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The Bluegrass Music News is the Kentucky State Music Education journal, published four times a year. In this fall’s edition, released in October 2014, NKU Music Department was strongly represented.

The first article, submitted by Dr. Raquel Rodriquez, assistant professor of trumpet and brass area coordinator, discussed the International Women’s Brass Conference, which took place in June 2014. The conference was co-hosted by Dr. Rodriquez and Dr. Karen Koner, assistant professor of music education. The conference attracted over 200 participants from all over the world for a week of competitions, performances, and scholarly presentations. In addition, three pieces were commissioned and premiered at the IWBC conference, including *The Face of Water* by Marilyn Shrude for brass and percussion, which was engraved by Dr. Eric Knechtges, assistant professor of music theory/composition. This collaborative effort by NKU’s Music Faculty helped created a hugely successful International Conference, which was the largest attended music conference in the history of the NKU Music Department.

The second article submitted by Dr. Karen Koner, assistant professor/coordinator of music education discusses a home school teaching experience that she began at NKU in spring 2013. Music education students complete Instrumental or Choral Methods coursework. Through this coursework, Dr. Koner developed an experiential learning component, where home school students come to NKU campus every Friday, and NKU Music Education students lead small group instruction applying information they have learned in their coursework. This program has been a huge success and more details can be found in the Bluegrass Music News: http://www.kMEA.org/bgmn/BNFAll14Web.pdf.
Dr. Joy Burdette Works with Campbell County Choral Students
On October 20, Dr. Joy Burdette spent the day at Campbell County High School working one on one with choral students. Dr. Burdette coached singers on their solo repertoire, and recorded the piano accompaniment for each piece, helping the CCHS choir students further prepare for their big fund raising show on November 21. It was a pleasure for Dr. Burdette to work with CCHS Choral Director and NKU Music alumnus, Josh Huff, and his talented students.

Dr. Douglas Pew’s New Opera to be premiered at the Kennedy Center
Dr. Douglas Pew is thrilled to have twice been a participant in the wonderful American Opera Initiative sponsored by the Washington National Opera and John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. This coming January 23rd and 24th, his new opera PENNY, will be premiered at the Kennedy Center's Terrace Theater by the WNO Domingo-Cafritz Young Artists. http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/f93492b9#/f93492b9/28

Dr. Frank T. Restesan Records a New Violin Concerto
NKU’s director of orchestras was chosen by PARMA Records for the world premiere of a new violin concerto by the New York City based American composer, Craig Morris. The concerto was performed with the conductor Paul Stanbery and the Hamilton-Fairfield Symphony Orchestra on Saturday, October 18 followed by a recording session next day. The CD and the iTunes release is projected for February 2015 followed later by a NAXOS listing.
New Voice Professors Adjudicate Competitions throughout Kentucky
On October 11, Dr. Kimberly Gelbwasser (center in photo below) judged the University of Kentucky Vocal Competition for Young Singers in Lexington. On October 17-18, Dr. Gelbwasser and Dr. Jason Vest adjudicated the National Association of Teachers of Singing Competition at Murray State University in Murray.

NKU Hosts Assistant Conductor of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra
Northern Kentucky University (NKU) joined forces with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra’s (CSO) One City, One Symphony community-wide project to hold a free Listening Party on Tuesday, October 21st at 6:30pm in Greaves Concert Hall. CSO Assistant Conductor, Will White, led a discussion on the topic of heroism in music. While not a concert, the Listening Party offered an intimate, casual environment in which to sample portions of Mahler’s Symphony #1 and explore its themes of heroism. Open to the campus and the community, the Listening Party also attracted the participation of 40 members of NKU’s Music Preparatory Youth Symphony Orchestra. By connecting music the CSO plays at events (such as their upcoming November 14-16 concert series) to themes relevant to each of us in our everyday lives, One City, One Symphony inspires us, provokes our thinking, and celebrates our shared humanity. NKU was proud to host this prestigious event in collaboration with the CSO.

Cellist Amy Gillingham Featured on Four New Albums
Amy Gillingham, Lecturer of Cello at NKU, has two new singles with Sony Music Entertainment Canada and Kira Isabella, Canada’s “Female Country Artist of the Year.” Amy Gillingham’s additional releases include: collaborative artist on Dandelion, a non-profit release with Growing Sound Records; a cross-over album, The Mighty Small (Shake a Leg Record Co.), with Mae Klingler; and featured performances on the Plastic Ants’ Falling to Rise (Requisite Recording).
Undergraduate Cellists Perform with Internationally Renowned Duo
NKU undergraduate cello students, TJ Wood and Jacob Donnermeyer, performed with the internationally renowned virtuosic and comedic duo, Igudesman and Joo. Wood and Donnermeyer were part of an educational outreach concert at Cincinnati’s School for the Creative and Performing Arts in conjunction with the Constella Festival.

NKU String Project and Vocal Corps Blitz Northern Kentucky and Raise $1,823.74
On Saturday, October 25th, over 100 NKU String Project and Vocal Corps students, staff, and teaching assistants traveled to 10 locations across Northern Kentucky to perform and collect quarters as part of their Quarter-Mile Campaign to raise a mile-length of quarters. The performances were not only fun and educational for the young students and helped raise money for the programs, but the exposure also showed our community that music is a priority.
Dr. Kimberly Gelbwasser Offers New “Yoga for Creativity” Course
On October 7, Dr. Gelbwasser led a “Mid-Term Stress Relief” yoga class on the Greaves Concert Hall Stage. Next semester, she will be offering a new Special Topics course entitled “Yoga for Creativity” which will meet twice a week on the concert-hall stage. All are welcome.

Please join us for one of our many upcoming concerts! We’d love to see you there!
http://artscience.nku.edu/departments/music/concerts.html