensemble in exciting and innovative concert experiences. He also joined Toronto's Xenia Concerts as their new Managing Director last year.

- Soprano Dr. **Christina Haldane** (DMA 2019, BMusPerf 2001) released her new album, *Let Me Explain*, in November 2019. In the fall she joined the Voice Faculty at Dalhousie University's Fountain School of Performing Arts.

- Guitarist **Drew Henderson** (MMus 2005, BMusPerf 2003) performed the *Concierto de Aranjuez* with the Kingston Symphony Orchestra in April 2019. The KSO is led by **Evan Mitchell** (MMus 2005).

- In May 2019 **Julia Henderson** (MMus 2019) released her album *Between Earth and Sky* which re-conceptualizes six tracks from Yasunori Mitsuda's famed soundtrack for the video game Chrono Trigger. It was named the #1 video game music album of 2019 by GameGrooves.

- Soprano **Elisabeth Hetherington** (BMusPerf 2015) toured the Netherlands in late fall 2019.

- Composer Dr. **Vincent Ho** (MMus 2000) won the Jan V. Matejcek New Classical Music Award from SOCAN in 2019.

- Composer and pianist **Frank Horvat** (BMus 1997) released his new album, *What Goes Around*, in October 2019 with harpist **Sharlene Wallace** (BMusPerf 1986), clarinetist **Peter Stoll** (BMusPerf 1989), and percussionist **Beverley Johnston** (BMus 1980).

- In fall 2019 Against the Grain Theatre with AD **Joel Ivany** (OpDip 2008) and Music Director **David Eliakis** (MMus 2016, BMusPerf 2014) took the ATG production of *La Bohème* on tour across Canada in bars and included the first opera livestreamed by the CBC.

- Against the Grain Theatre also took home two Dora Mavor Moore awards for their production of Claude Vivier's *Kopernikus*. Other Dora nominees included **Lily Ling** (BMusPerf 2009), Dr. **Chris Thornborrow** (DMA 2014, MMus 2008) and **Alice Ping Yee Ho** (MMus 1984).

- **Hayley Janes** (BMus 2017) was awarded the 2019 Best Dissertation Award for the Master's of Philosophy in Arts, Creativity, and Education from the University of Cambridge, England. Her dissertation is titled "Letters Between My Selves: A Critical Autoethnographic Epistolary on 'Cultural Humility' in the Context of Canadian Music Teacher Education."

- Soprano **Emma Johnson** (BMusPerf 2016) won First Place and the Grand Award at the 2019 National Music Festival in Saskatoon. In addition to the cash prize she won a performance opportunity with both the Prince George Symphony Orchestra and the Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra.
- Music Technology grad **Siavash Kaveh** (MMus 2019) and Dr. **Kevin Lau** (DMus 2012, MMus 2007, BMus 2005) were two of six winners of Dawn Initiative's composition competition. 109 composers from more than 35 countries submitted entries and the winning works were performed in November 2019 in Toronto.
- Soprano **Claire de Sévigné** (MMus 2011) joined the core ensemble of the Grand Théâtre de Genève in Switzerland.
- Dr. **Steve Sang Kyun Koh** (DMA 2017) was appointed Assistant Professor of Violin at the University of Northern Iowa in fall 2019.
- **Janet Krause** (BMusPerf 1977) published her thesis *The Art of Auditioning* last year. She is currently Principal Second Violin of The Hague Philharmonic and the Principal Violin of Les Solists Européens.
- Pianist and composer Dr. **Noam Lemish** (DMA 2018, MMus 2012) and duo partner Amos Hoffman toured Western Canada and the Carolinas in 2019.
- Saxophonist **Jeffrey Leung** (BMusPerf 2013) premiered Theo Chandler's "Trailing Wings" in Summer 2019 with the Maryland Wind Festival. In February 2020 he performed as a section musician with the New World Symphony in Miami.
- **Juniper Locilento** (OpDip 2000) was named Director of Development at Community Food Centres Canada in October 2019.
- Cellist **Kathleen Long** (MMus 2010) started with the Omaha Symphony in fall 2019.
- Saxophonist **Yao Lu** (BMusPerf 2018) advanced to the live round of the 2019 Adolphe Sax International Competition in Dinant, Belgium.
- The second edition of **Susan Maclagan's** (BMus 1974) *A Dictionary for the Modern Flutist* was published by Rowman & Littlefield Publishers in May 2019.
- Dr. **Caitlin Martinkus** (PhD 2017) was appointed Assistant Collegiate Professor of Music Theory at Virginia Tech School of Performing Arts and was joined there by spouse Dr. **Scott Hanenberg** (PhD 2018, MA Music 2014) as instructor of music theory and technology.
- **Denis Mastromonaco** (BMusPerf 1997) was appointed Music Director and Conductor of the Burlington Symphony Orchestra (formerly Symphony on the Bay).
- **Danielle McCandless** (BMusPerf 2002) was appointed Executive Director of the Pax Christi Chorale in May 2019.
- Dr. **Kent McWilliams** (MMus 1989, BMusPerf 1985) was appointed Director of the School of Music at Kent State University.
- Violinist **Akemi Mercer-Niewoehner** (BMusPerf 2003) and cellist **Rachel Mercer** (BMusPerf 1998) released their album *Our Strength, Our Song* in November 2019. It celebrates the work of six Canadian female composers, including grads **Alice Ping Yee Ho** (MMus 1984) and **Rebekah Cummings** (MMus 2018).
- Composer **Alice Ping Yee Ho** (MMus 1984) and composer **James Rolfe** (MMus 1984, BMus 1983) were awarded two of the inaugural Johanna Metcalf Performing Arts Prizes worth \$25,000 each from the Metcalf Foundation. Their protégés, Dr. **Roydon Tse** (DMA 2019, MMus 2015) and Dr. **Sophie Dupuis** (DMA 2019, MMus 2013), also receive \$5,000 each.
- Violinist **Julia Mirzoev** (BMusPerf 2018) won Third Prize and the award for the commissioned piece at the Irving M. Klein International String Competition in San Francisco. Julia was also a finalist at the 2019 Orchestre symphonique de Montréal competition.
- Soprano **Amy Moodie** (MMus 2018, BMusPerf 2012) won First Prize at the Toronto Mozart Vocal Competition. 4th-year tenor **David Walsh** was also a prize winner. They will both perform as soloists with the Toronto Mozart Players under the direction of Dr. **David Bowser** (DMA 2015, MMus 1995).
- Dr. **Melissa Morgan** (DMA 2017) was named Assistant Professor at the University of Regina, where she directs the choral program.
- Dr. **Ameera Nimjee** (MA Music 2011, BMus 2009) joined the University of Puget Sound in a tenure track position in Ethnomusicology. Her research focuses on transnational feminism, race, dance, and Islam.
- **Bianca Chambul** (BMusPerf 2016) was appointed Principal Bassoon of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra in October 2019.
- After a 36-year career at the University of Louisville School of Music with 21 of those years as Associate Dean, pianist Dr. **Naomi J. Oliphant** (MMus 1976, BMus 1975) has begun a three year phased retirement.
- **Patricia Shih** (BMusPerf 1999) joined Baylor University School of Music as Associate Professor of Violin in September.

- Our alumni represented us well at the Ontario Music Educators' Association's Conference in November 2019, with over 25 music grads presenting and a performance of *Intrinsic Light* by **Cait Nishimura** (BMus 2014), commissioned by the Ontario Band Association for OMEA's 100th anniversary.
- Opera Canada's Best of the Decade (2010-19) was chock full of grads, including singers: soprano **Ileana Montalbetti** (OpDip 2007), tenor **David Pomeroy** (OpDip 1997), baritone **James Westman** (BMusPerf 1995), **Barbara Hannigan** (MMus 1999, BMusPerf 1993); and composers: **Veronika Krausas** (BMus 1991), Dr. **Dean Burry** (DMA 2015, MMus 1996), **James Rolfe** (MMus 1984, BMus 1983), **Massimo Guida** (DMA 2019, MMus 2014, BMus 2012), Dr. **Anna Höstman** (DMA 2013), Dr. **Adam Scime** (DMA 2018) and **Saman Shahi** (MMus 2012, BMus 2010).
- Dr. **Charlene Pauls** (DMA 2013) joined the Guelph Chamber Choir as their new Artistic Director in September 2019.
- Jazz vocalist **Jenna Pinard** (BMusPerf 2019) and guitarist **Jay Yoo** (BMusPerf 2018) released their album *Here, Now* in November 2019.
- Baritone **Brett Polegato** (BMus 1991) made his Met Opera debut in fall 2019 as de Brétigny in *Manon*.
- Currently in her second year with l'Atelier Lyrique young artist ensemble at Opéra de Montréal, soprano **Elizabeth Polese** (MMus 2015, BMusPerf 2013) was awarded a 2019 William Matheus Sullivan Musical Foundation award worth \$10,000. Mezzo-soprano **Simona Genga** (MMus 2018) was awarded a \$2,500 Career Development Grant from the Sullivan Foundation as well.
- Choirs Ontario awarded **Nila Rajagopal** (BMus 2017) the 2019 Ken Fleet Choral Conducting Scholarship.
- Musicologist Dr. **Marc-Andre Roberge** (PhD 1988) retired after 30 years at the University of Laval Faculty of Music.
- **Matthew Ross** (BMusPerf 2013) was appointed a one-year position as Assistant Principal Trumpet of the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra.
- Harpist Dr. **Angela Schwarzkopf** (DMA 2015, MMus 2009) released her debut album, *detach*, in November, and includes compositions by **Monica Pearce** (MMus 2008), Dr. **Cecilia Livingston** (DMA 2015, MMus 2010, BMus 2008), Dr. **Mark Nerenberg** (DMA 2013), Dr. **Elisha Denburg** (DMA 2013, MMus 2009), and Dr. **Kevin Lau** (DMus 2012, MMus 2007, BMus 2005), and percussionists Dr. **Michelle Colton**

(DMA 2013, MMus 2009) and **Etienne Levesque** (MMus 2010).

- Drummer **Mark Segger** (MMus 2009) and his Sextet – Faculty trumpeter **Jim Lewis**, trombonist **Heather Saumer** (MMus 2009), pianist **Tania Gill** (MMus 2008), bassist **Rob Clutton** (BMusPerf 1991) and saxophonist Peter Lutek – released their new album *Lift Off* in February 2020.
- **Saman Shahi** (MMus 2012, BMus 2010) was appointed the new Music Director of the Peterborough Concert Band starting January 2020.
- Last year saxophonist **Olivia Shortt** (ACP 2016, BMusPerf 2014) was announced as one of two Artistic Associates with The Music Gallery in Toronto. She was also named to the inaugural JACK Studio. Her string quartet will be performed by the JACK Quartet in Kaufman Music Centre in New York City in May 2020.
- Dr. **Bekah Simms** (DMA 2019, MMus 2015) won the 2019 Barlow Prize from Brigham Young University to compose a major new work for Pierrot Ensemble with percussion and electronics.
- In March 2019, "Release" for harp by Dr. **Roydon Tse** (DMA 2019, MMus 2015) won the Costello Competition in Philadelphia and was performed at the Curtis Institute in April.
- Current master's composition student **Tristan Zaba** and recent grads Dr. **Eugene Astapov** (DMA 2018), Dr. **Roydon Tse**, Dr. **Bekah Simms**, **Liam Ritz** (BMus 2018), and **Stephanie Orlando** (MMus 2017) appeared as finalists across 5 of 6 categories at the 2019 SOCAN Foundation Awards for Young Composers. **Eugene Astapov** took home the Grand Prize for the best overall work.
- **David Simon** (BMusPerf 2015) received First Prize in the Royal Canadian College of Organists national competition in July 2019. He started as Organist of Toronto's St James Cathedral in May 2019.
- Trombonist Dr. **Dale Sorensen** (DMA 2015) was appointed Assistant Professor of Brass at the University of Prince Edward Island.
- After 15 years at CBC Music, **Mark Steinmetz** (BMus 1988) joined USC Radio Group in Los Angeles as VP of Content in September 2019.
- Percussionist **Naoko Tsujita** (MMus 2018) received a Special Jury Mention at the 2019 Perpignan Carillon Composition Competition for her composition "Nocturne Dance." This piece was published by the American Carillon Music Editions in May 2019. She can be heard regularly playing the Soldiers' Tower carillon on UofT's Front Campus.

- **Dr. Jeremy Strachan** (PhD 2015, BMus 2006) joined Queen's University as a SSHRC Banting Postdoctoral Fellow in September 2019 for his project "Decolonizing Canadian Music: Partnerships, Protocols, and Pathways Towards Reparation."
- **Dr. Yun Emily Wang** (PhD 2018) was appointed a tenure-stream position in Ethnomusicology at Duke University. She will take up the post in 2020 on completion of her Mellon Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowship at Columbia University.
- Percussion duo Taktus - **Greg Harrison** (MMus 2011) and **Jonny Smith** (DMA student, MMus 2012) - released their album *Mirrored Glass* in January 2020.
- Bassist **Mark Godfrey** (BMusPerf 2010) won the 2019 Toronto Arts Foundation Emerging Jazz Artist Award. Fellow alumna pianist **Teri Parker** (BMusPerf 2008) was also a finalist.
- The Toronto Symphony Orchestra announced their inaugural NextGen composition program for the 2020-21 season. Dr. **Roydon Tse** (DMA 2019, MMus 2015), Dr. **Bekah Simms** (DMA 2019, MMus 2015), and Dr. **Adam Scime** (DMA 2018) will each compose a piece to be performed next season. TSO RBC Affiliate Composer Dr. **Emilie LeBel** (DMA 2013) will work with these composers.
- Public Recordings, a Toronto experimental music collective, staged a performance in the Council Chamber of Toronto City Hall in February 2019. **Christopher Wiles** (BMusPerf 2008) produced the show which featured "To Valerie Solanas and Marilyn Monroe in Recognition of Their Desperation" by Pauline Oliveros. The CBC made a documentary about this performance on CBC Arts.
- Dr. **Deanna Yerichuk** (PhD 2015) was awarded a 2019 Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance Award for Teaching Excellence in April 2019. Dr. Yerichuk was instrumental in the creation of Wilfred Laurier University's Bachelor of Community Music program.
- In February 2020 jazz drummer **Anthony Michelli** (BMusPerf 1995) held master classes at Bahamas University and performed in Hurricane Dorian Relief performances. He was recently featured by Gretsch in their artist spotlight.
- Last year Odawa First Nations composer **Barbara Croall** (BMus 1991) had commissions premiered with Elora Festival in June ("Giishkaapkaag" about the tragedy of murdered and missing Indigenous women) and the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra in February 2020. Her composition "Zasakwaa (There is a Heavy

Frost)" was performed by the NAC Orchestra in September 2019.

- **Robin Whiffen** (BMusPerf 2015) was named Executive Director of Against the Grain Theatre in September 2019. She was previously the General Manager of Opera on the Avalon.
- Violist **Jesse Morrison** (BMusPerf 2013) joined the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra in fall 2019.
- It was another great year for Faculty of Music related nominations at the 2020 JUNO awards:

CLASSICAL COMPOSITION OF THE YEAR
 "Everything Is... Distorted" – **Bekah Simms** (DMA 2019, MMus 2015)
 "Kickin' It 2.0" – **Vincent Ho** (MMus 2000)

CLASSICAL ALBUM OF THE YEAR: SOLO OR CHAMBER
detach – **Angela Schwarzkopf** (DMA 2015, MMus 2009)

CLASSICAL ALBUM OF THE YEAR: VOCAL OR CHORAL
Summer Night – Peter Barrett, Martha Guth, Allyson McHardy and **Helen Becqu ** (current DMA student)
 * *Summer Night* is a Canadian Art Song Project commission, led by **Steven Philcox** (Faculty) and **Lawrence Wiliford** (MMus 2005), with music by the late Prof Emeritus **Healey Willan** (DMus 1920).

Handel: Dixit Dominus; Bach & Schutz: Motets – Ottawa Bach Choir, conducted by Lisette Canton with soloists **Daniel Taylor** (Faculty) and **Kayla Ruiz** (MMus student).

JAZZ ALBUM OF THE YEAR: GROUP
Trouble in Mind – Dave Young Trio; **Dave Young** (Faculty) and **Kevin Turcotte** (BMus 1991)

Abundance – Ernesto Cervini's Turboprop; **Ernesto Cervini** (BMusPerf 2003), **Tara Davidson** (Faculty, BMusPerf 2002) and **William Carn** (Faculty)

VOCAL JAZZ ALBUM OF THE YEAR:
Friday – Monkey House; with guitarist **Justin Abedin** (BMusPerf 1995)

- We are pleased to share all this news but this is an overview and we apologize to anyone whose achievements we have missed. Please stay in touch: music.alumni@utoronto.ca and 416-946-3580 or via our Facebook page [UofTFacultyofMusicAlumni](https://www.facebook.com/UofTFacultyofMusicAlumni) or Twitter [@UofTMusicAlumni](https://twitter.com/UofTMusicAlumni).