

RITORNELLO

Department of Music and Dance West Texas A&M University



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Spring 1998

MARTHA ESTES RETIRES

This year culminates 25 years of employment by WT - then WTAMU as music therapy assistant professor. I find it very difficult to think of words to express my long-standing relationship with all of you and the profession that has grown dearer to me each year. The joys of heading this program far outweigh the frustrations and disappointments. It was traumatic, writing the letter of retirement. However, once done, I am sure of the correctness of the decision.

I have been thinking back to the beginning of the program in music therapy and about people that lighted up my life - like Sara Williams, Jeannie Pool-Thurston, Delinda Henry,



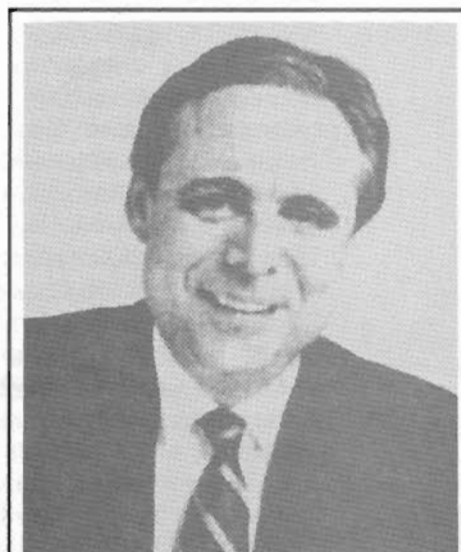
MARTHA ESTES

Gary Thrasher, Pete Demus, Linda Wise-Page, Sally Anderson, Steve Wilder, Amy Hammel, Judy Summersgill, Margarete Hardin Brandenburg, Myron Ice, Nita Goode Demoot, Hudson Caro, Barbara Pierce Mamalitos, Sara Newcomb (deceased) - the list goes on and on. It is wonderful to have been a part of the emerging discipline of music therapy and to have had each of you as students and many of you as friends.

An update on AMTA (the new name for the music therapy association), The American Music Therapy Association, is now official. New standards of practice are available; contact the national office (same address: 8455 Colesville Road, Suite 1000, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3392). As you know, NAMT and AAMT are now one. This is a very positive step. It adds new and interesting dimensions to our field and should broaden the horizons of members of each separate association as we merge.

FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD

I wanted Dr. Haines to write this column, but he's having too much fun in retirement, so I didn't bother him. The most exciting news for the department is the appointment of a new department head, but more about that later. There are three matters I would like to inform readers about before introducing Dr. Haines' successor.



MELVIN RAIMAN

First, next spring (1999) the department will undergo a reaccreditation review by the National Association of Schools of Music. WTAMU has been a member since 1965, and we are fairly confident that we will be able to maintain our membership. We had a preaccreditation visit early in February, and we are in the process of addressing some of the comments which resulted from the visitor's report. Shortly, we will begin the self-study document for the 1999 visitation. Part of that process is obtaining comments and information from alumni. Dr. Joe Nelson will head the self-study committee and is developing a survey instrument. I hope that you will help (continued on page 3)

ALUMNI NOTES

Mary Ruth McCulley ('56-'89 WT music faculty) still substitutes—in frequently, she says—for area church organists. She plans to attend the Texas Music Teachers Association meeting in San Antonio in June and the American Guild of Organists national convention in Denver in late June, early July.

Elsa Porter ('56-'89 WT music faculty) writes "I'm coaching a few of Amarillo Opera's singers and clipping news of all my famous former students, among whom are Mila Gibson, Emily Pulley, Diane Syrcle, Judy Balo Goff, Gary Thrasher, Carl and Kerry Lorey, Robin Mikalunas, and Cloyce Stradley, to name a few."

Judy Smallwood ('65 BME) writes that her husband Joneil passed away on February 13, 1998, after a long bout with lung cancer. She continues to teach in the Snyder ISD and participates in the music of her church. She has one three-year-old granddaughter and another one on the way in September.

Dr. Bryan Burton ('71 BME) recently published another book through World Music Press, "Voices of the Wind: Native American Flute Songs," and performed Native American flute on the companion CD (along with R. Carlos Nakai and Robert Tree Cody). This is his third book on Native American musical culture. In addition, chapters he has written are to be published this spring in MENC's "Making Connections: Multicultural Music and the National Standards" and the Warner Bros.

Publication "Many Seeds, Different Flowers: The Music Education Legacy of Carl Orff." He has also begun a series of articles for General Music Today on published teaching materials for multicultural music education.

Dr. Burton continues roaming the conference trail as well. This fall he presented workshops for Indiana General Music Teachers Association, New York State School Music Association, American Orff-Schulwerk Association, and the Society for Ethnomusicology (where he is a member of the Music Education Liaison Committee). This spring he will present four workshops at the national MENC convention in Phoenix. Dr. Burton has been invited to be one of twelve invited multicultural specialists for the Northwestern University Music Education Leadership Seminar on multicultural education by Bennett Reimer. He will finish the summer with three weeks in South Africa for UNESCO Commission on Community Music Activity at the University of Natal and to present sessions at the International Society for Music Education world conference in Pretoria.

Dr. Burton is professor of music education and coordinator of graduate studies at West Chester University of Pennsylvania (seven years as one and two years as administrator). In his spare time, he continues to spoil his 19-year-old Burmese cat.

Darcy (Walker; '91 BME) and **Dick Clardy** ('72 BME) were married May 31, 1997. Darcy teaches in Garland at Hudson

Middle School, and Dick teaches at The Colony High School.

Kristen Zoffuto, daughter of **Mike** ('67 WT graduate) and **Marcy** ('73 BME) **Zoffuto**, is a freshman music major at WT this year. Marcy is a band director at Cayle Middle School in Garland.

Tim Albritton ('75 BME, '76 MA) "lives in Bowie, Maryland, just about 15 miles from Washington, D.C. I've been here now for 17 years at the same church, (Grace Baptist Church) serving as the Minister of Music.

My wife, Kayla, and I have one daughter, Chandra, who is in her second year at Shenandoah Conservatory majoring in theater.

I don't play my horn [euphonium] much any more, but I do sing a lot at church and in the D.C. area. I spend most of my time working with my choirs and instrumental groups at the church. Right now I have 130 members in my sanctuary choir, and I also direct a small orchestra of about 34 members (many of the musicians are professionals in the area service bands and orchestras). I also work with a high school group as well as direct a handbell ensemble (five octaves). I enjoy helping in the community. I help in the city high school theater productions usually by directing the pit orchestras or by making accompaniment tapes, and I also do some directing for the Prince George Summer Teen Theater in the summers. Right now I am directing a children's theater production of "Really Rosie" to raise money for a new civic

auditorium for Bowie. I still do a little composing now and again but not as much I used to do. . . the last thing I had published was a play."

Carol Sublette ('76 BME; '96 MA) celebrated her 25th wedding anniversary with husband Randy ('75 WTAMU accounting graduate). Randy is still farming in Dalhart. They have two children, Charlie (17) and Cathryne (15).

Margarete (Hardin) Brandenburg ('78 BMMT) received a national award for excellence in ministry. She continues to serve as full-time pastor and "while on my days off, am studying for a master's in marriage and family therapy, and have just achieved the level of black belt in Aikido. Will be part of a chamber music society concert this summer. Had the privilege of taking three days of lessons with Stanley Potter (WT music faculty) last summer—haven't seen him since 1978—was a wonderful reunion and many relearnings. Alumni are welcome to contact me at my e-mail address: marg@carlnet.org."

Kirsten Nelson ('92 BM) finished her DMA at the University of Georgia in December, 1997, and is currently teaching bassoon and music theory at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, TX. She is also a member of the Stone Fort Wind Quintet and principal bassoonist in the Orchestra of the Pines.

IN MEMORIUM

Gladys McCormick ('34 BME) passed away July 9, 1997, in Salem, Oregon.

FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD (cont. from page 1)

us by returning the survey that will be sent to you (I'm not sure when the survey will be mailed). We need your honest and frank opinions of the strengths and weaknesses of our department. We would like to know what you think our strengths are so that we can promote them in the self-study, but we also need to deal with the weaknesses. Our objective is to become a better department, and reaccreditation will help in being accountable to the needs of our students based on the perception of our alumni.

Second, we need to hear from you. One of the most important parts of Ritornello is the information about alumni. We didn't receive as many alumni notes this time as we usually do. I encourage you to send us some information by e-mail (ted.dubois@wtamu.edu) or by regular mail. It's hard to brag about oneself, but if you haven't written to us in the last couple of years, it's your turn! Your friends want to know what you've been up to recently. That's what makes Ritornello worthwhile.

Third, thanks for your continued support of the Showcase of Music scholarship drive. This is our greatest need. We're still not in a position to compete against other schools. We can offer a good education and an opportunity for some really fine

musical experiences, but those don't pay the bills. We appreciate your support.

Now, for the next department head. West Texas A&M University's Department of Music and Dance will begin the 1998-99 academic year under new leadership. Dr. Melvyn L. Raiman will head the department. Raiman, who currently is executive director and president of the Southern Music Conference in Norcross, GA, will begin his tenure at WTAMU in August. He will replace Dr. Harry Haines who retired in December after leading the Department of Music and Dance for 20 years. "This is certainly one of the most important academic departments on campus, and we are very pleased to have a new person in that leadership position, a person who has the demonstrated abilities and experience that will allow us to build on our already strong program and meet new challenges," Dr. Russell C. Long, president, said.

Raiman received his bachelor of music education and master of education degrees from the University of Hartford, Hartford College of Music in 1962 and 1968, respectively. He received his Ph.D. in administration and curriculum development, music education, from the University of Connecticut in 1974. He taught public school in Connecticut and served as curriculum coordinator in music for the Bristol and Bloomfield, CT, public schools. He was an associate conductor of the United States Army Band, 76th

Division, and he was studio musician, recording engineer and producer. Raiman served as chairman of the Department of Music Education at the University of Tulsa (OK) from 1974-1978. He was assistant vice president for marketing at the National Education Corp. from 1978-1979, and he was dean of the School of Music at Millikin University in Decatur, IL, from 1979-1981. In addition to his work with the Southern Music Conference, Raiman is a consultant to colleges, universities and other institutions in strategic planning, curriculum design, market research and corporate training. He and his wife, Laura, have two sons.

A search committee, composed of music faculty and a community member, narrowed the field from twenty-three applicants. "Both students and faculty were really impressed with Dr. Raiman's level of energy, his ideas about recruiting and fund raising, and his vision for increasing our department's strength," Dr. Susan Martin Tariq, assistant professor of music and chair of the search committee, said.

"He was impressed with what is in place now, but he is very interested in moving forward." Dr. Flavius Killebrew, provost and vice president for academic affairs, said he is pleased that the Department of Music and Dance will continue to have quality leadership.

"Dr. Raiman has a lot of experience in marketing and fund raising that should be valuable for that department," Killebrew said. "They've got a good product, and I think the feeling is we need to continue to

deliver the message that we have a quality program."

BAND

Both bands are keeping a busy schedule this semester. The Symphonic Band played a home concert and four additional concerts in Amarillo and Canyon before departing for San Antonio, where they presented an intonation clinic at TMEA. They also performed at Career Day for the visiting high school students. Both bands play two formal concerts in the spring and perform at the annual SHOWCASE concert.

On March 7 the Concert Band hosted the second annual small-school band clinic. Participating schools this year were: Highland Park High School, Isobel Petty, director; Sanford-Fritch High School, Steve Smoot, director; Shamrock High School, David Martinez, director; and Seagraves High School, Greg Diamond, director. All are WT grads.

On March 28 the Symphonic Band hosted the 4A-5A clinic. Our guest conductor this year was James Keene, Director of Bands at the University of Illinois. The bands taking part were: Amarillo High School, Roger Edwards, director; Lubbock Coronado High School, Joel Weisberg, director; Klein Oak High School, Robert Hastings, director; and Midland Lee High School, Randy Storie, director.

The band's final concert this spring will feature Amy Elsner and Raquel Rodriguez as soloists in Gordon Jacob's *Double Concerto* for Clarinet and Trumpet.

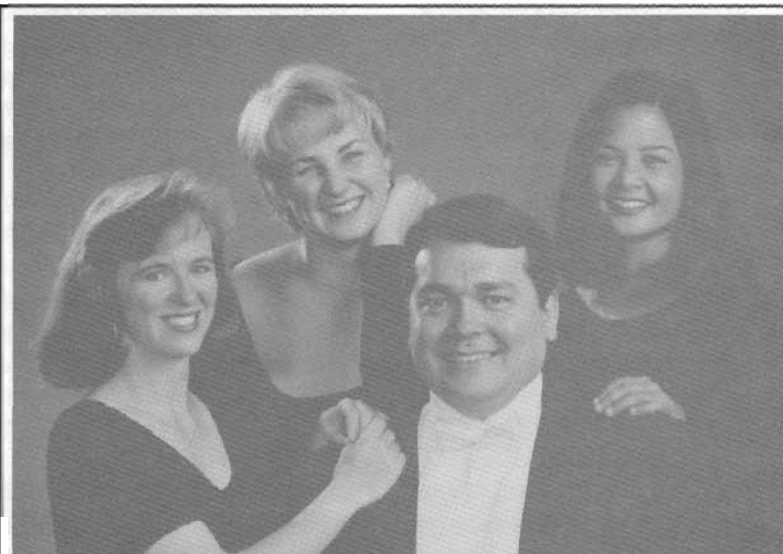
ORCHESTRA

The orchestra got off to a quick start this semester with the annual Concerto Concert on March 1. Five talented student soloists were chosen by competitive audition. They were: Cariann Rohus, flute; Brandon Cameron, bassoon; Daniel Loudenback, saxophone; Chris Johnson, marimba; and Heather Jewell, soprano.

The final concert on May 1 will feature an original composition for strings by freshman violist Jenny Butts of Amarillo. Karla Qualls will perform a Vivaldi harpsichord concerto.

MUSICAL THEATRE

Guys and Dolls, a musical fable of Broadway based on a story and characters by Damon Runyon with music and lyrics by Frank Loesser, opened Wednesday, March 4, and ran through Sunday, March 8, in the Branding Iron Theatre. Royal Brantley and Joe Ella Cansler directed. In 1992 an enormously successful revival opened in New York. It tells the tale of how Miss Sarah Brown of the Save-a-Soul-Mission saves the souls of assorted Times Square riff-raff while losing her heart to the smooth talking gambler, Sky Masterson. Another comic romance involves Nathan Detroit, who runs the "oldest established permanent floating crap game in New York," and Miss Adelaide, the star of the Hat Box Night Club, to whom he has been engaged fourteen years. This was a sell-out run of *Guys and Dolls*. Wish you could have been there!



HARRINGTON STRING QUARTET: from left - Corinne Stillwell, Anne Chalex, Emmanuel Lopez, and Joanna Mendoza.

NEWS FROM THE "NEW" HARRINGTON STRING QUARTET

The "new" Harrington String Quartet has had a wonderful year performing and growing together as a group. Our first concert of the season drew the largest audience in the quartet's 15-year history, largely due to many preview performances on local radio and TV stations, our appearances at the Amarillo Symphony's Beethoven Society's Annual Dinner, the Kiwanis Club, and several soirees at patrons' homes. In addition, we also released a CD featuring some of our fall repertoire.

Recently, we've been reaching out into the community, with performances at the Amarillo Museum of Art, a guest performance for Amarillo College's Suzuki program, a concert in Stratford, and with leading sectionals for the Amarillo Youth Orchestra. We have also given clinics at

Houston's Memorial High School and the School for the Performing and Visual Arts, Permian High School in Odessa, and we will travel to El Paso for clinics at several schools later in the spring.

After our all-Mozart program in March, we will finish the season with a performance of Haydn, Bartok, and Tchaikovsky on May 1, and then travel to Chicago for a week of performances and clinics there and in the Milwaukee area.

Some of our on-going projects include filming a documentary on the quartet for KACV, searching for a graduate string quartet to fill new assistantships, scheduling concerts around the Panhandle and beyond, and finalizing summer plans for this year and in the future.

Individually, we've also been very busy. Emmanuel Lopez gave a solo recital in September, as well as numerous other performances on the east coast during the fall semester.

Currently, he is performing 40 concerts in schools around the Panhandle as part of the Harrington Foundation's outreach program.

Annie Chalex traveled to Europe for a 4-week tour with the American Sinfonietta in November. She performed in Luxemburg, Strasbourg, Berlin, Frankfurt, and Munich. She also collaborated with faculty member Robert Zimmerman for a performance of Schubert's Trout Quintet, and will appear in recital on April 7 with her husband, pianist David Palmer.

Corinne Stillwell gave a concert in New Jersey in October as part of a series which she has directed for several years. She also collaborated with Sally Turk here at WT, and gave a solo recital on March 10.

Joanna Mendoza was the guest clinician at Amarillo College's Suzuki program and in many of the public schools. She will be performing in the Memorial Concert honoring her former teacher, William Lincer, which will be held at the University of Houston in April.

We are all glad to be here as quartet members, teachers, and leaders in the Amarillo Symphony. We hope to continue growing together and becoming a part of the community.

VOCAL RESEARCH LAB ARRIVES

The excitement is like that of the new arrival at Motel's and Tzeitel's house in Fiddler on the Roof, when the tailor's new sewing machine arrives. Oh yeah, and the baby is cute, too!

After efforts of varying intensity over the past four years, funding has at last been

secured to acquire the technology for the vocal research lab at WTAMU. Dr. Robert Hansen designed the lab based on his post-doctoral studies with Richard Miller at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. The lab consists of computer-based spectral analysis equipment, capable of analyzing the acoustical energies produced by the voice. Having a clear graphic understanding of those qualities that listeners judge to be beautiful in the singer's voice will help the voice faculty develop new teaching strategies and will help the students understand their own voices better.

The first phase of the lab includes technology capable of measuring the intensity of harmonic overtones in the voice, measuring the accuracy and purity of vowel sounds, creating a voice range profile, and electronically plotting vocal fold movement. This can be done in real time, and it can be captured for playback and analysis. The technology gives teachers the ability to reinforce, with concrete visual imagery, the ideas that are usually presented in terms of abstract pictorial and aural imagery.

Students from all the voice studios will have access to the lab. They will have the opportunity to see the profile of their singing voices, and to participate in controlled studies of various aspects of singing.

The equipment is the Computerized Speech Lab, and its components, manufactured by Kay Elemetics. Normally, the equipment has applications in speech pathology and speech therapy. Few institutions use the equipment to work with singers, so the lab places WTAMU at the leading edge in

the research of vocal production and training singers.

Generally, work in the lab will be conducted on Fridays. Any interested alums and friends of the department are welcome to come in for a demonstration. Just check with Dr. Hansen (651-2850, or robert.hansen@wtamu.edu) ahead of time to find out what's on the menu!

FACULTY FOOTNOTES

Bill Evans and Laurel Vartabedian, a professor at Amarillo College, have been collaborating for the past year-and-a-half in the writing of a musical theater production, the subject of which is the "Ludlow Massacre." This event, which happened in Colorado in 1913, was one of the important turning points in the formation and growth of the labor movement in early America. The action of the work is set in the coal mining camps of Colorado and also in New York City, from where John D. Rockefeller, Jr. operated his various businesses or, at least, received reports of their operation from his underlings.

The first public fruits of this collaboration have been two performances of a synopsis of the story with some of the music in a "Readers' Theatre" format---the first in Denver in February and the second on the WTAMU campus in March. Evans and Vartabedian are presently investigating various avenues for funding the development of a full staging of the work.

Cloyce Beard Stradley is now the director of a male singing group on campus called *Sforzando* (sfz for short). They

have been very active. Last semester, they performed for many organizations in the Canyon/Amarillo area and are becoming very fine ambassadors for the music department and our relationship with the community. Since it's a small group (usually seven or eight people), they are more easily available for many performances.

Doug Storey and Sally Turk led the clarinet and flute ensembles in performances at TMEA.

"I know that a good number of you were in attendance at TMEA, but I want to update you on the performance that happened the last day of the convention. It was a time period that saw many in attendance at the general session where important business that affects you takes place, so here's what we did.

The clinic was titled "Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Something Blue" and included music of all types for each of the ensembles. We included all of our majors in the program, so we presented about 40 woodwind players. For some, it was a first venture into this kind of critical audience and a very exciting visit to San Antonio (not all of our students are well-traveled), and they certainly represented WTAMU well. We had asked them to come back two days earlier than the band did (before the start of the spring semester) and held many extra rehearsals with amazing cooperation. Our normal rehearsal time is 3:30-4:20 on Thursdays. That is just not enough time, and so much happens between rehearsals (as I'm sure you remember) that we



SHOWCASE COMPETITION WINNERS: INERTIA - from left front: Alan Miller, Chris Johnson, Geoffrey Elsner, back row: Eric Rath, and Corey Tice.

had to find some concentrated time periods. We are certainly privileged to have students with wonderful attitudes at WT!

A number of new arrangements and adaptations (by Storey, Turk, and graduate John Gaertner) were presented, as the focus was to expand the literature available to woodwind ensembles. In all, it was a great experience, and we would like to thank Randy Storie for offering us the opportunity to showcase these students."

Dr. Susan Martin Tariq and the WTAMU percussion ensemble presented "Percussion Solos with Percussion Ensemble Accompaniment" at the Texas Music Educators Association Convention in San Antonio on February 14. Soloists with the ensemble were graduate student Geoffrey Elsner from Midland, senior Robin Brannon from Borger, and juniors Alan Miller from The Woodlands and Corey Tice from Dumas. It was wonderful to

see so many alums from the ensemble's 1991 TMEA performance in the audience.

WTAMU DAY of PERCUSSION

Dr. Susan Martin Tariq and the percussion department hosted the WTAMU Day of Percussion on February 28. The program began with a snare drum fundamentals clinic by alum Mike Sheffield with his beginning students from Westover Park Middle School and a cymbal clinic by alum Brad Bledsoe. Sheffield and Bledsoe are both members of the Amarillo Symphony. Alum Greg Koyle presented a marimba recital/masterclass and was featured soloist in the evening concert performing Ney Rosauero's *Concerto for Marimba* with the WTAMU percussion ensemble. Koyle's masterclass was followed by a marching percussion clinic by Lamar Burkhalter of Houston. The afternoon session began

with a high school percussion ensemble contest. The outstanding ensemble was Permian High School under the direction of alum John Carroll. The contest was followed by a drum set clinic by Dr. Tariq. The final event of the afternoon was a recital of UIL Class I solo literature performed by WTAMU percussion students. The evening concert included a performance of Christopher Rouse's *Ogoun Badagris* by Permian High School and several works by the WTAMU ensemble with solos by Koyle, Burkhalter, Elsner, Miller, and Tice. The final piece on the concert, *Suite for Solo Drum Set* by David Macinin, featured Tice on drum set and Koyle, Burkhalter, and Sheffield on percussion. The attendance at the event was 150 students, parents, and directors. Thanks goes to Jent's House of Music, Yamaha Corporation of America, Zildjian Cymbals, and Marimba One for sponsorship.

MUSIC THERAPY CLUB NEWS

Hello from WTAMU! Back in November we had thirteen students attend the national conference in Los Angeles. What a great turn out! Jessica Smith, our local music therapy club president, was announced as the first AMTAS president. Rachel Baker and Jennifer Berry were also selected to serve on national committees (professional advocacy and government relations, respectively). Congratulations! We plan to have several students at the regional conference in Waco this March. The upperclassmen in our program have been meeting several times a semester,

sometimes as often as every week, for what we call senior seminar. We discuss important music therapy issues such as the merger and its effects on us as students, what to expect in an internship interview, how to handle problems you may encounter during your internship, how to study for board certification, and standards of practice and ethics. Juniors and seniors have found this very helpful in preparing for graduation.

We are getting ready for two big performances this spring. April 3rd is the department's Showcase of Music where we

will be singing and signing a medley of folksongs. On the 27th of April, the music therapy club will be hosting a music therapy demonstration. The demo will consist of various student presentations exhibiting research, example activities, improvisation techniques, and maybe even a community drum circle. Our hope is to inform the public of what music therapy can be.

An update from the regional conference of the American Music Therapy Association in Waco:

Martha Estes was granted an honorary lifetime membership

in the AMTA, southwestern region.

Offices held by WTAMU graduates are- **National:** Ameka Badgett, Julie Long, Dellinda Henry; **Regional:** Flora Elmore, vice president; RRV editors: Laraq Bledsoe, Mechelle Lamberson, Diane Hinds.

Students almost made a clean sweep in terms of offices: Kay Britten, president; Rachel Baker, secretary; Kerry Dowler, treasurer. Jennifer Berry was awarded the Internship Scholarship over all applicants from the southwestern region.

Congratulations to all our alumni and students!

RITORNELLO

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