

Upbeat!

News from the Chowan University Department of Music

VOLUME 2 - ISSUE 1 SUMMER 2011



Dr. Gregory Parker

From the Department Chair by Gregory Parker

Time moves at a quicker pace now than when I was a kid. It doesn't seem possible that it has been a year since I penned my column for the first edition of *Upbeat!* However, the calendar and the bathroom mirror have confirmed that reality. I've been thinking about Jerry Ragovoy's song, "Time Is on My Side", that was one of the Rolling Stones' big hits of the 60's. It's a nice idea and it made a lot of money for the Stones, but it isn't true.

Time is not on my side, nor yours, nor anyone's. It is no one's friend. Ephesians 5:15-16 states, "Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as

wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil." The crux of these verses is that we should not waste time.

The time that we have to teach our students moves like photons through a laser beam. I'm sure some of them might disagree as the milliseconds placidly unfold during their 8 o'clock Aural Skills class. They don't have time to waste in their preparation and we don't have time to waste in our efforts to give them the best education that we can muster.

In the time since my last writing, we bid farewell to Dr. Hu-

lin and hello to Dr. Moser. We welcomed 30 music majors in the fall, renovated the Music Office, presented numerous excellent concerts and recitals, began our Self-Study in preparation for the National Association of Schools of Music reaccreditation visit in March 2012, graduated two students in May, raised a lot of money for the Department, and witnessed the beginning of a summer project that will result in a new HVAC system for Daniel Hall and Whitaker Library.

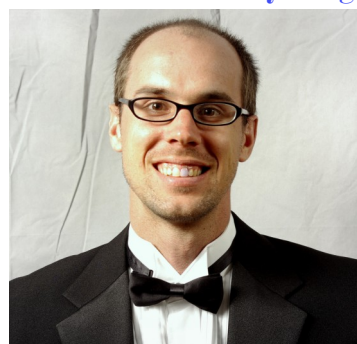
Take time to read this issue of *Upbeat!* I think that you will find it to be time well spent.

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Dr. Moser's Big Adventure by Gregory Parker

Dr. Hulin's resignation last June raised several questions about the course of action we should undertake in order to cover his teaching assignments: Should we attempt to do a national search for an August appointment at such a late date? Should we hire additional adjunct instructors to teach his courses while we search for a full-time replacement during the regular academic year? Should we hire someone on a one-year contract while we conduct a search? Believing that we didn't have enough time to do a satisfactory search for a regularly appointed full-time replacement, we decided to pursue the hiring of adjuncts and the hiring of a full-time person on a one-year contract simultaneously, hoping that decision would improve the odds of having all of Dr. Hulin's teaching assignments



Dr. Bruce Moser

covered by the start of the 2010-2011 academic year. It occurred to me that I should call Dr. William Carroll, a friend of mine who is the Associate Dean of the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, to see if he could recommend any graduate students in music for a one-year appointment at Chowan. Indeed he did, and one of those names

belonged to Bruce Moser.

I rang Dr. Moser at his home in Florida for the first time at 9:00 a.m. on July 30. He was surprisingly lucid for someone who had just gotten off a plane from Germany the night before. We had a pleasant and informative conversation in which he directed me to his website, where I found his vita, transcripts, and links to videos of his performing and teaching. Pleased with what I saw, I talked to Dr. Frazier, Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, and Dr. Moore, Provost, about conducting a Skype interview with Dr. Moser later that day. That was accomplished around 2:00 p.m. and was followed by a discussion amongst the three of us on this

Continued on page 4

Meherrin Chamber Orchestra by James M. Guthrie



The Meherrin Chamber Orchestra

The Meherrin Chamber Orchestra presented premiere performances of three new arrangements and three new original compositions by James M. Guthrie. The fall concert featured the Farnaby Suite, Concertino for Two Violins, Viola and Strings, a baroque style concerto, and the Sinfonietta for Strings, a neo-baroque style piece. The concert also featured a Led Zeppelin Medley (Communi-

cation Breakdown, Immigrant Song, Stairway to Heaven, Dazed and Confused, and Rock and Roll), and a Fall favorite of the orchestra – Harold Waters’ “Instant Concert,” including: March Militaire, William Tell, Danube Waves, New World Symphony, Pagliacci, Chicken Reel, Waltz of the Flowers, Bridal Chorus, Rule Britannia, Jingle Bells, Cielito Lindo,

Dance of the Hours, La Sorella, Jeanie with the Light Brown Hair, Hava Nagila, Grandfather’s Clock, Chiapanecas, Westminster Chimes, Irish Washerwoman, Deck the Hall, Poet and Peasant, When the Saints Go Marching In, My Old Kentucky Home, Blue Danube, Humoreske, Orpheus, Anvil Chorus, Down By The Riverside, The Billboard, and Dixie.

The Spring concert featured the premiere of Sweelinck’s “Fantasia super ut sol fa mi,” a Concerto by Telemann, Vivaldi’s “Spring” from the Four Seasons (Chowan Student Michelle Jacobson, soloist), the premiere of a composition assignment by Beethoven, and the premiere of “Partitions for Horn, Violin and Strings,” an extensive expressionistic composition

by James M. Guthrie. The soloists for “Partitions” were Murfreesboro resident Laurie Brook, French horn, and MCO Concertmistress Michelle Jacobson, violin.

The 2011-2012 season looks bright for the MCO. We say farewell to two wonderful graduating senior performers – Maria Cox and Josiah Antill, but we are looking forward to a new slate of performers in the fall. By popular demand, we anticipate the second performance of the “Meherrin Symphony” by James M. Guthrie, as well as new arrangements of the music of J. S. Bach, and Vivaldi’s “Autumn” concerto with Michelle Jacobson as soloist.



Instrumental Ensemble News by Michael Butrico

With twenty one total performances, the instrumental ensembles at Chowan University enjoyed a very active schedule this year, and continued to experience positive musical growth. In our desire to become the proverbial ‘front porch’ for the university, the performing groups offered a wide variety of musical styles throughout the school year.

In addition to the four traditional symphonic band concerts, the instrumental area also participated in several non-traditional performances. The jazz combo was involved with several on-campus and off-campus functions. These included performances for the Chamber of Commerce in Murfreesboro, the Rotary Club of Franklin, VA, Friends of Teacher Education and Friends of Music Dinners, two exhibits with the Visual Arts Department, and Whitaker Library’s Edible

Book Festival in March. The instrumental area also put together a Fife and Drum duet for an event with the Murfreesboro Historical Society – which was a great success!



Alex Welch, Jylian Wilde, and Michael Butrico

Not to be outdone was the Chowan University Pep Band, which performed at four home football games, the Women’s Basketball “Pink Out” game for Breast Cancer Awareness, as well as the Homecoming Game Pep Rally.

For the upcoming 2011-2012 academic year, the Pep Band looks to increase its visibility on campus and in the community through additional performances at numerous men’s and women’s home basketball games, and the CIAA Post-Season tournament in Charlotte, NC. We are also excited to announce that funds have been granted to support our efforts through the purchase of new instruments, as well as to pay the musicians a small amount for their increased time commitment.

The 2010-2011 academic year was a good one for choral music at Chowan. We began with the Biennial Church Choir Festival on September 25, which drew singers from First Baptist Church of New Bern, Indian River Baptist Church of Chesapeake, Murfreesboro Baptist Church, Ridge Road Baptist Church of Raleigh, and Rosemary Baptist Church of Roanoke Rapids. The participants enjoyed an afternoon of rehearsal and fellowship, then performed in the concert that evening. Through the Church Choir Festival, we are able to encourage and equip the people who feel called to minister to their congregations through choral music and to promote the work of the university amongst the churches of our region.



Chowan Singers singing "Now Thank We All Our God" with the audience at Madison Avenue Baptist Church in Goldsboro



Church Choir Festival Concert September 25, 2010

Chowan Singers presented eighteen concerts throughout the year. In addition to performances on campus, the choir sang for high school and church groups in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. On its annual spring tour, March 23-27, the choir performed excellent concerts and opened doors of opportunity for Chowan throughout the Mid-Atlantic Region. Cantare sang for five events during the fall semester and took the spring semester off. The group will return to the schedule in the fall 2011 semester. Chowan Chorus continued to provide a great opportunity for students and area residents to lift their voices

together in song. Student participation in the choir was the highest that it has been in the last five years and several new community members joined the group. The Christmas Choral Concert featured performances by all three choirs and was a great success. That night, we recorded our highest concert attendance for a single event this year with 418 people in the audience.

Because the Masterworks Concert at Chowan fell on the day of the Faculty

Interdisciplinary Symposium, I chose two choral-orchestral works that fit the theme of the symposium, which was "revolution." We began the concert with Joseph Haydn's *Mass in Time of War*, which was composed in 1796 as Napoleon was laying siege to Vienna. Because of this, Haydn incorporated a martial quality to the work through frequent interjections by the trumpets and timpani, something uncommon for Mass settings at the time. For the second half of the program, we presented *The Testament of Freedom* by Randall Thompson. Thompson's setting of passages from the writings of Thomas Jefferson is one of our nation's most stirring musical expressions of patriotism. After performing the concert at Chowan on April 18, we took our act on the road and presented the program in the beautiful Birdsong Theatre of the Suffolk Center for Cultural Arts on April 25. This marked the first time ever that Chowan has presented a concert of major choral-orchestral works in another city. Both performances went very well and we recorded a total attendance of 615 people. Representatives of the Suffolk Center are eager for us to return! I am very grateful to Charles Pond, Chowan trustee and benefactor, and Paul Lasakow, Executive Director of the Suffolk Center for Cultural Arts, for making this performance possible.



Masterworks Concert—April 18, 2011

Morrison's Present Recital and Masterclass



Bart and Becky Morrison

Soprano, Becky Morrison, presented a guest voice recital at Chowan on March 31 featuring works by Vaughan Williams, Massenet, Schubert, Marx, and Poulenc. Her husband, pianist Bart Morrison, served as her accompanist. Mrs. Morrison is a doctoral student at the University of Oklahoma and has extensive experience as a performer and teacher. On April 1, she presented a voice masterclass in which she worked with student vocalists from Chowan.



Becky Morrison works with Brion Humphrey during the Voice Masterclass on April 1.

CMENC and Music Education News by Michael Butrico



The Chowan University Collegiate Music Education National Conference (CMENC) chapter continued to bring Music Education majors together to discuss issues relating to the their degree and profession. The local CMENC group is part of a larger consortium of student organizations under the umbrella of a national organization. According to its web site, MENC is a group of "more than 75,000 active, retired and pre-service music teachers." In November, the 2010-2011 chapter officers, faculty representative Mr. Michael Butrico, and Department Chair, Dr. Greg Parker attended the North Carolina Music Educators Association Conference in Winston-Salem for the second consecutive year. The event provided these music education students an opportunity to attend sessions covering topics within their future profession and to interact with current

teachers and students from other universities. Our chapter hopes to make attendance at the state conference an annual function by securing resources that will ultimately allow them to stay through the entire three day event as well as increase the number of students who can attend.

The Department of Music also addressed the need to provide instruction relating to directing a marching band. To this end, the Marching Band Techniques course was offered for the first time during the Spring Term. This course sought to teach instrumental music education majors how to design and write drills that one would typical-

ly see at a half-time show. The students utilized Pyware 3D, a new software program purchased this year, to design the drills. As the class evolves, it is our hope to be able to directly involve these students with area high school marching bands.

For the upcoming 2011-2012 academic year, the School of Education, of which music education is a member, will continue to prepare for an accreditation visit by NCATE (the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education). This visit will involve a review of the curriculum and administration for each program area to verify that national standards are being met. We are very proud and confident in the quality of education offered to our students, and look forward to the visit.

Continued from cover page—Dr. Moser's Big Adventure

end that resulted in the decision to recommend offering Dr. Moser a one-year contract. Dr. Moore took our recommendation to Dr. White, who approved it. Armed with this happy news, I phoned Dr. Moser at approximately 4:00 p.m. that day to offer him the position, which he accepted. So, Bruce Moser became the first person I have ever hired without actually having met him in person.

Not once have I regretted that decision! Dr. Moser has proven to be an excellent addition to our faculty. He is a bright and creative professor as well as a gifted and sensitive musician. Not only has he done a great job as a teacher, he also joined the Chowan Chorus and the Meherrin Chamber Orchestra, and performed a piano recital in February. He holds the Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics and the Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance from Stetson University. As a matter of fact, throughout his undergraduate career he planned on becoming a math professor until his senior piano recital caused him to ponder the prospect of doing graduate study in music. He went on to earn the Master of Music degree in Piano Performance from the New England Conservatory of Music and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree and the Post-Master's Certificate in Theory Pedagogy from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Aside from music, Dr. Moser enjoys sports of all kinds, especially tennis, and serves as the commissioner of a highly competitive family fantasy football league.

When asked what his favorite thing is about being a professor, he replied, "I can spend my whole day being as excited as I am about music and not be thought of as an alien." His excitement about music is infectious and has energized and challenged our students. About half-way through the fall semester, the music faculty recommended to the Provost that we put Dr. Moser in a regular tenure-track appointment at Chowan. His goals in his work here include raising the standards in freshman and sophomore music theory courses and invigorating the surrounding community in its engagement with the arts at Chowan. So, Dr. Moser's big adventure continues, and we're glad to be a part of it!

Faculty Highlights

Michael Butrico, Associate Professor of Music, made a presentation entitled "The Use of the Natural Slur" during the North Carolina Trombone Day conference at Salem College in Winston-Salem. He performed as a trombonist with the Tar River Orchestra, the Tar River Symphonic Band, and the Chowan Masterworks Orchestra. He attended the North Carolina Music Educators Association Annual In-Service Conference in Winston-Salem and the College Band Directors National Association National Convention in Seattle. He was promoted to

Associate Professor of Music and granted tenure during the spring semester.

James M. Guthrie, Associate Professor of Music, took the online course, "Critical Listening", through the Berklee College of Music. The course covered practical techniques for preparing studio and listening room acoustics, theory of acoustical treatments, and the use of related audio measuring equipment. Also, he attended an online webinar entitled "Digital Converters for Today's Studio" presented by Kevin Becka, Technical Editor of Mix Professional Au-

dio and Music Production Magazine. In July, he will serve as a judge for the Rosen-Schaffel Young Artist Competition in the string category. The competition will be held at Appalachian State University.

Bruce Moser, Assistant Professor of Music, presented a Chowan Salon lecture entitled "Enumerating Indeterminacy" in which he explored the connections between music and math. He presented a Concerto Masterclass for the Julie Crosson Studies of Piano in



Music Industry News by James M. Guthrie

Music Industry Day at Chowan was an opportunity for our music industry students to meet with a prominent upcoming Nashville recording artist and producer – Tori Sparks. In addition to meetings with individual groups of students, she presented her personal views of the music industry at the regular performance lab, and sang one of her award winning songs.



Tori Sparks talks with students on Music Industry Day

Maria Cox sang her original composition, “Lord, I Need You” at the Alpha Chi National Convention in San Diego and on the Chowan Undergraduate Research Conference Recital. Also, she performed original songs on both New Music Concerts in the fall and spring. Other notable new music premieres were offered by Alex Welch, James M. Guthrie, Bruce Moser, and, in her first appearance as a composer/sound designer, Lauren Snyder.



Alex Welch works on a composition in the Computer Lab

New technology for the music industry area this year includes an Mbox2 and a Glyph audio hard drive. The Mbox2 is a USB audio recording interface used with the industry standard audio recording software ProTools. The Glyph is a very fast hard drive needed for digitally recording music in real-time. The new equipment was used this year by the composition class in preparation for the New Music concerts, as well as the Computer Applications for Music class.

Faculty Highlights continued

Washington DC in January. On March 5, he served as a judge for the Loren Withers Piano Competition in Durham, and attended an event entitled, “Luigi Nono, the Italian Serialists, and Musical Modernism: A Symposium and Concert” on March 21 at UNC-Greensboro.

Gregory Parker, Professor of Music, led an interest session entitled “Jazz It Up: Repertoire and Resources for Jazz Choirs” during the Fall Conference of the North Carolina Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association at UNC

-Greensboro in September. Also in September, he was the clinician for the North Carolina Baptist Singers Fall Retreat. In November, he attended the North Carolina Music Educators Association In-Service Conference in Winston-Salem and the National Association of Schools of Music Annual Meeting in Boston where he moderated a session. In March, he traveled to Chicago to attend the American Choral Directors Association National Conference and to Have-lock to lead the Craven County All-County High School Honor Chorus.

Paula Pressnell, Artist in Residence, performed during the Lasker Summer Music Festival in June 2010 and for the Sunbury Ruritan Club’s 75th Anniversary Celebration in August. Also, she performed with the Hampton Roads Wind Quintet in concerts at Chowan in September and Hampton University in October. In February, she played for Dr. Parker’s voice recital at Chowan. And, as usual, she maintained a very busy schedule playing for Chowan Singers and Cantare in over twenty performances throughout the year.

Friends of Music Report by Gregory Parker

2010-2011 was another great year for the Friends of the Chowan University Department of Music. We are thrilled by the way people have responded to this organization! Their generous support is making a positive impact on the Department of Music. These funds have sent students to conferences, purchased instruments and software, hired professional musicians, renovated the Music Office, and made improvements to the Grotrian concert grand piano. The mail campaign produced the largest sum that we have raised since its inception. We deeply appreciate Julian Robertson of Ahoskie who served as the Honorary Chair of the mail campaign this year and we welcome Jane Newsome of Winton who will serve as the Honorary Chair of the 2011-2012 campaign.

Last summer, we received a donation of the compact disc library of the late Terry Coley of Tarboro. Mrs. Foster coordinated our student workers in the cataloguing and shelving of this outstanding collection of over 2,000 recordings. The Terry Coley Memorial CD Collection became available for check-out during the spring semester. We are grateful to Mr. Coley's close friend and Chowan alumnus, Bill Pollard, who helped us acquire the collection which is valued at over \$14,000.

Also, this year brought another increase in the number of endowed music scholarships. We now have fifteen endowments, thirteen of which exceed the minimum \$10,000 level, and two

of which are in progress. A substantial gift was made to the corpus of the John Brewer Scholarship which will increase its earning power and the size of the award it will produce. Also, Earl Chappell of Murfreesboro established the Earl B. Chappell, Jr. Music Scholarship this year. We look forward to being able to award it to a deserving student. We awarded the James E. and Permelia Britt Music Scholarship, established last year through the estate of Braxton Britt, to Brion Humphrey, a music education major from Chesapeake.

In closing, let these numbers speak for themselves:

Total music scholarship endowment value as of March 31, 2011: \$559,352.64

Total gifts to the Friends of Music Mail Campaign: \$19,799.00

Total raised during the 2010-2011 Fiscal Year for the Department of Music: \$84,625.49

Thank you to everyone who gave! We hope you will continue your support and we invite others to join our cause. A gift to the Friends of Music is an investment in our future.



2011 Friends of Music Dinner

FRIENDS OF MUSIC

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Jean Sharp

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Dr. and Mrs. Charles J. Sawyer
Mary Lee Taylor
Kay Mitchell Thomas

Student

Jeanne Benthall

*For information about joining the Friends of Music
please contact the Department of Music at 252-398-6236*

Friends of Music at Chowan

Mission Statement

The Friends of the Chowan University Department of Music will undergird the Department's work in training musicians and serving the university community and the public through performances and study opportunities by promoting the Department and its events as well as raising funds for its operation.

Goals

- Support the Meherrin Chamber Orchestra
- Establish music scholarships
- Assist students and faculty with the expenses of participating in conferences, auditions, competitions, and tours
- Assist the Department with the acquisition of instructional materials, equipment, and instruments
- Assist the Department with the improvement of its facilities
- Fund the performances of guest artists
- Promote the Department of Music amongst prospective music majors and potential donors
- Assist with the publicity of the Department's events

Membership

All people who love music and acknowledge its importance in our society are eligible for membership in the Friends of Music at Chowan. Members receive the following benefits:

- The fulfillment of knowing that you are making a positive impact on the University and the community
- Recognition in a number of the Department of Music's printed programs
- Receipt of the Department of Music Newsletter
- Receipt of the Department of Music Concert and Recital Calendar
- An invitation to the annual Friends of Music Dinner

Membership Levels

Student	\$20
Member	\$21-\$99
Donor	\$100-\$249
Contributor	\$250-\$499
Patron	\$500-\$749
Sustainer	\$750-\$999
Benefactor	\$1000-\$4,999
Philanthropist	\$5,000+



Maria Cox sings "Lord, I Need You" at the Friends of Music Dinner

The Friends of the Chowan University Department of Music is a non-profit organization and all membership contributions are tax-deductible. Please make checks payable to Chowan University.

For more information, please contact the Department of Music at 252-398-6236 or email music@chowan.edu.

Alumni Updates

Here's what some of our graduates are doing.

What about you? Email us at music@chowan.edu to let us know where you are and what you are up to!

Josiah Antill, Class of 2011, is an admissions counselor in the Office of Enrollment Management at Chowan. He continues to perform his original compositions for church and civic groups.

Maria Cox, Class of 2011, is working with a producer in Virginia Beach. In addition to her work in the production side of the studio, she is training to become a singer/songwriter.

James Green, Class of 1990, is a Music Copy Editor/Production Manager at Hinshaw Music and a Music Copy Editor/Production Assistant at Walton Music, both of which are in Chapel Hill. He has a number of compositions that have been released by both companies. In 2012, Hinshaw will release his "Alleluia", which is dedicated to Chowan Singers.

Emanuel Jackson, Class of 2009, is on the music staff of Woodlawn Gospel Chapel in Fort Belvoir, VA, where he leads the youth and adult choirs and plays the saxophone in the praise band. He and his wife, Jasmine, reside in Quantico, VA.

Chris Jernigan, Class of 2009, teaches music at Aurelian Springs Elementary and Hollister Elementary Schools in Halifax County. Also, he teaches a youth Bible class and plays guitar in the praise band at his church. He and his wife, Leanna, reside in Woodland.

Dan Sieg, Class of 2007, resides in Los Angeles where he works in the Network Control Center at Los Angeles Air Force Base with Northrop Grumman Information Technology. He continues to perform when he can and looks forward to the day when LA will be in his rear-view mirror.

Ramona Warren, Class of 2009, resides in Greenville, NC, where she sings in the Greenville Choral Society and serves on its Board of Directors. She and Marcus LeGrand will marry in June.

Amanda Williams Scarborough, Class of 2007, works for AT&T and runs sound at local night clubs in Kitty Hawk, where she also has opportunities to perform. She is active in the Kitty Hawk United Methodist Church as a singer and keyboard player.

*The Department of Music has an **Alumni Survey** available. If you would be willing to help us out by completing one, email us and we'll send it to you. It's quick and easy!*

Upcoming Department of Music Events 2011—2012

We would love to have you in the audience for these events! Please note that the events calendar is subject to change. We will send out concert cards at the beginning of each semester and post updated schedules on our website (www.chowan.edu). If you have questions about an event, please call us at (252) 398- 6236 or email us at music@chowan.edu.

August

25, Thursday, 7:30 pm – Joanne Kong and Paul Hanson Two-Piano Concert, DRH

September

15, Thursday, 7:30 pm – Faculty Gala Recital, TA
25, Sunday, 3:30 pm – Paula Pressnell Faculty Piano Recital, TA

October

20, Thursday, 7:30 pm - Fall Choral Concert, TA

November

21, Monday, 7:30 pm – Chowan Winds Fall Concert, TA
29, Tuesday, 7:30 pm – Meherrin Chamber Orchestra Fall Concert, TA

December

4, Sunday, 3:30 pm – Christmas at Chowan, TA
5, Monday, 7:30 pm – Christmas Choral Concert, TA

February

16, Thursday, 7:30 pm—James M. Guthrie Faculty Harpsichord Recital, DRH

March

8, Thursday, 7:30 pm, Chowan Singers and Chowan Winds Spring Concert, TA
9-14, Chowan Singers Spring Tour
26-27, Monday-Tuesday, NASM Reaccreditation Visit
29, Thursday, 7:30 pm, Bruce Moser Faculty Piano Recital, DRH
31, Saturday, 9:00 am-4:00 pm, Audition Day

April

14, Saturday, 9:00 am-4:00 pm, Audition Day
17, Tuesday, 7:30 pm, Meherrin Chamber Orchestra Spring Concert, TA
23, Monday, 7:30 pm, Masterworks Concert, TA
26, Thursday, 7:30 pm, Chowan Winds and Jazz Combo Concert, TA
27, Friday, 6:00 pm, Friends of Music Dinner, Chowan Room

Venues

DRH = Daniel Recital Hall

TA = Turner Auditorium



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