

# First Friday news

## NOVEMBER 2009



**STAY IN TOUCH!**  
**Department of Music**  
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UNC WILMINGTON DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

## Faculty News

**Frank Bongiorno** (saxophone) recently signed a contract with Dorn Publications to record a set of jazz duets for two saxophones. The recording is scheduled to be released internationally in 2010 as part of the *Saxophone Journal*, a bi-monthly trade magazine.

**Daniel C. Johnson** (tuba) will perform as principal tuba with the Long Bay Symphony for the Nationalistic Fervor concert on Nov. 8. He will give a research presentation titled "The Effect of Musical Aptitude on Written Responses to Music" at the NCMEA conference on Nov. 9 in Winston Salem, N.C., where he will also assume his duties as the NCMEA Higher Education Committee chair. At the American Orff Schulwerk Association on Nov. 12, Dr. Johnson will give a research presentation titled "The Effect of Critical Thinking Instruction in Music Listening: A Replication Study."

By invitation, Dr. Johnson will present a clinic for North Brunswick High School in November and a professional development workshop for Brunswick county teachers on Wednesday, Nov. 18 as part of the grant-funded project he began in the summer.

**Elizabeth Loporits** (piano) assisted with five formal recitals in October: Oct. 8 - accompanied a voice recital and played the Liszt: Rigoletto-Paraphrase in Whiteville, N.C.; Oct. 17 - accompanied UNCW students on OctubaFest; Oct. 18 - collaborated with Catherine Starek for her junior recital and appeared in concert with the UNCW Concert Choir; Oct. 22 - accompanied Jazzmoné Sutton's senior recital; Oct. 28 - played a duo-piano concert at the University of Texas in Brownsville.



Elizabeth Loporits at the conclusion of her performance with the Wilmington Symphony Orchestra on Sept. 19.

## Collaborations

**Elizabeth Loporits** (piano) and **Catherine Starek** (B.M. Music Education, flute) have been volunteering at the Lower Cape Fear Hospice and LifeCareCenter since August. They donate their time to play music for the patients residing there as a part of the healing arts program under Lorraine Perry.

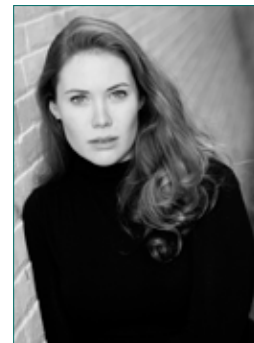
## Student News

In preparation for her Oct. 18 junior recital, **Catherine Starek** had the opportunity to work with Nicolas Duchamp (principle flute for the French National Opéra Comique). Mr. Duchamp has performed in Beckwith Recital Hall on several occasions.

**Mary Claire Curran** (B.M. vocal performance, mezzo-soprano) performed the National Anthem at the Aug. 16 Durham Bulls baseball game. UNCW's Triangle Area Alumni Chapter holds an annual Alumni Picnic at the Durham Bulls stadium, attended by approximately 120 alumni. Thanks to Lindsay LeRoy in the Alumni office for inviting a voice student to perform and for handling the arrangements. Curran presents her junior recital on Nov. 14.



Catherine Starek  
 PHOTO: LAURA JOHNSTON



Mary Claire Curran

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Get into the holiday spirit with the Department of Music.



**Dan Johnson** (tuba) will present three **Tuba Christmas** concerts this year—two in Wilmington as part of the sixth annual Tuba Christmas on Dec. 5 and one in Myrtle Beach, S.C. on Dec. 13. The Wilmington concerts will be held at 12:00 noon in Independence Mall and at 2:00 p.m. at Brightmore of Wilmington.

**A Marimba Christmas** (Nov. 22, 4:00 p.m.), directed by **Dr. John Rack** (percussion), features UNCW students and members of the local percussion community showcasing holiday music performed on marimbas and other keyboard percussion instruments.

The **UNCW Concert Choir and Chamber Singers**, conducted by **Dr. Joe Hickman**, feature "Hallelujah" from *Messiah* in their upcoming concert (Nov. 22, 7:30 p.m.).

The Wilmington Symphony Orchestra, conducted by **Dr. Steven Errante**, rings in the holiday season with selections from Tchaikovsky's ever-popular and perennial favorite Nutcracker along with Rimsky-Korsakov's masterful Polonaise from Christmas Eve, and a joyous Christmas carol sing-along. Performances are on Dec. 5 and a matinee on Dec. 6. Go to [www.wilmingtonsymphony.org](http://www.wilmingtonsymphony.org) for more information.

## SPOTLIGHT

**Threfifty Duo • Nov. 17 • Beckwith Recital Hall**

The Threfifty Duo is recognized for charged performances and eclectic programming, playing music that combines the driving rhythms characteristic of rock music with the intricate textures of the classical guitar. The duo is committed to expanding the classical guitar's audience and repertoire. The Threfifty Duo possesses a humble confidence, an electric and contagious appreciation for beautiful imperfections (hence the name), and a true and deep admiration for all things musical.



Learn more about  
Threfifty Duo  
at [www.sonicbids.com](http://www.sonicbids.com).

Photo courtesy of the artists.

# WORKSHOPS

**Recreational Music Making workshop**

On Nov. 14, Brenda Dillon leads "Introduction to Recreational Music Making," a workshop for piano teachers including demonstrations, teaching and programs that offer piano teachers an opportunity to explore an alternative teaching path. In addition to an introduction of the RMM philosophy, Ms. Dillon will focus on how to effectively recruit, retain and inspire adult music makers who have had a lifelong dream of learning to play the piano. The workshop will include information about materials and group RMM teaching as well as data that has been collected from RMM teachers throughout the United States. The workshop is free and open to piano teachers. To register for the workshop, please call the Department of Music at 910.962.3415 or email [seymoura@uncw.edu](mailto:seymoura@uncw.edu).



## EVENTS CALENDAR NOVEMBER - DECEMBER

**UNCW Jazz Combos**

Fri., Nov. 6 · 7:30 pm · Beckwith Recital Hall

**Ashley Kvitko, mezzo soprano • senior recital**

Sat., Nov. 7 · 7:30 pm · Beckwith Recital Hall

**UNCW Jazz Guitar Ensemble**

Thurs., Nov. 12 · 7:30 pm · Beckwith Recital Hall

**Recreational Music Making workshop for piano teachers**

Sat., Nov. 14 · 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. • Cultural Arts room 1080

**Mary Claire Curran, mezzo soprano • junior recital**

Sat., Nov. 14 · 7:30 pm · Beckwith Recital Hall

**Threfifty Duo, guitar**

Tues., Nov. 17 · 7:30 pm · Beckwith Recital Hall

**UNCW Big Band and UNCW Saxtet**

Fri., Nov. 20 · 7:30 pm · Beckwith Recital Hall

**A Marimba Christmas**

Sun., Nov. 22 · 4:00 pm · Beckwith Recital Hall

**Concert Choir and Chamber Singers**

Sun., Nov. 22 · 7:30 pm · Beckwith Recital Hall

**Department of Music Student Honors Recital**

Tues., Dec. 1 · 7:30 pm · Beckwith Recital Hall

**UNCW Piano Ensemble**

Wed., Dec. 2 · 7:30 pm · Beckwith Recital Hall

**UNCW Wind Symphony**

Thurs., Dec. 3 · 7:30 pm · Kenan Auditorium

**Tuba Christmas**

Sat., Dec. 5 · 12:00 pm · Independence Mall

Sat., Dec. 5 · 2:00 pm · Brightmore

**Wilmington Symphony Orchestra Holiday Concert**

Sat., Dec. 5 · 8:00 pm · Kenan Auditorium

Sun., Dec. 6 · 4:00 pm · Kenan Auditorium

For a complete event listing and ticket information:

[www.uncw.edu/music-calendar](http://www.uncw.edu/music-calendar)

910.962.3415

**ALUMNI –**

be sure to send us your news for our next edition:

[uncwmus@uncw.edu](mailto:uncwmus@uncw.edu)

The deadline is the last Friday of each month.