



May 2022
**BYU SCHOOL OF
MUSIC**
Journal

Sharing the Light

No Such Thing As Ordinary

Ordinary. Plain. Routine. Usual. Regular. Average. Run-of-the-mill. Typical.
Unremarkable.

Hmm. Are these some of the words we use to describe our days? Maybe
EVERY day?

I mean, really, think about it. Going to and from work – the same job – the same way, every day. Or, maybe taking the kids to and from school – the same school – the same way, every day. Then, taking them to the same after-school activities every day. How about doing the same household work, the same way, at the same time, every day? Or maybe going to the same classes, at the same times, the same way, every day?

But wait...there has to be more...

There is more...right...?

YES!! There IS more!! SO. MUCH. MORE! We just have to look for it – and SEE it! Listen for it – and HEAR IT! Reach for it – and TOUCH it! Long for it – and FEEL it!

No thing and no person around us is ordinary or unremarkable. We are surrounded by beautiful, extraordinary, and truly remarkable people, art, music, nature, and the list is endless! But in order to recognize it and make it part of our day – each and every day – we have to LOOK, LISTEN, REACH, and LONG for it so we can SEE, HEAR, TOUCH, and FEEL it! Take time to see, hear, touch, and feel the beauty, love, joy, and eternal nature of everyone and everything around you. As you do, you will see all that God has done for you, and you will feel peace.



Dr. Mark Ammons
Assistant Director
Brigham Young University School of Music



May 2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The BYU School of Music

Current.....	3-10
Upcoming BYU Summer Camps.....	11-13
Alumni Highlight: Kaden Larson.....	15-17
BYU Chamber Orchestra International Tour.....	19-25
BYU Singers International Tour.....	27-44
BYU Men's Chorus International Tour.....	46-48
Don Peterson Feature.....	50-53
Student Recitals.....	54-55
In Memory of David Randall.....	56
Student Accomplishments.....	57-58
Student Highlight: Claire Wride.....	60-62
Recent Faculty Accomplishments.....	63-64
Recent Alumni Accomplishments.....	66-69
Social Media Platforms.....	70
Donations.....	71

CURRENT

BYU SYNTHESIS

BYU Synthesis was invited to compete in the Jack Rudin Jazz Championship. The competition was April 19th and 20th. They won many individual and section awards listed on page 4.



Section Awards:

Outstanding Trombone Section

Outstanding Trumpet Section

Individual Awards:

Heather Cutler (piano) - Outstanding Soloist

Brynn Chapman - Outstanding Alto Sax

Jack English & Kevin West - Outstanding Trombone

Aiden Williams - Outstanding Bass Trombone

Bryant Jordan - Outstanding Trumpet

Jack English - Outstanding Student Arrangement

Click the photo down below to view a video of the BYU Jazztet, a smaller group that is part of BYU Synthesis performing at the Rudin Competition in New York. BYU Jazztet performed Nica's Dream by Horace Silver.





BYU Synthesis performed Friday night (April 22nd) at the Estonian House as guests of the Estonian Embassy. Distinguished guests included Counsel Generals from the UN and other UN dignitaries. Ambassadors from Estonia, India, Colombia, Mongolia, Costa Rica, Thailand, and many others were in attendance. This was the first live performance event among dignitaries since the start of the pandemic.





The last part of BYU Synthesis' trip to New York was a multi-stake fireside. The group performed and spoke.

BYU MEN'S CHORUS VIDEO RELEASE

The BYU Men's Chorus released a new music video. It is a fun and energetic gospel piece by Shawn Kirchner featuring Marques Ruff titled "Cornerstone!" **Click on the photo to the right** to give it a watch!



"ELIJAH" IN THE CATHEDRAL OF THE MADELEINE

The BYU Singers, BYU Concert Choir, baritone Shea Owens, and tenor Andrew Crane, came together for the performance of Mendelssohn's "Elijah" on April 5th. The Cathedral of the Madeleine was a gorgeous setting for the oratorio, and a wonderful way to end a school year filled with extraordinary performances.



BYU SINGER'S MOTHER'S DAY VIDEO

The BYU Singer's recorded this video while on their international tour. **Click the image below** to watch it!





BYU MOUNTAIN STRINGS

BYU Mountain Strings released a new album, "The World Is Our Stage!" You can listen to it on any streaming platform! Click [HERE](#) to give it a listen on Spotify!

SONGWORKS CERTIFICATION COURSE

A SongWorks Certification Course is being held from June 27-July 1 this summer at BYU. If you are interested in learning a collection of teaching strategies that draw directly from music, while nurturing playfulness, responsiveness, and musicality, sign up [HERE!](#) Learn more about the SongWorks educators association [HERE.](#)



TRAVIS BRASS QUINTET

The Travis Brass Quintet performed on May 19th. This group is formed of members of the Air Force Band of the Golden West.



Click on the photo above to watch their performance from April at the Gallivan Center in Salt Lake City.

RAY SMITH'S FINAL FACULTY RECITAL

Retiring faculty member Ray Smith performed in his final campus recital on May 21st. Members of the faculty that constitute Q'd Up performed as well (Ron Saltmarsh, guitar Steve Erickson, piano David Baker, guest bassist Jay Lawrence, drums). Jack Wood and Joe Lano also performed.

FREE ORGAN WORKSHOP

The BYU Organ Department is holding a free organ workshop with a concert and training on June 10-11 in Provo, UT. Anyone in the area may attend. There will be three tracks of classes, for youth, beginning, and advanced organists. Instructors that will be teaching and performing at the concert are Dr. Don Cook, Dr. Mark Campbell, Valerie McDougal, and Sheri Peterson. Breakfast and lunch on Saturday are included. More information and registration is available [HERE!](#)



WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE
FEATURED?

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE
WHO SHOULD BE
FEATURED?

EMAIL US AT
MUSICEVENTS@BYU.EDU
SO WE CAN HELP YOUR
LIGHT SHINE!

A stylized sunburst graphic with a central yellow circle and numerous yellow rays of varying lengths radiating outwards to the edges of the frame.

UPCOMING BYU
SUMMER
CAMPS

MUSICIAN'S INSTITUTE

JUNE 7TH-11TH

- BYU Musicians' Institute will be held Tuesday–Saturday immediately before Musicians' SummerFestival begins.
- Ages 14-18
- Students will participate in chamber ensembles coached by BYU music faculty
- Chamber music and solo literature for winds, brass, piano and strings as well as jazz combos and improvisation
- Here is the [LINK](#) to register!
 - You can also call (801) 422-6700



"I had a wonderful time. It was an amazing experience, I learned a lot."

"I had a great experience. The institute was well organized. Also, the camp counselors were amazing!!"



MUSICIAN'S SUMMERFESTIVAL

JUNE 12TH-18TH

- Six-day summer camp for young instrumentalists and vocalists
- Ages 14–18
- All applicants will be admitted as long as there are spaces available
- Participants will take classes, attend concerts, recitals, dances, a barbecue, and other social activities.
- You can still register at this [LINK!](#)
 - You can also call (801) 422-6700

"I liked being able to watch all of us improve in our instrumental ability as we went throughout the week."



"I just love growing my skills and meeting other people with similar interests."

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE
FEATURED?

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE
WHO SHOULD BE
FEATURED?

EMAIL US AT
MUSICEVENTS@BYU.EDU
SO WE CAN HELP YOUR
LIGHT SHINE!

ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT:

Kaden Larson and Phantasium



Kaden Larson is a BYU alum, doctoral student at Indiana University and the proud creator of his newest album, *Phantasium*. The path to publication was filled with resiliency, dedication and striving to be a follower of Christ and a better musician.

The idea to record an album first came to him while in Indiana, but his path led him back to Dayne's Music in Utah, where the cost to record would be lower. This is also where he connected with audio engineer Parker Robinson, who did the editing and mixing for *Phantasium*.

It took Larson over a year to learn the music. As he learned to play the music, he found connections between the pieces and began programming. It was a long process as he continued to get feedback from those around him.

Larson said a unique challenge that musicians face when recording is working to maintain the spark of the music. Practicing the same pieces on repeat can drain the music of its spontaneity. “Recording is not like a live performance, it lives on,” Larson said.

The preparation, he said, was the most difficult part, as well as learning how to interpret the music. He had to decide what aspects of the interpretation were most important to him. However, he said it was most important that the music was true to him and that it was honest.

The best part of the process was the support, Larson said. He received support from parents, friends, his wife, and teachers like BYU’s Scott Holden and Indiana University’s Norman Krieger.



Larson said one of the lessons he learned from BYU that has stuck with him is that his first goal in life is to be a good person and follower of Christ, second a good musician and third a good pianist. Whatever he is doing with music, Larson said that he tries to get out of the way so it is not about him and so the music can speak for itself.

He said that a lot of the music on the album has been connected to characteristics of Christ, finding faith, joy and patience. When Larson performs he said he strives to show the audience that this music comes “from real people, who are also children of God, who also had life experiences and challenges and things that they had to overcome.” Larson said the music also represents how we all have challenges we face every day but there is always beauty to be found.



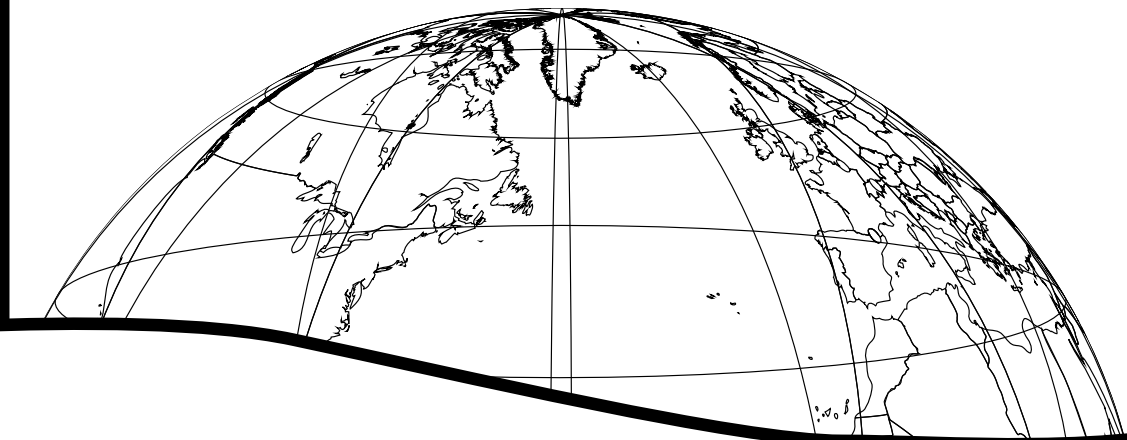
One of the biggest lessons Larson said he learned from playing the piano is the importance of being diligent, trusting the process and taking your time. To anyone searching for advice, Larson said that musicians should be prepared to invest something and be willing to make sacrifices when creating an album. “Get advice and help from people who have done it before, don’t be afraid to ask questions and find support,” Larson said. He said it’s also important to remember that the learning process never ends.

You can listen to Phantasium and support Larson by clicking [HERE](#) to purchase a CD!

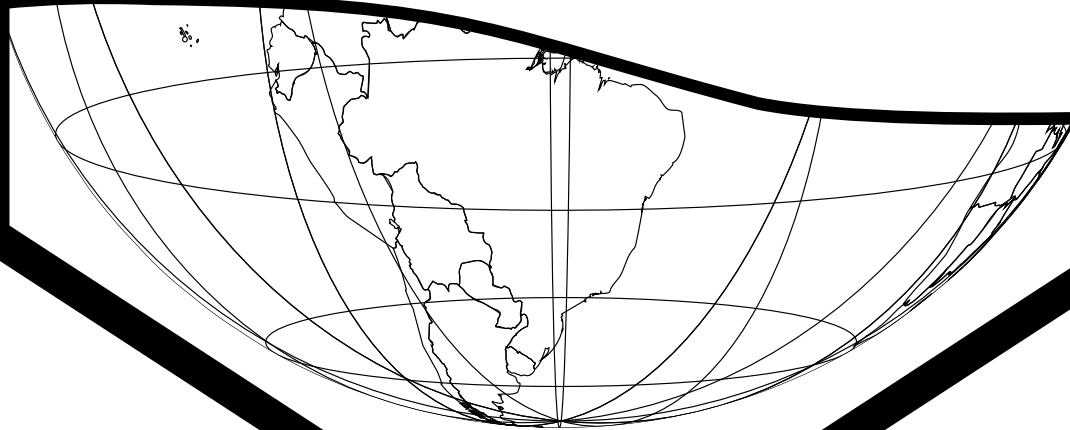
WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE
FEATURED?

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE
WHO SHOULD BE
FEATURED?

EMAIL US AT
MUSICEVENTS@BYU.EDU
SO WE CAN HELP YOUR
LIGHT SHINE!



**BYU SCHOOL OF MUSIC
INTERNATIONAL TOURS**



BYU CHAMBER ORCHESTRA INTERNATIONAL TOUR

The Brigham Young University Chamber Orchestra toured to the Czech Republic, Austria and Italy from April 29 through May 12. The next several pages will give an overview of their experiences and performances.

April 29 - Prague, Czech Republic

April 30 - Vienna, Austria

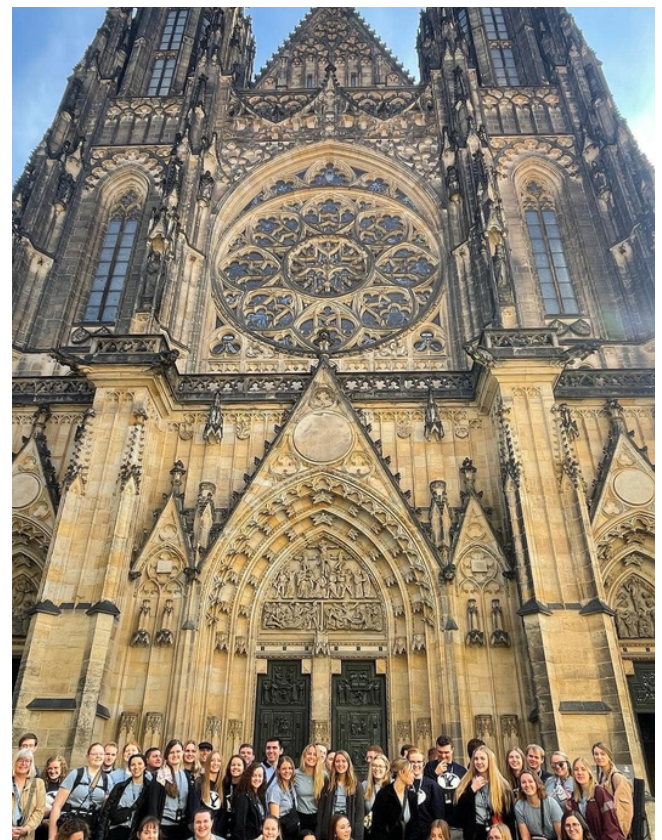
May 3 - Salzburg, Austria

May 6 - Milan, Italy

May 7 - Florence, Italy

May 11 - Caserta, Italy

May 12 - Rome, Italy



Click [HERE](#) to watch a video about their adventures in Prague!



While in Austria the Chamber Orchestra performed a humanitarian concert for Ukrainian refugees. The concert was titled "A Musical Prayer for Ukraine" and one of the pieces performed was a famous Ukrainian piece, "Melody" by Myroslav Skoryk.



You can read more about the concert [HERE!](#)



The BYU
Chamber
Orchestra saw
the Vienna
Philharmonic
perform live in
concert!

In Hallstatt,
Austria they
toured the
world's oldest
salt mine.



Click the image above to watch a
short video about their experience!

BYU Chamber
Orchestra sang "God
Be with You Till We
Meet Again" with some
new friends after a
performance and dinner
in Prato, Italy.
**Click the image on the
right to view.**



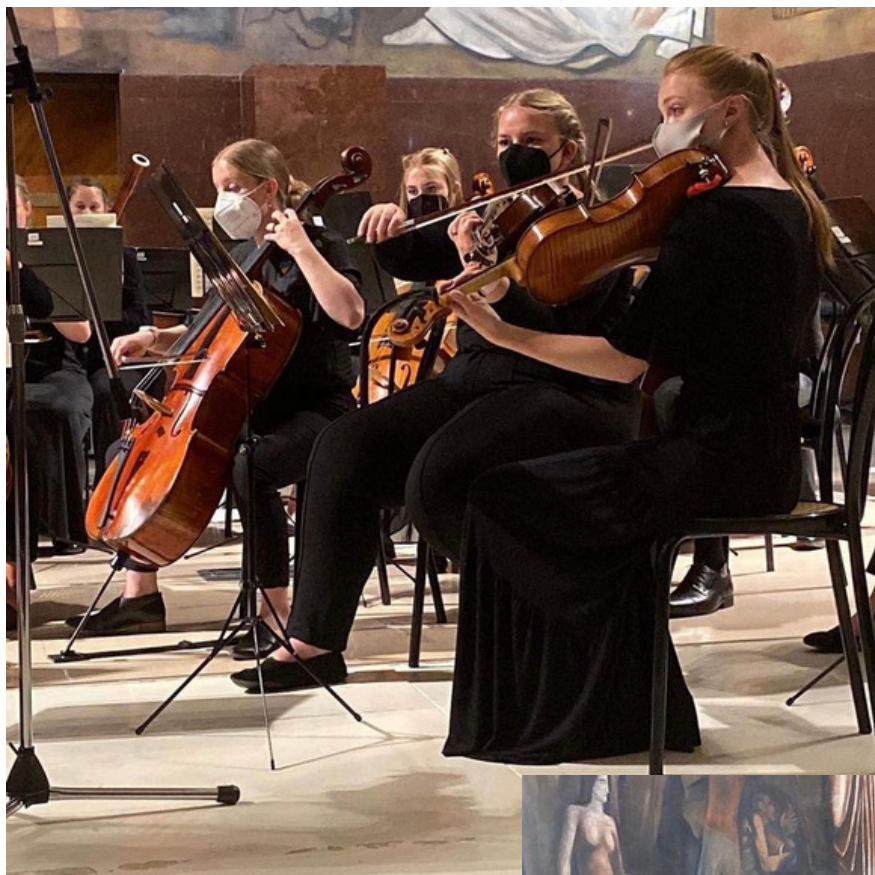
The orchestra got to
explore Rome, Italy.
Here they are
outside the
Colosseum.



While in Rome, Italy the orchestra had the opportunity to perform at the Rome temple visitor center. They performed "A Child's Prayer," one of their tour pieces. You can listen to a snippet of it by **clicking on the image above**.



BYU Chamber Orchestra's final performance of their tour was at Sapienza University in Rome, Italy. This university is one of the oldest in history, it was founded in 1303.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE
FEATURED?

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE
WHO SHOULD BE
FEATURED?

EMAIL US AT
MUSICEVENTS@BYU.EDU
SO WE CAN HELP YOUR
LIGHT SHINE!

BYU SINGERS INTERNATIONAL TOUR

The Brigham Young University Singers toured to Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania from May 1 through May 17. The next several pages will give an overview of their experiences and performances. The photos and information was collected from the BYU Singers blog, you can look at it [HERE!](#)

May 1 & 5 - Tallinn, Estonia

May 6 - Tartu, Estonia

May 7 - Ogre, Latvia

May 8 - Riga, Latvia

May 11 - Liepāja, Latvia

May 14 - Klaipėda, Lithuania

May 17 - Vilnius, Lithuania





On BYU Singers first day in Talinn, Estonia they rehearsed for 2.5 hours in an LDS chapel to prepare for their performance in church the next day and their devotional performance the next night. CJ Madsen directed the rehearsal since Dr. Crane was not there yet.

CJ Madsen conducted the church performance. They sang “God Loved Us, So He Sent His Son” and “I Am a Child of God” with the last verse in Estonian. **Click the image on the right** to hear a previous performance of this song.





Dr. Crane arrived that afternoon for rehearsals for the devotional performance. At the devotional they performed concert songs and faith-based songs, The choir sang "Come Thou Fount" in Ukrainian and "I am a Child of God."



While in Tallinn, Estonia they had a rehearsal in Kaarli kirik (St. Charles Church), a Lutheran church.



The choir attended a planned service project where they raked and painted at an orphanage.



The evening of May 3rd, BYU Singers had a rehearsal with two choirs they would be performing with at St. John's church. They all worked on a piece in Estonian that Singers had learned on tour. They noticed that Estonian pieces often depict their love for nature.



While in Estonia, BYU Singers went on a tour of Naissaar Island. The island was only about 7 square miles but held a lot of history, especially relating to WWI.





BYU Singers performed with two other choirs at St. John's church. The choir saw many friends that they had made at church and were happy to see them. Dr. Crane wore a pin made of stained glass from St. John's.



The last part of the choir's tour in Estonia was in Tartu. While there they got to hear the Tartu University Chamber Choir perform for them. One of the pieces BYU Singers sang at their concert was by an Estonian composer, Cyrillus Kreek.



“The choir also performed some "fun American" music like, “Leonardo Dreams of His Flying Machine,” and “Wick” from Secret Garden. When they started using bongos and percussion one man stood up and started dancing. It was a lively event.



Before their first concert in Latvia, the women of BYU Singers learned an entire song in Latvian in under an hour. At this concert CJ Madsen performed a fantasia on the Latvian National Anthem that he had prepared that same day.



The choir performed in two church services on Sunday. One was in Latvian and the other was in Russian. They sang "I am a Child of God" in Latvian for the first service. Then they learned it in Russian in just two minutes for the next sacrament meeting.



Later that Sunday, the choir had a workshop with Eriks Ešenvalds, an up-and-coming Latvian composer. BYU Singers had sang one of his pieces at the ACDA Conference in March. They enjoyed working with him and he was impressed by their musical ability.

The choir continued to enjoy performing, interacting with the audience after each concert and making new friends.



Dr. Crane holding flowers and talking to BYU Singers.



BYU Singers performing in a beautiful setting.



(These photos were taken by Jaren Wilkey, a BYU photographer.)



While traveling to Liepāja, Latvia the choir stopped at the Karosta prison. It's an old military prison that operated during the time of the USSR. Nobody has ever escaped from it.

While in Karosta they stopped at the Baltic sea. Later that evening they started preparations for their upcoming competition.





The choir spent the day discovering the beauty and history of Liepāja, Latvia. Some of the group went to St. Joseph's Cathedral. It is home to the world's largest and oldest mechanical organ.



After a full day of exploring the choir gave a short concert at the local building for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.



The choir arrived to Klaipėda University in Lithuania. Here they began rehearsals as they prepared for the competition.

Then they attended the opening ceremonies for the competition where an all-boy choir performed.

The photo below is from BYU Singers final rehearsal before the competition the next day.





BYU Singers had two performances with three songs for the Grand Prix. Pseaume 48, Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck Alleluia, Augusta Read Thomas Leonardo Dreams of His Flying Machine, Eric Whitacre. You can watch them on Facebook by **clicking on the image above and moving the time**. The first song is at 19:15, the second song is at 22:00, and the third is at 26:54.



BYU Singers also performed in the Mixed Choir division. They sang "Sanctus" by Vaclovas Augustinas, "Leonardo Dreams of His Flying Machine" by Eric Whitacre, "Agnus Dei" and "Borracho No Vale" both by Ernesto Herrera.

Click on the image below to hear them perform "Sanctus."



The next division they participated in was Sacred Music. Here is an excerpt from the BYU Singers blog that describes this wonderful experience, "If you've ever sung in a choir, you may have experienced that transcendent feeling when the entire group comes together, conductor and singers, with whole bodies and souls; and as Dr. Crane said later, a miracle happens."



The picture to the left is from their performance for the Folk Song division.

That evening the choir gave a concert at the Catholic church of the Assumption of the blessed Virgin Mary.



BYU Singers won first place in every division they participated in; Mixed Choir, Sacred Music, and Folk Song. They also won two special awards, the first one was for Best Performance of a Contemporary Piece and the second was for the compulsory piece all the choirs were required to perform. They also won the Grand Prix prize, the Amber award.





The choir then traveled to Vilnius, Lithuania. They explored the city and rehearsed with the Sonoros choir for the concert the next day. This will be their 15th and final performance of this tour.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE
FEATURED?

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE
WHO SHOULD BE
FEATURED?

EMAIL US AT
MUSICEVENTS@BYU.EDU
SO WE CAN HELP YOUR
LIGHT SHINE!

BYU MEN'S CHORUS

The Brigham Young University Men's Chorus toured to Sweden, Latvia, and Estonia from May 19 through May 24.

The next several pages will give an overview of their experiences and performances.

BYU Men's Chorus is participating in the Festival of Three tour. This tour consists of 3 choirs that perform at the highest collegiate level. An all men's group (BYU Men's Chorus), all women's group (Texas Women's University Concert Choir) and a combined group (Iowa State Singers).



May 19 - Stockholm, Sweden

May 21 - Rapala, Estonia

May 22 - Tallinn, Estonia

May 23 - Riga, Latvia

May 24 - Cesis, Latvia

The first stop was in Sweden. They were able to tour Stockholm and perform in the Stockholm (Storkyrkan) Cathedral. They made friends with members of the Stockholm Cathedral Youth Choir.



Click on the top right photo to watch a video from BYU Men's Chorus rehearsal with the other Festival of Three choirs in Estonia.

Click on the bottom left photo to watch a clip of Men's Chorus singing one of their favorite songs at a concert in Sweden.



After arriving in Tallinn, Estonia they checked into their hotel and headed to their first rehearsal and concert there. While in Tallinn the choir also had the opportunity to perform a couple of hymns in a sacrament meeting.



One of their concert venues was Kaarli Church in Tallinn, Estonia.



The last leg of the tour was spent in Latvia! As in the other countries we visited, they saw beautiful historical sights and were privileged to sing in cathedrals in Riga and Cesis.

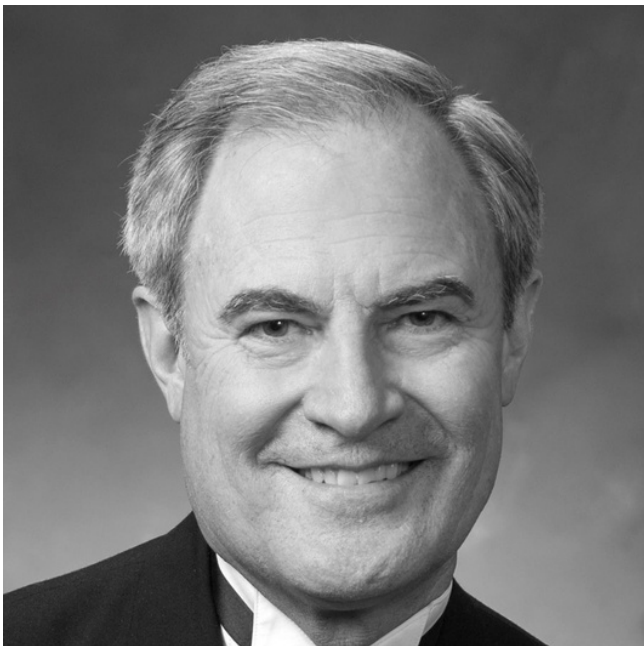
The highlight of Latvia and the culmination of the entire tour was their opportunity to participate in the world premiere of a new 3 movement choral piece, “Naming the Rain,” written by renowned composer Ēriks Ešenvalds.



OUR RETIREES, WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Don Peterson

Dr. Don Peterson's music career began as a young trumpet player in Salt Lake City. He received both his B.M. and M.M. degrees in music education from Brigham Young University, followed by the D.M.A. degree in instrumental music/conducting from Arizona State University. In 1986 Dr. Peterson joined the music education faculty at BYU where he oversaw instrumental music education, directed the Cougar Marching Band, the Symphonic Band and the Wind Symphony over the course of 45 years. (Credit to Utah Music Educators Association Hall of Fame for biography.)



When asked how Mr. Peterson got started in music, he said that his mother was a piano teacher and he had a cousin that played trumpet but in elementary school is where Peterson first started to learn. He didn't start taking private lessons until the 6th grade and is a first generation college graduate.

Peterson first became involved at BYU with the yearly summer camps. After his time in basic training, he came back to the campus and met his wife. “I decided I wanted to be a music teacher in 9th grade. I loved music. I loved working with people and teaching. I could do both at the same time. It would be a good life.” Peterson loved his years at BYU and has kept in contact with quite a few of his students.



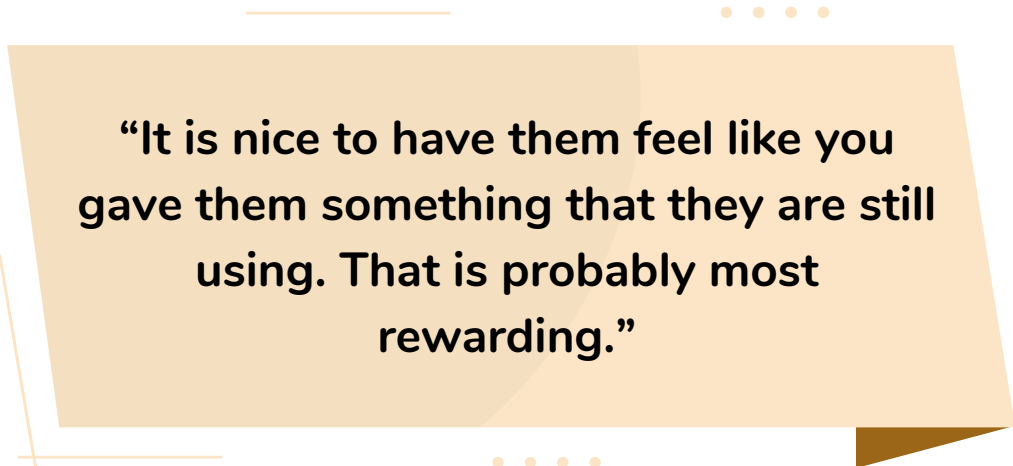
When asked what the most important things he has learned from his years of studying music, Peterson responded, “The neat thing about music is that it keeps speaking to you.” He shared a story of one of his fellow graduate students. The student while teaching in Montana in 1984 gave a friend an album but the friend was preoccupied with his new computer. A few months later the graduate student ran into this friend again and his friend asked for more music to listen to. After he inquired about his interest in his computer the friend said, “when I turn off the computer, it's off. When I cease listening to music, I still feel it and it still keeps talking to me.” Peterson mentioned how even after all those years of making music, the experiences, “made me love it more and more instead of being tired of it...”

...it helped me to feel stronger, have stronger feelings, it helped me to feel and understand myself more, I think it also added a lot to my spiritual understanding just because it is so connected to the hot ends of the soul, to the spirit.”

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO SINCE YOUR RETIREMENT?

Peterson has been hard at work judging competitions and festivals and being involved in schools from BYU Idaho to the University of Missouri Kansas City Conservatory. Peterson, as well as David Blackinton who was the previous director of Wind Symphony and some past students are putting together an Alumni Wind Symphony that will perform on June 11th at the Orem Summerfest. It will feature alumni of the BYU Wind Symphony from the 80's to 2021.

Peterson continues to feel the joy from his past students' successes. “I think the most important thing to me is that I have been able to hopefully have some effect upon students and their love of music. I get real excited when I hear about their successes. How they are doing as teachers or performers. So that is a big part of it, seeing the success of others,” he said.



“It is nice to have them feel like you gave them something that they are still using. That is probably most rewarding.”

HIS ADVICE FOR THOSE PURSUING MUSIC...

“I would say just dig in and get the most out of it. I was looking forward to getting out and having a job, of course we had a child before we graduated too so I worried about making money and so on. But I think if I went back I would have studied even harder and realized that though you may end up in the profession for a long time, there is probably not a time when you will be more focused on one thing in your life so while you're there, dig in and get the most out of it. Before you know it, those 4 years are gone and you have to live up to what you learned during that time.”



Peterson also mentioned with a laugh, “if I had one other regret, it would be that I wish I were moving into the new building.”

STUDENT RECITALS

HANAE
YAMAMOTO
Piano Recital



HONG YI CHEN
Piano Recital

AIDEN WILLIAMS
Bass Trombone Recital



WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE
FEATURED?

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE
WHO SHOULD BE FEATURED?

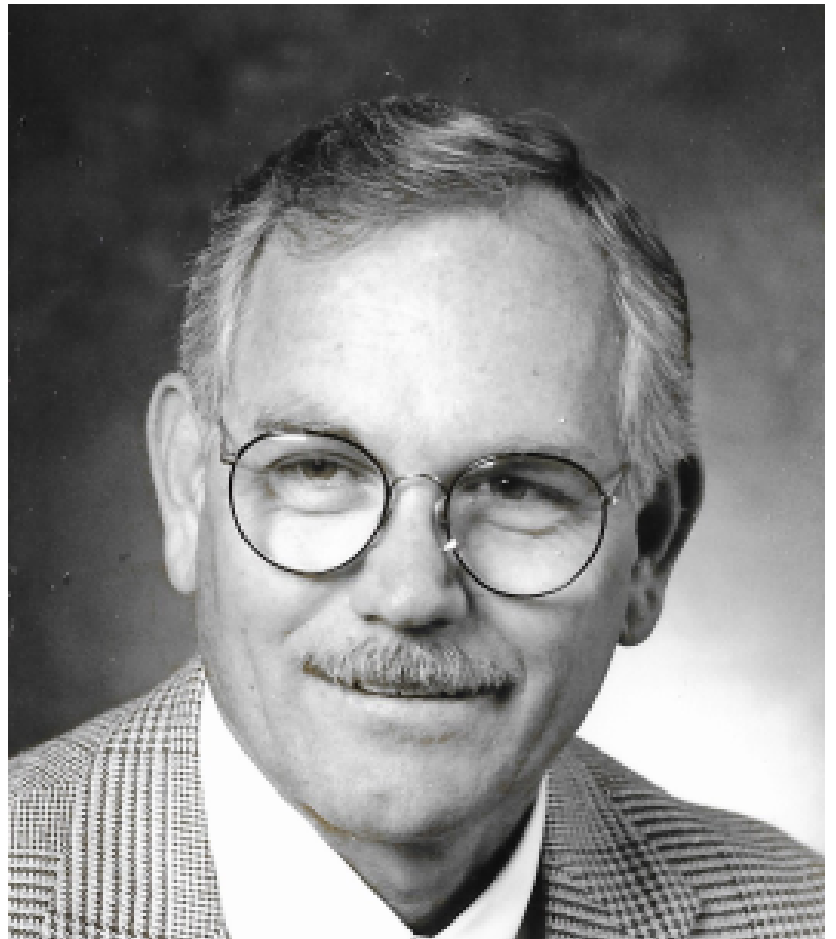
EMAIL US AT
MUSICEVENTS@BYU.EDU SO
WE CAN HELP YOUR *LIGHT*
SHINE!

IN MEMORY OF...

David Randall

Dr. Randall was passionate about music, clarinet, and serving those around him. He passed January 26, 2022. He began studying music at BYU and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree. He received the degree Master of Music at the University of Indiana at Bloomington. In 1970 he received his Doctor of Musical Arts degree at Iowa University.

In 1971, Randall joined the Music faculty at BYU as a clarinet professor, he served in this position for 35 years. He later became the Director of the School of Music but his main focus was always on his clarinet students. Randall regularly toured and did workshops and concerts. To read his full obituary you can find it [HERE](#).



STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS



ARIELLE CLINE

Arielle is part of a group called the Three Reds. They recently traveled to Ireland to film a music video as well as to perform in Belfast. She was also selected to be one of the Days of '47 2022 royalty.

CHRISTIAN NIELSEN

Christian Nielsen won first prize, \$1500 at the Musicians West Competition at Idaho State University. It was a state-wide competition in Idaho. Christian is a student of Stephen Beus.



ANDY BREWER AND COLLETTE JONES



Andy Brewer won the Gold award at the Audio Engineering Society for best sound design and mixing on the collaborative animation film “Stowaway”. Collette Jones composed the music for the short film and did a fantastic job. The Audio Engineering Society is an international competition this year held in Europe and is quite an honor.

Click the image above to watch the film.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE
FEATURED?

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE
WHO SHOULD BE
FEATURED?

EMAIL US AT
MUSICEVENTS@BYU.EDU
SO WE CAN HELP YOUR
LIGHT SHINE!

STUDENT HIGHLIGHT:

Claire Wride from Salem, Utah.



Click the image above to watch her original song.

Wride is a sophomore and a music education major teaching choral education. She said that she has always loved music and has been drawn to it. She took piano lessons when she was younger but she was the first in her family to do choir and musicals. She said that she fell in love with both, and choir quickly became one of her favorite things. “I joined a choir in 7th grade and I never looked back,” Wride said.

Winter semester of 2022, Wride took a class called “Learning Through Service” (STDEV 290 Section 002). She said she loves how instrumental music can be a service to others because it allows people to express themselves and “communicate with others in a way that is different from just talking.” Wride loves how music can be adaptive to people’s unique needs and how accessible it is. At the end of the class, for the final project, the students were asked to present their philosophy of service in a creative way. Wride chose to write a song; you can listen to her talk about it more in-depth and see her perform the song in the video above.



Wride participated in BYU Women’s Chorus this past year and said the director, Dr. Sonja Poulter is a great example to her of connecting music and service. Wride said that Dr. Poulter has so much musical talent but she never makes it about herself. “She always focuses on how music is an opportunity to praise God and to bless other people and that we’ve been given these gifts so we can add beauty to this world and be a conduit for people to feel the Spirit,” Wride said.

Wride said she loves that the focus at BYU is how to become “instruments in the Lord’s hands.” She said that music brings the Spirit and she believes being a conduit to help others feel the Spirit is one of the biggest services someone can perform.

“Dr. Poulter has shown me through word and through deed that the music is never about her, it’s about something bigger and it’s always about helping others find Christ,” Wride said. She said that Dr. Poulter has shaped the way she views herself, her talents, and her future career as a music teacher. Wride said that being a music teacher is an opportunity to bless others even if the music is not religious, it is still a chance to help others learn more about themselves and their divine creator.



RECENT FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

SAM TSUGAWA

Professor Tsugawa recently had his research published, "Bridging the Digital Divide: Distance music learning among older adult musicians." The study is about older musicians, Zoom and using technology during the height of the pandemic. It can be found at the International Journal of Music Education.



RICHARD BATEMAN

Richard Bateman is the next Assistant Director of the Cougar Marching Band. He has spent 13 years as an Assistant Director for the Lone Peak and American Fork High School bands.



RON SALTMARSH

Ron Saltmarsh was the MC for the "Monster Concert" piano extravaganza at University Mall in Orem on April 30th.

His band, Joshua Creek released a new single titled "The Garden Road" and you can listen to it [HERE!](#)

BENJAMIN NICHOLS

Ben Nichols is returning to BYU to become the new director of BYU Synthesis and professor of saxophone. He graduated from BYU with a Bachelor's degree in Saxophone Performance. He received his Master's degree in Jazz Studies from New England Conservatory of Music. Ben earned his Doctor of Musical Arts from University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE
FEATURED?

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE
WHO SHOULD BE
FEATURED?

EMAIL US AT
MUSICEVENTS@BYU.EDU
SO WE CAN HELP YOUR
LIGHT SHINE!

RECENT ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CADE ROBERTS

Roberts graduated from the BYU School of Music with a BM in piano performance in 2020. He will be attending the Manhattan School of Music in the fall to begin his Master's in Music studying piano.



NATE YOUNG

Young graduated from the BYU Commercial Music division. He recently released an EP with his band, Spirit City. You can listen [HERE!](#)

JONAH HOSKINS

Hoskins is a recipient of the 2022 Sara Tucker Study Grant. This grant is given by the Richard Tucker Music Foundation. An organization that supports young American opera singers.



RICHARD WILLIAMS

Williams is currently working on his upcoming album, "A Hollywood Christmas." It will be a big band jazz Christmas album in a Michael Bublé, Frank Sinatra style. Williams recorded at Capitol Studios and then in Budapest. Click [HERE](#) to read more about his journey.

ZACH COLLIER

Collier's band released a covers/live sessions EP called Rue De Paris Sessions. Gavin McMahan tracked and mixed it in his studios. Except for "Crazy" which was done by Scott Wiley last summer. Zach and his band performed at Velour in Provo on May 20th.

Zach's first solo EP, "The Graduate" was released May 6th. It included a song that he had began working on 4 years ago as his capstone, "I'm Not Any Better."

Click this [link](#) to listen to the music!



JENNIFER HANSEN HEDER

Heder received her Bachelors of Music degree in Choral Education and Masters of Music degree in Choral Conducting from BYU. She was then conferred the Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting by the Michigan State University College of Music. She has just been named Director of Choral Studies at Fresno City College in Fresno, CA.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE
FEATURED?

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE
WHO SHOULD BE FEATURED?

EMAIL US AT
MUSICEVENTS@BYU.EDU SO
WE CAN HELP YOUR *LIGHT
SHINE!*

SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

Come like and follow us on our
NEW social media platforms. Stay
in the loop and never miss an
event!



[https://www.instagram.com
/livebyumusic/](https://www.instagram.com/livebyumusic/)

[https://www.facebook.com
/livebyumusic/](https://www.facebook.com/livebyumusic/)



[https://www.linkedin.com/compan
y/brigham-young-university-
school-of-music/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/brigham-young-university-school-of-music/)

Thank you for considering a gift to the School of Music.

We recognize that donated funds are precious and sacred. We strive to use these funds appropriately by carefully determine the strategic priorities for the college which are approved by BYU's President's Council and the Board of Trustees.

[*CLICK HERE*](#) to give on our secure online gift form.
Select the fund - "School of Music - BYU"

You can also call (801) 422-8611 if you have questions, if you would like more giving options, or if you would like to give your information over the phone.

