

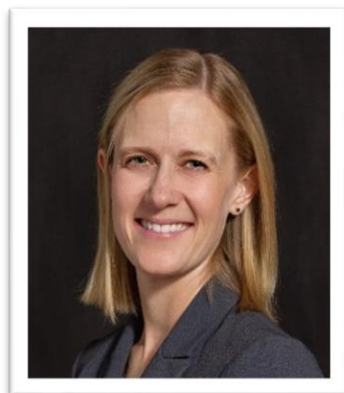


NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

As the semester winds to a close, we find ourselves reflecting on the impactful experiences of the fall. From our students' inspiring performance on campus and in the community to the success of events like Instrumental YouthFest, the Christmas Festival, and the Student Art Exhibition, it has been a season filled with creativity and connection. This December, we also celebrate the generous support of alumni and friends of the arts. Recent gifts are transforming our students' experiences, from new instruments and enhanced facilities to meaningful outreach opportunities. These contributions remind us of the enduring power of the arts to unite and inspire. Looking ahead, we're excited to continue this momentum into the new year. The second annual Muskingum Valley Youth Wind Ensemble will kick off in January, providing high school students with extraordinary learning and performance opportunities. We also invite our current students to explore the rich array of spring arts courses, open to all majors, and to take part in ensembles that bring together talent from across the university. As we prepare for the winter break, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to everyone who has contributed to our thriving arts community this semester. Whether you've attended a performance, supported our students, or simply stayed connected, your engagement makes all the difference. We wish you a joyful holiday season and look forward to seeing you in 2025!

With warm regards,

Dr. Erin Bauer
Chair of Art and Music
Associate Professor of Musicology



Student Art Exhibition

Congratulations to the winners of the 2024 Muskingum University Student Competition Exhibition! The exhibit included works in painting, drawing, design, collage, ceramics, sculpture, and mixed media. Visitors to the gallery voted on their favorites:

Best of Show: Penelope Gates

First Place: Alissa Abercrombie (2D) and Elizabeth Wauford (3D)

Second Place: Claire McGowan (2D) and Savannah Moore (3D)

Third Place: Rachel Fraunfelter (2D) and Gloria Mangold (3D)

Honorable Mention: Alaysia Barnett (2D), Chloe Milliken (2D), Addy Rilsek (3D), and Ryleigh Lawhorne (3D)

Congratulations!



Highlights of the Month: A Recap of Events!



Dr. David Turrill conducted the Champaign County All-County Band at their annual Band and Choir Festival. Congratulations to all involved!



Students in the Brass/Percussion Methods class presented a final class performance of holiday favorites (and refreshments!).



Not So Natural, our student-led a cappella group, sang carols at a local nursing facility.



A group of instrumentalists played carols at a community center in Canton.



We were thrilled to welcome 140 high school musicians from 19 different high school for the 2024 Instrumental YouthFest. The Festival Band and Honor performed a wonderful concert to a packed Brown Chapel.

INDIAN VALLEY CHOIR

The music department were pleased to host the Indian Valley Choir. Students engaged in musical activities, listened to student panel, and learned more about the university with a presentation from Admissions.



Christmas Festival Broadcasts

Congratulations to all on a moving performance of Shawn Kirchner's "The Light of Hope Returning" at this year's Christmas Festival! Miss it? Want to listen again? Here's the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uRLI87urVWM&t=2725s>

The performance will also be rebroadcast on WMCO 90.7 at 7 pm on December 13 and 20 and at 2 pm on December 14, 21, 24, and 25.



SPRING ARTS COURSES

Current students: don't miss your opportunity to take interesting and exciting classes in the arts next semester!

In theatre, consider general education courses like Design I (THEA 265), History of Film (THEA 350; online), or American Musical Theatre History and Structure (THEA 360; online).

In art and design, consider general education courses like Drawing I (ART 112), Ceramics I (ART 121), Introduction to Digital Arts (ART 161; online), or Art History I (ART 350; online).

In music, consider general education courses like History of Popular Music (MUSC 110), Music and Ideas (MUSC 121), Black American Music (MUSC 207; online), Excursions in World Music (MUSC 310), or Music and Religion (MUSC 314).

We also offer a range of lessons and ensembles that are open to students from across the university! In particular, Wind Ensemble (MUSC 161), Concert Choir (MUSC 162), Musical Theatre Ensemble (MUSC 164), Steel Drum Band (MUSC 170), String Ensemble (MUSC 171), and Muskie Rocks (MUSC 172).

MUSKINGUM VALLEY YOUTH WIND ENSEMBLE

Nominations are now open for the second annual Muskingum Valley Youth Wind Ensemble! Rehearsals will begin in January 2025 and will provide high school wind players and percussionists opportunities to further develop their musical skills. Students will work with Muskingum faculty and students and perform on a shared concert with the Muskingum Valley Symphonic Winds in May. Contact Prof. David Turrill at dturrill@muskingum.edu for more information or to nominate a student. Please help us spread the word about this exciting opportunity!

LIVESTREAMING: ORBIT MEDIA

Did you know that Orbit Media records many of our concerts and other campus events? Subscribe to the Orbit Media channel for the latest videos and livestreams: <https://www.youtube.com/orbitmediatv>

Also, listen live to WMCO 90.7FM online or download the streaming App:

<https://www.orbitmediaonline.com/wmco-90-7/listen-live/>

PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Thinking about attending Muskingum University? We'd love to have you join us! In the arts, we offer inspiring facilities, a contemporary and diverse curriculum, and a welcoming community that meets you where you are and provides opportunities to participate in our programs across the entire campus community. We also offer scholarships for all levels of participation. Learn more online and schedule a time to visit campus and experience our close-knit community for yourself!



CLASS OF 1964 REUNION

Three music majors from the class of 1964 traveled to the Muskingum campus to celebrate their 60th class reunion at Homecoming this fall!

Mary Phillips Arnett explains that a large part of her decision to attend Muskingum (College) was “Professor John Kendall, violinist, head of the music department. I met him as a high schooler and he was so kind to me. He was also on the scholarship committee and helped me get a wonderful four-year scholarship. After Muskingum graduation, I taught strings in the North Canton school system, teaching beginning and intermediate children at four elementary schools, and coaching some of the junior high and high school students. I have also done several years of part-time teaching in Dayton Ohio schools. My primary music teaching has been with private violin and viola students. I taught in my home for 46 years. I have played in orchestras in Canton Ohio, Louisville Kentucky, Middleton Ohio, and was a member of the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra for 25 years. At Muskingum in Paul Hall we had a two octave set of English hand bells. I played in that group all four years and also directed my senior year. I have continued enjoying hand bell choirs and I am now a part of my church's group and also play at home in the Bethany Village bell choir. One of my great joys was being part of a Presbyterian music camp for 20 summers. I served as counselor and Director of the camp.”



Mary Phillips Arnett

Barbara Baker Jones had two majors: Elementary Education and Music. She taught for 35 years, using both majors. She taught private voice and piano lessons for 8 years and participated in Community Theater productions for many years. She is a two-time breast cancer survivor and has directed choirs and cantata in Senecaville Presbyterian Church, and currently plays organ at Senecaville Presbyterian Church, where she has played for 44 years.



Barbara Jones

As Dixie Hayes Heck explains, “I retired in 2003 after teaching elementary music for 31 years. Presently, I am organist at St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Sunbury, OH and Fellowship Lutheran Church in Columbus, OH. I accompanied the Muskingum Singers in Switzerland and Austria in 2008 (the photo was taken in Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna). In 2016, I was pianist in the Memorial Service for John Glenn at Ohio State University and accompanist for the Muskingum Chamber Ensemble. I began piano and voice lessons at Muskingum when I was a junior in high school. I am grateful for my years of study with Dr. Jack Peterson and Dr. Wilbur Schnitker.”

We so appreciate hearing from these alumni, seeing their lifelong work in music, and celebrating their continued connections to Muskingum!



Dixie Hayes Heck



ALUMNI UPDATES

Calling all arts alumni! We'd love to hear what you've been up to since leaving Muskingum. Send a brief update to music@muskingum.edu for inclusion in an upcoming newsletter.

Did you participate in theatre at Muskingum? All majors, minors, or participants of Muskingum Theatre are invited to take this short survey to let us know what you are up to these days:

<https://forms.office.com/r/cZYkwv08K4>.

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Dawnell Graham '96 (Music Education):

currently serves as Director of Orchestras for East Muskingum Schools in New Concord. Dawnell offers this advice for current music students: "Take advantage of your time at college by trying new activities, forging new friendships, connecting with mentors, and broadening your horizons. The more you put into your college experience, the more you'll get out of it. Never stop learning, growing, and challenging yourself!"



Michelle Kuhar '79 (Music Education):

is a retired teacher-librarian who now teaches private brass students. She is proud that "the music department has really made an effort to keep up with current trends and exposes students to all sorts of experiences." Her favorite experiences while at Muskingum were band and choir tours. Her advice for music students? "Don't go into teaching unless you can't stay out of it."



Mark Your Calendar: Spring Concerts Announced!

Faculty Recital: Harsha Abeyaratne, piano
Thursday, January 23, 7 pm, Brown Chapel

Muskingum Valley Symphonic Winds
A Song for Hope
Sunday, February 23, 3 pm, Brown Chapel

Tour Kick-Off Concert
Friday, February 28, 7 pm, Brown Chapel

Southeastern Ohio Symphony Orchestra
Sunday, March 23, 3:30 pm, Brown Chapel

Senior Recital: Addie Young, percussion
Saturday, April 5, 3 pm, Brown Chapel

Wind & Chamber Ensembles
Friday, April 11, 7 pm, Brown Chapel

Concert Choir & Chamber Singers
Friday, April 25, 7 pm, Brown Chapel

Southeastern Ohio Symphony Orchestra
Sunday, April 27, 7 pm, Brown Chapel

Musical Theatre Ensemble
Thursday, May 1, 7 pm, Walter Hall, Room 204

Muskingum Valley Symphonic Winds & Youth Wind Ensemble
Fusion
Sunday, May 4, 3 pm, Brown Chapel

