

Sharing the Light

BYU SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Journal

June 2023

The BYU School of Music seeks truth in great music. We strive to lead in the composition, performance, teaching, and understanding of music and to serve the university, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and the world through this divine gift.





TABLE OF CONTENTS

Opening Article.....	3
Current Events.....	5
Alumni Feature: The Principle Wife.....	9
Retiree Feature: Susan Kenney.....	12
Student Accomplishments.....	15
Faculty Feature: Book of Mormon Songs.....	17
BYU Spring Tours.....	20
Alumni Accomplishments.....	33
Employee Accomplishments.....	35
Student Recitals.....	36
Social Media Platforms.....	37
Donations.....	38

Universal Languages

Walls, fences, barricades, borders, societal differences, political differences, religious differences, and generational gaps all represent various forms of barriers that separate the more than 8 billion people currently living on the earth. There are many, many more kinds of barriers that we allow to separate us and prohibit us from living peacefully and contributively with each other. It is a sad state of affairs to be sure.

However, despite the division and separation prevalent throughout the world, there are a few constants that have been heralded for centuries as being “universal languages” that can transcend all differences and barriers. The idea that love is a universal language goes without saying. Nearly every person has felt the love of another that leapt across a language difference or a geographical separation or a generation gap. The second constant was stated clearly and succinctly by the highly regarded and much-read 19th century American writer and educator, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, when he said: “Music is the universal language of mankind.” A group of Harvard scientists recently completed a study that fully supports this assertion.

There is a third constant, much more powerful than either of the first two mentioned, that frequently works hand-in-hand with these. When such a “linguistic collaboration” occurs, the effect is magnified and amplified, and the result is often extraordinarily powerful. This third constant is the Holy Spirit who also communicates through a universal medium and has absolutely no barriers or barricades, save those placed by an individual in such a way as to prohibit the conveyance of the communication.

These three constants each individually carry with them a degree of light that is shared with others. When two or more of these light-wielding languages combine, the light shines much more brilliantly.

This issue of the School of Music Journal highlights ensembles and individual students, faculty, and alumni who have ventured across borders and beyond cultural differences to share light. In many instances, all three light-wielding universal languages have been combined and the vehicle of their music has truly touched lives and brought people closer to God.

May we all seek to do the same in all we do.



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

BYU School of Music Journal Editors
Arielle Cline
Sarah Griffin



CURRENT



BYU SINGERS PACIFIC NORTH-WEST TOUR

May 2-6

BYU Singers had the opportunity to perform in Idaho, Washington, and Boise over the span of a 5-day regional tour. Read more about their experiences on page 22-24.



BYU WIND SYMPHONY TO SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

May 2-18

BYU Wind Symphony traveled and performed in over 7 cities in Portugal and Spain. Read more about their touring experiences on page 24-32.



GUEST ARTIST: PRIMROSE CONCERT WITH RITA PORFIRIS, VIOLA

May 10

The Primrose Memorial concert featured guest artist Rita Porfirio on viola, Scott Holden on piano, and Anton Miller on violin.



UNIVERSITY CHORALE

June 20

University Chorale is a BYU's non-auditioned ensemble of undergraduate and graduate singers, and they are presenting a concert of choral works based on texts of great poets—from King David in the Bible to Robert Burns to

Dr. Seuss. Anchoring the concert will be Randall Thompson's *Frostiana*, a musical setting of Robert Frost's poetry and one of the most important works of 20th-century American choral music.



Photo via Lisa DeSpain

SPRING OPERA: STAGGERWING AND MEN I'M NOT MARRIED TO

May 26-27

Composed by Lisa DeSpain and Rachel J. Peters, "Staggerwing and Men I'm Not Married To" was brought to life on BYU campus this spring semester.

Staggerwing was inspired by the first two female pilots allowed to compete in the 1936 Bendix Trophy Air Race in which they ended up winning the

trophy. "Men I'm Not Married To" is an opera set in the Prohibition era, with three bridesmaids lamenting the terrible groomsman they were set up with for the wedding. The students involved had the opportunity to workshop with the composers leading up to the performances.



BYU EXPERIENCE IN GUADELOUPE

April 15

Recently, a group of BYU students accompanied Dr. Brent Wells and Dr. Andrew Crane to Pointe-à-Pitre.

BYU students created lasting connections and left a remarkable impact through inspiring devotional performances, intensive choral

rehearsals, captivating island tours, and a grand finale concert.

Participants were grateful for the opportunity to share their love for music in the beautiful Caribbean setting.

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!

NEW MUSICAL WORLD PREMIERE: *THE PRINCIPLE WIFE*



Characters Sarah, Rebecca, and Elsa from *The Principle Wife*. Courtesy of theprinciplewife.com

The Principle Wife is set in Southern Utah in the 1800s and it centers around the love story of Rebecca and Benjamin as they embark on a journey of living the one of the most controversial principles established in the early Church: polygamy.

The project began when writers Taylor Vaughn and Mark Greenhaugh were in school at BYU studying Communications with an emphasis in screenwriting. After coming across an old family photo of a great-grandfather seated with several wives, the writers were intrigued by the story behind the picture. The backstory of that picture sparked Vaughn and Greenhaugh's curiosity. "We began talking about developing The Principle Wife when we were still



The old family photo that sparked the writers' curiosity. Courtesy of theprinciplewife.com



At a time when Rebecca and Benjamin faced severe difficulty and uncertainty, could adding more members to the household really be the answer?



in college. We were thinking about our legacy and asked, ‘What is the one story we would like to be known for?’” After several attempts to make it into a feature film, the writers believed the story would be best told as a musical.

So, they recruited Jonathan Keith, a well-known composer who’s written for Netflix, Sony, Disney, and Apple TV and who happens to be a BYU School of Music alumni. Since completing his bachelor's degree in piano, he’s gone on to study at the University of Michigan and the University of Southern California, and has spent the last several years composing music for big-name companies, but the music that Keith composed for *The Principle Wife* brings a special nuance and emotion to the already complex story.

The Principle Wife centers around one important question: At a time when Rebecca and Benjamin face severe difficulty and uncertainty, could adding more members to the household through polygamy really be the answer?

“Watching our show, you will see women who deal with tough things. But in doing so, they develop certain strengths and aptitudes,” said director Tanya Behunin. “Women will be empowered to not be afraid of standing up and doing hard things in their own lives.”

You won’t want to miss the groundbreaking production that these BYU alumni are bringing back to Provo, Utah, this July.

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!

RETIREE FEATURE

SUSAN KENNEY

Susan Kenney was born in Oakland, California, but was raised in Salt Lake City, Utah, and completed her Bachelors of Science in Elementary Education at the University of Utah in 1966. She then went on to complete her Masters of Music in Music Education at Brigham Young University in 1977. After graduating, Kenney began teaching at BYU specializing in teaching future elementary school teachers how to teach children music. Kenney has gained an international reputation among early childhood music educators and created a plethora of music teaching methods, curriculums, articles, and books for elementary school student development. While at BYU, she founded the Young Musicians Academy in the music department.



As a little girl, Kenney's mother put her in dance classes. A short time later, the dance teacher informed her mother that she didn't think dance was for her. Kenney was then found a piano teacher and her whole world changed. She developed immense love for music at a young age and discovered her passion for teaching children. As she continued to grow in her musical abilities, she soon learned the violin and started in choir. "I feel like my journey to BYU was also based on good teachers and leaders that got me here."

After graduating in Elementary Education from the University of Utah and working as an elementary teacher, Kenney was asked to bring some of her students to an administrator's leadership conference and present her teaching curriculum. "I like to think I came to BYU because of a fifth-grade class who presented what they had been learning in music class," Kenney says. The BYU Music Education chair who had been attending the conference asked Kenney if she would like to teach at BYU and the rest is history.



When talking about her time at BYU, Kenney said, "I honed my teaching skills there. I felt so supported and encouraged by the leaders around me that my view of education really grew in those early years." Through the influence and vision of leaders in the School of Music, she founded the Young Musicians Academy at BYU, a lab for parents and toddlers, and is recognized both nationally and internationally for her work in early childhood music education. "When I say I feel like my successes were because of people before me that made things possible, I really mean it," Kenney says.



"I saw my job, not as trying to turn all of the elementary education students into musicians—but as helping them realize they were already musicians at some level. With more confidence, they were ready to survey materials available to teach music, try out music teaching strategies that would, and hopefully motivated them to continue their own music involvement outside of class. I wanted these students to 'know music,' not necessarily 'know about' music. I hoped they would feel music in their souls. Then of course, I hoped they would be motivated to help children's souls through music. In many ways, music was a tool to help children feel the spirit, even though we cannot teach religion in public schools. The far-reaching goal was that children would be provided rich music experiences woven throughout each day, for all of their elementary school years."

After retirement, Kenney is still periodically presenting at national music education conferences, most recently in March of this year in Boston, Massachusetts. She also presents at Utah Association for the Education of Young Children conferences as well at Utah Music Educators Association conferences.

When asked if she had any advice for the School of Music, Kenney responded, "Do not neglect the elementary music education area. It's so important. It's the foundation upon which the other music education students base their work."

By Arielle Cline. Photo courtesy of Susan Kenney.

STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS



BYU SYNTHESIS

In preparation for their tour to Argentina in 2024, BYU Synthesis performed for the Ambassador of Argentina to the United States and his delegation.



BROOKE BALLARD

Brooke Ballard (BM, Piano) was accepted to the University of Oklahoma to pursue an MM degree in Piano Pedagogy Brooke also received an assistantship.



JENNIFER GROVER

Jennifer Grover (MM, Classical Voice) received a scholarship and stipend to pursue the DMA in choral conducting at the University of Miami.



LOGAN REID

Logan Reid (BM, Classical Voice) was awarded a scholarship and stipend to pursue the MM in vocal performance at Wichita State University, where he will study with famed tenor Michael Sylvester.



SAMANTHA GORDON

Samantha Gordon (MM, Classical Voice) was accepted into the vocal scholar track at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music/Spire Chamber Ensemble Choral Conducting Institute.



ANNA LOW

Senior Anna Low competed at the national CS Music Convention and Competition. Anna was a semi-finalist in both classical and musical theatre divisions. She took 2nd place in University Classical, winning prize money and being offered scholarships to AIMS in Graz, Austria (summer opera program) as well as Cleveland Institute of Music.

BOOK *of* MORMON SONGS

Composed by
Christian Asplund

Dr. Asplund has been fascinated with music, improvising, and creating variations on piano pieces since he was four years old. When he was a ten-year-old walking home from school, he realized he heard melodies which he had never heard before running through his head and mingling with the sound of the birds. In reflecting on this revelation Dr. Asplund said, “I realized that it seemed to be a gift.” After this experience, he started thinking about being a composer “and at a certain point I just couldn't imagine doing anything else.”

After being a School of Music faculty member for 21 years as well as doing his undergraduate studies at BYU, Dr. Asplund says that one of the most unique and exciting parts of the university is the ability to be open about his religion and religious beliefs. “My religion is such a big part of my work as an artist that it would be hard for me to keep that separated.” Dr. Asplund has made it his mission to consecrate his talents, and because of this, he started writing hymns and sacred songs in 1990 on a regular basis as part of his religious practice. He has periodically published a series of books of these songs called the Brick Church Hymnal. The Book of Mormon Songs project is Volume 5 of that series.



The Book of Mormon Songs project began for Dr. Asplund during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. He read through the Book of Mormon, found passages that were inspiring or that he felt were musical, and then he set them to music. “This Book of Mormon project was the first time I really went into actual scriptures and set text straight out of the scriptures.” Once he finished making his way through the book, he gathered the completed songs and turned them into a compilation of scores. “Some of the pieces are in four-part choral format, most of them are songs with piano accompaniment, and some are even just lead sheets.” Then January 2023, he presented some of the completed songs in a composition seminar and one of his colleagues, Steven Jones, suggested that he arrange a recital to showcase the pieces. Jones recommended asking singers and faculty in the school of music to join.

The composition premiered on March 24, 2023, featuring several faculty members, including Mark Ammons, Kevin Anthony, Rex Kocherhans, Steve Ricks, Rob Brandt, and Michael Hicks, as well as Dr. Asplund’s wife Melissa Heath, a professional soprano who is a professor at Utah Valley University. The multifaceted performance even included a dancer, Kate Monson. Dr. Asplund is hoping to do an album of the pieces they performed in the recital. “A lot of the singers have agreed to record in the studio it is in the works.”

In retrospect of the project, Dr. Asplund mentioned that he learned a lot in a direction he didn’t think he would. “I’ve learned to get rid of the negative voices during the initial composition process as one can’t be critical while they’re doing their first draft. Otherwise it wrecks the process. You can be critical once you get to the revision process, but the composing and revision processes should be two different things.” He also reflected on the way he treated this project more as an enjoyable pursuit, versus other compositions that are commissioned for an event. “I think this particular project has helped me more in the direction of composing for the joy of it.”

By Arielle Cline



*Listen to other compositions by Christian Asplund by
clicking on the icons down below:*



Waters of Mormon

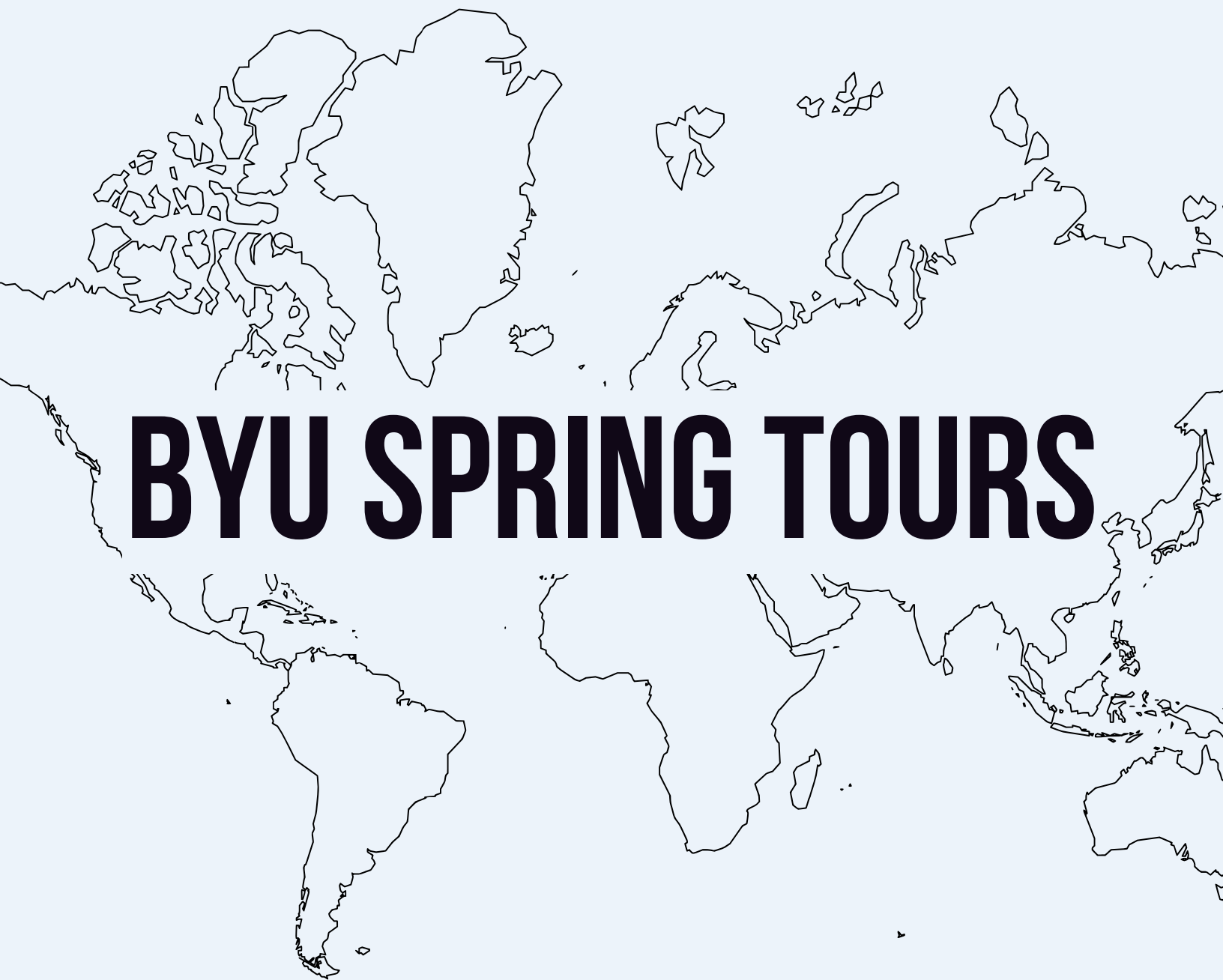


Music Video - Fragility

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 SPRING TOURS

BYU SINGERS' PACIFIC NORTHWEST TOUR

A QUICK LOOK

2,172 miles travelled by bus
38 choir members
31 hours spent on the bus
5 standing ovations
3 states

The BYU Singers are internationally-renowned for their lush mixed voice harmonies. Last year they toured to Spain and the Baltic states, winning many competitions and awards. This tour, however, was not necessarily in the pursuit of additional acclaim—although it certainly was successful. On their regional tour to the Pacific Northwest, the Singers shared light and created friendships through their music by collaborating with many local and regional choirs, always treating their audiences to spectacular programs full of classical and contemporary favorites.



BOISE, IDAHO

The first stop for the BYU Singers was in Boise, Idaho, where they performed in the Cathedral of the Rockies. They were joined by the choir from Rocky Mountain High School and performed classics like “He Watching Over Israel” by Mendelssohn and well-loved tunes like “You Will Be Found” from the successful Broadway show *Evan Hansen*. The Concert was a success and the cathedral was packed from pew to pew!



Top photo: BYU Singers rehearse with the Rocky Mountain High School choir.

Bottom photo: BYU Singers in concert.

KENNEWICK, WASHINGTON

Next stop: Kennewick, Washington. After arriving in Kennewick, several members of the choir and Dr. Crane rehearsed with high school students from the Kennewick School District, teaching them vocal concepts and rehearsing pieces for the coming concert. Their performance was wonderful, and they received a standing ovation at the conclusion of the concert. The choir, as per tradition, greeted as many students and audience members as they could before waving goodbye and preparing to continue their journey to Spokane, Washington.

Photos: BYU Singers collaborate in concert with students from the Kennewick School District.



SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

The BYU Singers traveled to Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington, for the next leg of their trip. Dr. Meg Stohlmann, the conductor of the Concert Choir from Gonzaga University, gave the Singers a tour of the Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center—a new and beautiful addition to the campus. The BYU Singers and the Gonzaga Concert Choir both performed individually, but combined to perform two final numbers for their audience. The collaboration and the concert gave the choirs an opportunity to foster friendship in the musical community.

Top photo: Singers stand outside of the Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center. Bottom Photo: Singers in performance.



SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

From Spokane, the BYU Singers traveled to Seattle, Washington. After exploring the sites in Seattle, the Singers made their way to a local chapel. The Singers were unsure of how many people would attend the concert, due to a last-minute venue change—but by 7:15 PM, the chapel was packed, the overflow was at capacity, and chairs were being set up as quickly as possible in the cultural hall. Many alumni from the various BYU choirs were in attendance—which always makes the performance more enjoyable for the Singers.



David Kime (BM Organ and Piano) shared his experience from the concert on the BYU Singer's Blog. He said that the choir was exhausted after days of traveling on a bus and the performance could very well have been sub par. But no such thing occurred. The performance was spectacular! Mary Ijames flew to Seattle specifically to hear the Singers perform her arrangement of "Someday I'll Meet You Again," and from the very beginning of the performance, the choir was "electrified, fully 'locked in.'" David wrote that the choir acted as one, giving their "receptive, appreciative audience" the very best performance possible. David also shared that, "Heaven felt especially close during 'I Am a Child of God,' and 'How Firm a Foundation,' with the Spirit touching both the choir and the audience."

He continued, "After performances like tonight, my heart feels full to bursting with gratitude. I get to testify of Christ, of His love, and of His power in song with 40 of the kindest, most excellent, and most caring people I know. I feel so blessed that I've been given an opportunity to be one small part of an ensemble made of musical and spiritual giants. Maybe it is the musical excellence of BYU Singers that makes it such a special ensemble, but I believe it is also something so much deeper. I think it is the light of Christ that shines through the music. The Light that changes us, that changes our audiences, that changes the world ... concert by concert, song by song, one heart at a time."

Top photo: BYU Singers perform in a Latter-day Saint chapel. Bottom photo: View of the crowd from the back of the cultural hall.

PORTLAND, OREGON

While in Portland, Oregon, the choir participated in service with some local senior missionaries with the local Just Serve effort. They worked on making posters and cards for recent arrivals to the US. Later, the Singers gathered at the First United Congregational Church to rehearse with the Portland Choir and Orchestra (but, without the orchestra). The choirs each performed several songs individually and then completed the concert together with one final piece.

Photo of choir members at Just Serve activity in Portland, Oregon.



Photos courtesy of the BYU Singers' blog.

WIND SYMPHONY SPAIN & PORTUGAL TOUR

The BYU Wind Symphony had the incredible opportunity to tour Portugal and Spain for seventeen days. They performed in world renowned concert halls, local church buildings, and touched the lives of many members of the Church in over 11 cities. The ensemble had opportunities to serve, experience different cultures, try new food, and create music together at the highest level.

A QUICK LOOK

- 44** members
- 42+** hours spent on the bus
- 11** cities
- 9** standing ovations
- 6** concerts
- 3** devotionals
- 2** countries
- 1** Service Project
- 1** YSA Dance Party

SETUBAL, PORTUGAL

After arriving in Lisbon, the Wind Symphony spent their first days of the tour at the beach and exploring various locations of the city including the Park and National Palace of Peña, the Quinta da Regaleira, and the Belem Tower. On May 5th, a couple days after arriving in Lisbon, the Wind Symphony performed their first concert on tour in Setubal. The venue was full and the audience involved, including clapping and standing during the final piece, “Stars and Stripes Forever,” as well as giving the symphony multiple standing ovations. The Wind Symphony members enjoyed the charisma and love of the audience.

Top photo: Wind Symphony members at the Belem Tower. Bottom photo: Wind Symphony members at the Quinta da Regaleira.





LISBON, PORTUGAL

The next concert was held in the Lisbon Temple Visitor Center on May 6th, making it a tender experience for many of the ensemble members. It was a full audience and after the performance, many photos were taken with the performers. Members of the Wind Symphony who served missions in Portugal had many friends they taught come and support as well. The exuberant audience again showed their appreciation with multiple standing ovations and chanting for an encore.

Bottom photo: Wind Symphony with local missionaries after the devotional



PORTO, PORTUGAL

Next, the Wind Symphony headed to Porto, Portugal for their first devotional on May 7th. The devotional highlighted musical numbers of smaller groups of the ensemble as well as spiritual messages in Portuguese. It was a special experience for both the Wind Symphony members and the young single adults of Porto and opened the door for connections to be made as well as friendships to be formed.



BILBAO, SPAIN

After a long bus drive up to Bilbao, a city in the eastern top of Spain, the Wind Symphony had the opportunity to perform another devotional on May 8th, but this time it was in Spanish. The audience was lively and connections were made as everyone ate together after the devotional. The Wind Symphony felt the love and support of the local church leadership and missionaries greatly through this devotional. Many missionaries brought individuals learning about the gospel of Jesus Christ and they expressed deep gratitude for the music they had heard and the spirit they had felt from the performers.

Top photo: Wind Symphony members after the devotional.



**WATCH THE
WEEK 1 RECAP
BY CLICKING THE
PHOTOS:**

BARCELONA, SPAIN

On May 10th, the Wind Symphony had the opportunity to play in the Palau de la Musica Catalana, one of the most beautiful concert halls in all of Spain. The venue is a historic concert hall famous for its eye-catching design representing Catalan culture and identity through its choice of materials, techniques and symbolism. The concert hall was built between 1905 and 1908 by Lluís Domènech i Montaner and is the only auditorium in Europe that is illuminated during daylight hours entirely by natural light. The Wind Symphony performed in collaboration with a local music conservatory and it was an incredible experience, including over 9,000 euro raised and donated to local charities.

Photos: Wind Symphony performing in the Palau de la Musica Catalana.



MONCADA, SPAIN

Next stop was Moncada, Spain. The Wind Symphony collaborated with music conservatory Centro Cultural Blasco Ibanez in concert on May 12th. It was a particularly special experience to perform "Pepita Greus" by Pascual Perez Chovi, as Chovi was from Moncada, Spain. The audience understood the significance and gave continual standing ovations. After the concert, the Symphonic Band, the audience, and the Wind Symphony celebrated with a traditional "paella" dinner with the Moncada Symphonic Band.

Top Photo: Wind Symphony bowing after their performance. Middle photo: Paella dinner after the concert.



VALENCIA, SPAIN

After spending the morning and afternoon sightseeing or at the beach, the Wind Symphony performed an evening concert in Valencia on May 13th. The stake president in the Valencia stake was a BYU alumni and the music was well received with the audience begging for an encore. The Wind Symphony felt the love of the people strongly in Valencia and many friendships were made after the concert.

MADRID, SPAIN

On May 14th, Wind Symphony's final devotional was held after sacrament meeting in the church right next to the Madrid Spain Temple. They were grateful for the support of the Madrid Spain mission president and his wife as this was in collaboration with the missionaries and YSA stakes of Madrid.

Top photo: Wind Symphony members stand outside of the Madrid Spain Temple.



The Wind Symphony's final concert on tour was held in the Teatro EDP Gran VÍA Theater, in Madrid on May 15th. The line for the concert stretched out of the theater and around the block. It was a landmark concert for the Wind Symphony as this was the last concert on tour. The Wind Symphony members expressed gratitude for such a full show of support and the music played was even more special as the members knew it would be the last time they would all play together as many members of the ensemble were newly graduated and moving onto other adventures.

Photos: Last concert on tour in the Teatro EDP Gran VIA Theater.

LINE FOR
THE FINAL
CONCERT IN
MADRID





"Touring with the BYU Wind Symphony was an experience I will never forget. This tour formed so many valuable relationships, both with those we met overseas, and with the fellow students on the trip. I was touched during each of our concerts as I saw how much our music meant to them. I often take the gift of music for granted as it's been such an integral part of my life for as long as I can remember, but our tour reminded and taught me that not everyone has access to real uplifting music. The language barriers and cultural differences were no match in preventing me from having the trip of a lifetime! It was amazing!"

-Ben Hillam, Trumpet



CLICK TO
WATCH THE
WEEK 2 RECAP



"The 2023 BYU Wind Symphony Tour was memorable in so many different ways. Musically, the Wind Symphony showed time and time again their professionalism and artistry. I spoke to so many people that were surprised by how professional the group sounded. It didn't matter if we were performing in a world-renowned concert hall like Barcelona's Palau de la Musica Catalana or in a church stake center, the BYU Wind Symphony performed at the highest level.

Culturally, it was such a joy to see our students experiencing so many new things, from history to architecture to art, sculpture, and food. For some of our students it was the first time on an airplane and for others, the first time out of the country. It is both personally and spiritually enlarging for students to experience the beauty of our world, so it was gratifying for me to see that.

Spiritually, it was very meaningful to be able to spend time with so many members of the church throughout Spain and Portugal. The excitement in their eyes was contagious and there were many personal connections that I saw and felt. After our devotional in Madrid I met a member that was the same age as our students and she happened to be an oboist. She told me that it was so inspiring to see this many members of the church that are her own age and that she didn't realize that we had such incredible musicians in the church. It was also very moving to end each of our devotionals singing God Be With You Till We Meet Again in the language of the congregation. Even after a few short rehearsals in the bus, our BYU students sang beautifully and clearly in a language that most of them did not understand. Through my own watery eyes, I could see tears in the eyes of our students and in the members in the congregation.

Personally, I was grateful to be able to spend so much time with my students. Times of silliness, testimony, artistry, excitement, fun, awe, and spirituality. I will certainly never forget it!"

**-Shawn Smith
Director of the BYU Wind Symphony,**



RECENT ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENTS



HANNAH COPE

On June 10th, Hannah Cope won the Principal Harp position for the New York Metropolitan Opera. Hannah earned her Bachelors of Music at BYU in Harp Performance and recently graduated with her masters from the New England Conservatory.



DALAN GUTHRIE

Dalan Guthrie who received his BM in 2014 and MM in 2020 from the BYU School of Music, was recently appointed Director of Choral Activities at the University of Nebraska-Omaha for the 2023-2024 school year. He recently completed his DMA in choral conducting at Michigan State University.

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 EMPLOYEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS



MICHAEL HICKS

This year's Best Memoir Award from the Mormon History Association goes to Michael Hicks for his book, "Wineskin: Freakin' Jesus in the '60s and '70s."



ANDREW CRANE

Dr. Andrew Crane appeared as the guest conductor/clinician of the Concert Chorale at the Kantorei Kansas City Summer Choral Institute on June 19-25.

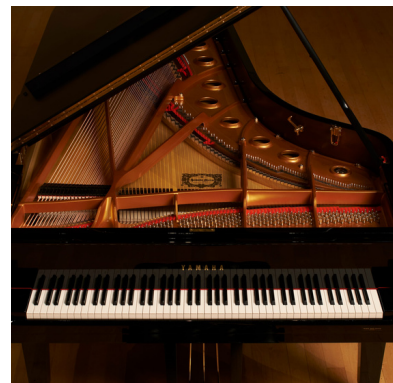
STUDENT RECITALS



EMILY LAMBERT
Viola



MACY MILLER
Organ



ROSIE WHITE
Piano



MICHAEL ZACKRISON
Tuba



JESSICA DORTCH
Oboe



MIRIAM HENDERSON
Cello



ALEXA KNAUPP
Violin



HYRUM YEATES
Organ

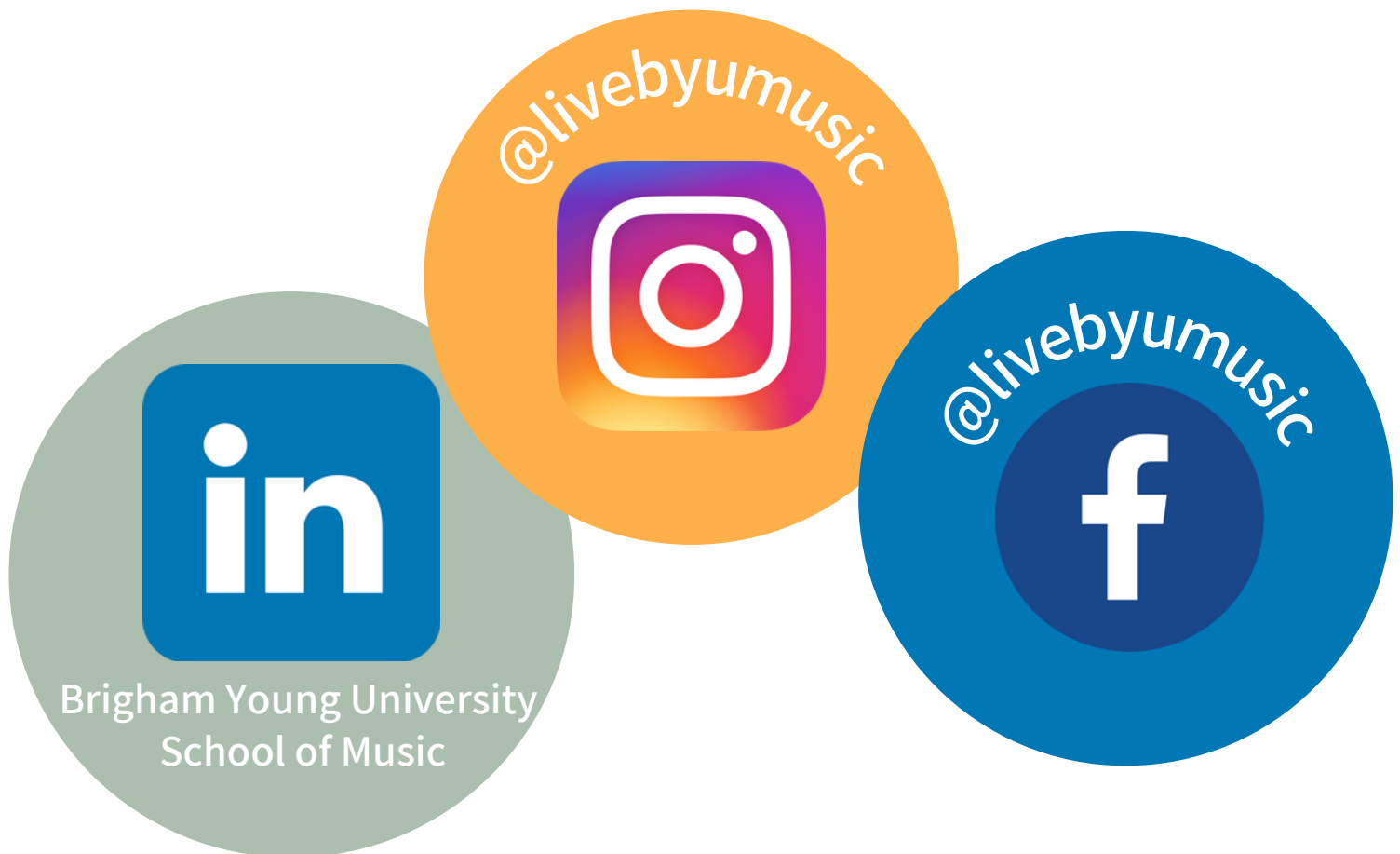


LEVI KELLY
Organ

SOCIAL MEDIA

Like and Follow the School of Music on our **NEW** social media platforms to stay in the loop about events!

Click the icons to visit our pages directly, or search the handles listed below.





DONATIONS

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 determining 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"

Please 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.