

Center for the Performing Arts at Penn State
Classical Music Project
Funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

In its third season, the Classical Music Project (CMP) continues to engage students, faculty and the community in classical music programming. This report provides an overview of CMP activities for Fall 2013 and a brief look into the project's final funded semester, Spring 2014.

Major Residency Program

Despite diligent efforts of George Trudeau and the CMP team, plans to offer a major residency in 2013-2014 by an American Symphony Orchestra were ultimately unrealized due to several factors including scheduling issues. The CMP team worked with the Mellon Foundation to reallocate the funds intended for the Major Residency Program to other activities in the project including student and community engagement, curriculum partnerships, course integration, Penn State campus project, and support for the orchestral presentation of the Vienna Concert-Verein Orchestra in Spring 2014.

Student Engagement Activities

Student Affairs at Penn State

In August the CMP team met with Barry Bram, Senior Associate Director of Unions and Student Activities, and Philip Burlingame, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, to discuss continued collaboration between the CMP and Student Affairs. This collaboration led to the development of the "Leaderless Teams Workshop," one of the semester's most distinctive events engaging students across campus, as well as the partnership with the Penn State Alumni Association for the Classical Coffeehouse. Efforts to continue to engage the Schreyer Honors College were also sustained this semester with the continuation of the Dorm Concert program.

St. Lawrence String Quartet Leaderless Teams workshop-10/7/13

Working towards the aim of engaging students in classical music programming, the Classical Music Project worked with advisors from the the Athletic Directors Leadership Institute (ADLI) and Students Engaging Students (SES) to bring a workshop called "Leaderless Teams" to students of those organizations.

- Students Engaging Students is a University Affiliate student organization that is committed to engaging students by providing educational activities, programs and services that support students in developing transferable skills to become effective leaders and connects students with service opportunities that create awareness of community needs.



- The Athletic Director's Leadership Institute provides opportunities for student-athletes to assess their own leadership experiences and to determine what public service leadership means to them.

The Quartet discussed what it takes to be a participant in a group that has no designated leader. Topics included nonverbal communication, adaptability, and working together for a common goal. Other concepts explored included pursuing a passion and appreciation of classical music. The event included discussion, Q&A and performance of excerpts of Beethoven, demonstrating nonverbal cues the group uses to play in unity with no conductor.

110 students were in attendance at this event, representing over 56 separate majors across the university; it included no music majors. The CMP team collected feedback from the students and advisors of these organizations. When asked what was of most value about the experience, student responses included:

- “The metaphor of working together – how to lead & follow at the same time. The idea of absorbing others mistakes and knowing how to support them in moving forward instead of rejecting it.”
- “Getting the opportunity to connect with people we wouldn’t normally meet.”
- “I learned how related can be two completely different things like music and sports in terms of leadership.”

Gina Hurny, SES Advisor, wrote:

The *“Leaderless Teams”* Workshop presented by the Saint Lawrence String Quartet was one of the most meaningful experiences that the members of Students Engaging Student (SES) has had the privilege to participate in. As the Quartet played they were able to effectively demonstrate the leadership concept of giving and taking. This in turn helped the members of SES to become keenly aware that when there is no designated leader one must be ready, willing, and able to receive what others on the team are giving and in return give the team what is needed. The unexpected outcome of the program was a new appreciation for classical music as well as what it takes to become a professional musician. This program was a definite out-of-the-box approach to leadership and one that I would definitely recommend to colleagues and students alike.

St. Lawrence String Quartet Classical Coffeehouse-10/8/13

For the 2013-14 season, events formerly known as Salon Evenings continued but with a new name and campus partnership. These events have taken on the name Classical Coffeehouse and are presented in partnership with the Blue & White Society and the Penn State Alumni Association.

The first Classical Coffeehouse was held in Robb Hall at the Hintz Family Alumni Center and was open to the public. There were 86 audience members at this free event. Light refreshment was provided as well as complimentary Classical Coffeehouse branded mugs.



The Quartet performed in the middle of the room with audience seating in the round to enhance the intimacy of the event and break the formal performance/audience barrier. The Quartet performed works of Beethoven, provided context for the work and answered questions from the audience.

Student information was collected by an ID swipe system. 36 students swiped their IDs, although we believe there were more students in attendance who did not swipe in. Half of the students whose

information was collected chose to participate in the survey. There were music majors in attendance but most of the responses were from non-music majors including anthropology, mechanical and civil engineering, nutritional sciences, physics, public relations and biology. Comments included:

- “This coffeehouse was one of the best performing arts events I’ve attended in my five years here. I absolutely love hearing chamber music in a more casual and intimate setting like this.”
- “I valued the new experience that was offered to anyone on campus. I enjoyed the intimate setting and the quartet’s interaction with the audience.”
- “The atmosphere was perfect.”

St. Lawrence String Quartet Schreyer Dorm Concert-10/8/13

SLSQ performed and discussed works of Beethoven during a dorm concert for the students of the Schreyer Honors College, in Atherton Hall. This was the second Schreyer dorm concert with the Quartet, the first being in Fall 2012. The event was informal, with students coming and going. Approximately 30 students sat down to experience the performance throughout the event. The event included discussion on Beethoven’s life to provide context to the music performed.



Students were asked to complete a questionnaire following the event to comment on their experience.

- A meteorology major who attended this event wrote, “I loved the connections that they made with us! It was very relaxed and I was able to connect to the music really easily. It broadened my exposure to Beethoven quartets! I absolutely loved it.”
- A biological Science and Health Professions major wrote, “It was a great contrast to the music I hear daily and inspired me to continue exploring the classical arts.”

Curriculum Partnerships

This semester the pilot of Music 011, “Under the Hood: How Classical Music Works,” launched with 45 students enrolled in the online course. Stephen Hopkins, assistant professor of music, taught the class, which uses theoretical tools to understand how classical music works. The course, offered only on the University Park campus, required attendance at a classical music performance. Hopkins highlighted and strongly encouraged his students to attend the fall’s three CMP-related performances.

Mark Ferraguto implemented the Listening Guides, developed as a part of online modules to accompany Music 005, “Introduction to Music”, to illustrate the *ritornello* structure in Vivaldi’s concertos.

The Interdisciplinary Lecture Series continued this semester, engaging students from Mark Ferraguto’s graduate seminar, Music 573, “Sound, Stage and the Spectacle in Beethoven’s Vienna.” The lectures provided not only rich learning opportunities, but also gave the students in the seminar the chance to network with distinguished visiting scholars. This semester there were four lectures held and included Penn State School of Music Faculty and visiting scholars from Indiana University and University of Pennsylvania.

Penn State Campus Project

Collaboration with the Penn State Altoona Campus continued this semester bringing residency activities of the American Brass Quintet to the Altoona campus and community on October 29.



- The Altoona residency activities began with a visit to the Altoona Area High School, where the Quintet met with the band, jazz and orchestra students. 133 students attended this event. The event included performance, discussion and Q&A with the students.
- On the Penn State Altoona campus, the Quintet participated in an event entitled “Creative Models for Team Collaborations”, moderated by faculty member Tim Melbinger and held at the Misciagna Family Center for Performing Arts Titelman Study . Discussion included not

only topics about the music but also about the business of their work. 35 students and community members were in attendance at this event.

- The Altoona residency culminated in an evening performance held at the Edith Davis Eve Chapel on the Altoona campus. The free but ticketed event was sold out and the space at capacity with 125 audience members. Each member of the Quintet spoke to the audience about the works being performed. A reception followed the performance, allowing the audience an opportunity to speak with the musicians.

2013-2014 Season / Fall Semester Recap

St. Lawrence String Quartet

- Returning to Penn State for the third time as a part of the Classical Music Project, the Quartet began their residency activities on October 7 with a workshop entitled “Leaderless Teams”. This workshop connected students in the Athletic Directors Leadership Institute (ADLI) and Students Engaging Students (SES). It was held at Nittany Lion Inn in the Boardroom. 110 students were in attendance at this event.
- On October 8 the Quartet led a String Quartet master class in Esber Recital Hall for 2 graduate string quartets. 22 students, faculty, and community members attended this event.
- That afternoon, the Quartet attended a CPA staff meeting where they performed, discussed their life and work, and answered questions presented by the staff. 20 staff members were present.
- The Quartet engaged with students from the Schreyer Honors College by participating in an informal dorm concert in Atherton Hall. 30 students were in attendance at this event.
- Tuesday’s residency activities ended with the Classical Coffeehouse presented in partnership with the Blue & White Society and the Penn State Alumni Association. The event filled Robb Hall at the Hintz Alumni Center with 86 attendees comprised of both students and community members.
- On Wednesday, October 9 the Quartet visited Professor Eric Mckee’s Music 431 class, “Advanced Tonal Analysis”, where they performed and discussed various works by Beethoven. 19 students and community members attended this class.



- The evening performance of the St. Lawrence String Quartet was held on October 9 in Schwab Auditorium. All four members of the Quartet participated in Artistic Viewpoints. The program included Beethoven's string quartets in C minor, Op. 10, No. 4; C Major, Op. 59, No. 3; and A minor, Op. 132.

American Brass Quintet

- The residency schedule of the American Brass Quintet began on October 28 with a visit to 286 high school and middle school band students at the State College Area High School. The Quintet performed, spoke about the works played, answered questions, coached the school's Symphonic Band and worked individually with a French Horn student for a mini-master class.
- The Quintet then traveled to Centre Crest Nursing Home for a mini performance. 56 Centre Crest residents and staff members attended this event. This event was supported by the Hall-LeKander Endowment.
- In the evening of the 28th, the Quintet led a variety of master classes which were open to students and the public. There were 86 attendees at the Brass Quintet master class, 20 at the Trumpet master class, 17 at the French Horn master class and 40 at the Low Brass master class.



- The Quintet participated in residency events in Altoona on October 29. The first residency event was a visit to the Altoona Area High School where they spoke to and performed for 133 students.
 - In the afternoon, the Quintet participated in "Creative Models for Team Collaborations" moderated by Tim Melbinger. This event was held at the Misciagna Family Center for Performing Arts Titelman Study on the Penn State Altoona campus. 35 students and community members were in attendance at this event.
- The final residency event in Altoona was an evening performance in the Edith Davis Eve Chapel on the Altoona campus. The audience for this performance was at capacity with an audience of 125. An informal reception followed the concert.
- On Wednesday, October 30 the Quintet attended School of Music faculty member Marica Tacconi's class, Music 261 "Survey of Music History I". The Quintet performed and spoke to the students about arranging Renaissance music for the contemporary brass ensemble. 62 students were in attendance.
- The evening performance on October 30 in Schwab Auditorium included Renaissance madrigals by Luca Marenzio; Renaissance chansons by Josquin des Prés; works by nineteenth-century German composer Ludwig Maurer; *Fantasia and Rondó*, a composition by Osvaldo Lacerda; *Copperwave*, a quintet-commissioned work by contemporary American composer Joan Tower; and *Cadence, Fugue, Fade*, a piece written for the quintet by American Sebastian Currier that had its world premiere in New York City two weeks before being performed at Schwab.

Apollo's Fire

- Apollo's Fire's residency schedule began with a host of events in the School of Music on November 6. Deborah Nagy led a workshop on the Baroque Oboe. The workshop was held by faculty member Tim Hurtz and attended by 9 oboe students.

- Jeannette Sorrell coached the Penn State Chamber Orchestra during a Chamber Orchestra Coaching event held by School of Music faculty member Gerardo Edelstein. The coaching session focused on Mozart's Symphony No. 40. The event was open to the public and had 49 attendees.
- School of Music faculty, Langston Fitzgerald, held a Baroque Trumpet master class led by Josh Cohen. 15 students and community members attended the master class.
- Kathie Stewart led a Baroque Flute master class which was open to the public. There were 24 students and community members in attendance. Naomi Seidman, assistant professor of flute, was the host of this event.
- Andrew Fouts coached the Penn State Baroque Ensemble in a Baroque Ensemble Coaching event held by Rob Narin, professor of Double Bass. The event was open to the public and totaled 17 attendees.
- On November 7 Olivier Brault led a Baroque Violin/Strings Master Class held by James Lyon, professor of music. Open to the public, the event had 27 in attendance.



- The final residency activity of Apollo's Fire was a visit to Music 5 "Introduction to Music" hosted by Mark Ferraguto. Jeannette Sorrell, Olivier Brault and Kathie Stewart described and demonstrated their Baroque instruments- the harpsichord, violin and flute, respectively. They performed for the students and also took questions. 86 students were in attendance.

- Their evening performance in Schwab Auditorium on November 7 featured Bach's Brandenburg Concertos Nos. 2-6. The concert was preceded by Artistic Viewpoints with Jeannette Sorrell, moderated by Marica Tacconi. The concert was sold out.

On November 7, Liz Alsina, Program Associate, Performing Arts, from the Mellon Foundation, conducted a site visit at the University Park campus. Ms. Alsina attended the Apollo's Fire residency activities as well as Artistic Viewpoints and the evening concert. In addition to these events, she attended a lunch meeting with the CMP team, including members of the CPA staff, Barry Bram, Senior Associate Director of Union and Student Activities and Eric Reinhard, Associate Director of Foundation Relations.

Interdisciplinary Lecture Series

The Interdisciplinary Lecture Series continued in the Fall 2013 semester with four lecturers. All of the lectures were held in the Lipcon Auditorium in the Palmer Museum of Art and were open to the public. Students of Mark Ferraguto's course, Music 573, "Sound, Stage and Spectacle in Beethoven's Vienna," attended the lectures and had other networking opportunities with the visiting scholars.

- The series began on October 23 with a lecture by Mark Ferraguto, assistant professor of musicology at Penn State. The title of the lecture was *Music and Diplomacy in the Age of Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven*. 26 students and community members attended this event.
- Vincent Benitez, associate professor of music theory at Penn State, spoke on November 5 with a lecture entitled *Stravinsky and the End of Musical Time: Messiaen's Analysis of the Rite of Spring and Its Impact on Twentieth-Century Music*. There were 22 attendees at this lecture.

- On November 11 the first guest lecturer, Kristina Muxfeldt, associate professor of musicology at Indiana University, delivered her paper *Schubert's Freedom of Song, if not Speech* to 25 students and community members.
- The Classical Music Project will host the fall semester's final lecture on December 11. Emily Dolan, associate professor of musicology at the University of Pennsylvania, will speak about orchestration in the early Romantic period in her lecture *The Spectacular Orchestra*.

Spring 2014 Overview

The residency activities for the visiting artists in the Spring 2014 semester will engage students across campus including those from the School of Music, the Schreyer Honors College, and the Graduate Program in Acoustics.

The Spring 2014 semester schedule includes:

- Jeremy Denk-1/28-1/30 (concert on 1/29 in Schwab Auditorium)
- Vienna Concert-Verein Orchestra, Philippe Entremont, conductor, Sebastian Knauer, pianist-2/6 (concert on 2/6 in Eisenhower Auditorium)
- Brentano String Quartet-2/19-2/21 (concert on 2/21 in Schwab Auditorium)
- Cantus- 3/31-4/2 (Concert on 4/1 in Pasquerilla and Altoona residency on 4/2)

Residency planning is well-developed for all artists with additional opportunities being explored.

Student Engagement Activities

Schreyer Dorm Concert

- The CMP will bring a second string quartet to the students of the Schreyer Honors College during residency of the Brentano String Quartet on February 20.

Classical Coffeehouse

- Two Classical Coffeehouse events are planned for the Spring 2014 semester, continuing the partnership with the Penn State Alumni Association and the Blue & White Society. These events will be held in Robb Hall in the Hintz Family Alumni Center and will be free and open to the public.
- Jeremy Denk-- Tuesday, January 28, 8:00 pm
- Cantus-- Monday, March 31, 8:00 pm

Curriculum Partners

Spring 2014 will see the continuation of Music 011 Under the Hood: How Classical Music Works. Maximum enrollment will increase from 50 to 100 students. Currently, all 100 seats have been taken.

Penn State Campus Project

The collaboration with the Penn State Altoona branch campus will continue as a part of the residency events of Cantus. Cantus will engage with Altoona students and community members on April 2. Work with Tim Melbinger and Noel Feely of the Altoona campus is continuing to develop residency activities for this day.

Interdisciplinary Lecture Series

The lecture series will continue with four more lectures in Spring 2014, three of which will be given by guest scholars. All lectures will continue to be free, open to the public and held in Lipcon Auditorium in the Palmer Museum of Art.

- Joseph N. Straus, distinguished professor of music theory at City University of New York Graduate Center - *Representing the Extraordinary Body: Stravinsky's Aesthetics of Disability* – January 28 at 2:30.
- Jürgen Thym, professor emeritus of musicology at the University of Rochester's Eastman School of Music – *Memory as Song, Song as Memory* – February 7 at 4:00.
- Melanie Lowe, associate professor of musicology at Vanderbilt University – *Difference and Enlightenment in Haydn's Instrumental Music* – March 20 at 2:30.
- Mark Ferraguto, assistant professor of musicology at Penn State – *Are Beethoven's Late Quartets "Autobiographical"?* – April 8 at 2:30.

Although Spring 2014 will complete the Classical Music Project's projected three years, meetings for "next steps" are in place to look ahead at how to continue engaging students in classical music programming and how work with the Mellon Foundation can be sustained.