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NPR Music (Aug. 14)

Jeremy Siskind On Piano Jazz

Pianist Jeremy Siskind seems to be on everybody's short list these days. A recent graduate of the **Eastman School**, he has won several impressive competitions and was one of only 12 pianists nationwide chosen for Marian McPartland's list, too.

At the start of the session she recalls, "When I heard him play, I knew I must have him on Piano Jazz right away." . . .

There is something about the way that McPartland and Siskind play together — they're simpatico, like two halves of the same musical personality. The changes they play, the way each uses the left hand, the harmonies they string together give one the feeling that these new friends have actually played together for a long time. The joy they have playing together is contagious. You can feel it in their versions of "There'll Never be Another You," and Oscar Peterson's "Kelly's Blues."

Pittsburgh Post Gazette (Aug. 9)

'Music entrepreneurship' helps young musicians chart careers in a crowded market

Overpopulation, poverty and stagnation: The way the classical music industry is described these days you'd think it's a Third World country. The recession has made an already tough existence even tougher for music students and those already looking for jobs. . . .

Cutler and others see the new environment brimming with possibilities, even as it has shut down or backlogged traditional routes. "It is hard, but there are opportunities that weren't there before," he says. "If [your quartet] tries to get a gig at Carnegie Hall, you might be up against 300 quartets, but if you go to a smaller community you can make it work."

One sterling example is the **Ying String Quartet**, which began its career in the 1990s as the resident quartet of Jesup, Iowa, a farm town of 2,000 people. It performed in homes, schools, churches and banks, with a philosophy that "concert music can also be a meaningful part of everyday life."

The Ying Quartet's off-the-beaten path garnered national interest and forged its musicality as a group so that today the quartet is considered one of the top in the world, playing more typical venues such as Carnegie Hall.

Beckman, Cutler and others at schools, such as the University of South Carolina, the **Eastman School of Music** and the University of Colorado, are on the cutting edge of entrepreneurship programs and courses emerging to train students to forge their own paths.

New Tang Dynasty Television (Aug. 3)
**NTD's Chinese International Vocal Competition -
An In Depth Report**

We're here at the Gerald W. Lynch Theater at New York's John Jay College, for NTD's third International Chinese Vocal Competition. . . . Day one and contestants have come from all over the world to demonstrate their abilities on stage. Up for grabs, prizes of up to ten thousand dollars.

Contestants must be of Chinese descent and songs can be Chinese or Western. There's one other rule, the performances must not glorify or contain the influence of the Chinese Communist Party. 45 contestants compete throughout the day for a place in the semi finals. Having completed a full day of singing, contestants are now eagerly awaiting the results of who will go through to tomorrow's semi-final.

22 contestants made it through. One of them was Coco Chen. She had high hopes for day two.

(Note: Eastman School of Music Student Ke Chen (Coco) won third place in the competition).

13WHAM-TV (Aug. 4)

Restoring A Piece of Rochester's History

Norma Holland visited Artisan Interiors on Mt. Read Blvd in Rochester where craftsmen are restoring the chairs at the Eastman Theatre one at a time.

Colorado Higher Ed News (Aug. 5)

**CSU-Pueblo Presents Tribute Recital to Honor
Duncan's 50+ Years**

A music professor who gave more than five decades of service to Colorado State University-Pueblo will be honored by his former students as part of a tribute recital Aug. 16. The career of James Duncan (left) will be featured as part of the 3 p.m. concert by music alumni and tribute by faculty colleague Victoria Markowski in Hoag Recital Hall on Sunday, August 16.

Since he joined the CSU-Pueblo faculty in the fall of 1958, he has taught courses in piano, piano ensemble, and music theory. . . . In demand as an adjudicator in piano, Duncan has judged competitions in Colorado, Idaho, Oregon, California, South Dakota, Kansas, Texas, New Mexico, and New York. . . . He has co-authored a text on music theory published by Holt, Rinehart and Winston and has written several magazine articles on piano and piano ensemble. . . . He served as a music critic for the Pueblo Chieftain and the Pueblo Star-Journal for 12 years and continues to write program notes for the Pueblo Symphony.

A graduate of Central Methodist College (Missouri) and the **Eastman School of Music**, University of

Rochester, Duncan also completed graduate study at the Teachers College of Columbia University in New York.

Watertown Daily Times (Aug. 5)

Seniors sharing joy of music

Ronald E. Berry put down his trumpet after college and didn't pick it up again until shortly before his retirement. Now, the 60-year-old retired engineer says he gets more joy out of music than he ever did — and he wants to share that excitement with other seniors.

In partnership with the New Horizons International Music Association, Mr. Berry is founding a band for senior citizens here. The group is meant for retired people with little or no musical experience.

Roy Ernst, a professor emeritus at the University of Rochester's **Eastman School of Music**, founded the first New Horizons band in 1991 with 10 members.

The Cherokeean Herald (Aug. 5)

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The opening concert of the Stephen F. Austin State University 2009 Chamber Music in the Pines Festival will serve as the Nacogdoches debut performance for John Noel Roberts, the new director of the SFA School of Music. Roberts and his wife, Jean, will both play the piano during the "Romanticism Concert" at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 8, in Cole Concert Hall.

The Texas native received his Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees from the **Eastman School of Music** and a Master of Musical Arts and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from the Yale University School of Music. *(also reported by the Tyler Paper Tyler Morning Telegraph)*

The Valley News (Aug. 5)

**Jazz singer Nancy Kelly to perform at Fulton Jazz
Fest**

Nancy Kelly, one of central New York's top jazz vocalists, will showcase her unique vocal style with a free performance beginning at 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 8 during Fulton's Jazz Fest. A native of Rochester, Ms. Kelly, who studied voice at the **Eastman School of Music**, has been performing professionally since forming her first combo at the age of sixteen.

Batavia Daily News (Aug. 6)

Eastman Theatre being transformed

The Eastman Theatre has closed while it undergoes a major architectural renovation. The changes will transform the theater -- which opened as a movie palace in 1922 -- into a concert hall with box seats and improved acoustics. The renovations are designed to

enhance the concert experience for both audience and performers.

The venue is scheduled to reopen in October as Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre. The renovation will reduce seating capacity to 2,250 from more than 3,000.

Democrat & Chronicle (Aug. 7)

Break of Reality retunes its cellos

A victim of its own success, Break of Reality has retooled its cellos in time for tonight's return performance at Roberts Wesleyan University.

"We are not looking to become a metal cello group, which is something we have experimented with in the past," says Patrick Laird, one of the three cellists in the **Eastman School of Music**-driven quartet. "They can get that from Apocalyptica" — a Finnish chamber group specializing in re-interpreting Metallica — "or any metal group. We still have strong, driving rhythms, but also tons of melodic parts, as well as the pyrotechnic sections. We want to appeal to a lot of different listeners. We thought if it was too heavy, we would be alienating a lot of people."

Democrat & Chronicle (Aug. 7)

Concert celebrates Niewood, his music

A major tribute to the late Rochester-born saxophonist Gerry Niewood is, thankfully, in the works. Several first-class musicians, including his lifelong friend and bandmate Chuck Mangione, will come together at the Eastman Theatre at 8 p.m. Oct. 14 for an evening of Niewood-inspired music.

Others expected to play include saxophonist Pat Labarbera, trumpeter Lew Soloff and saxophonist Adam Niewood (Gerry's son), along with the Eastman Jazz Ensembles, pianists Harold Danko and Bill Dobbins, guitarist Bob Sneider (who played in Mangione groups with Niewood) and others. . . .

The memorial service for Niewood was held March 2 in Glen Ridge, N.J., where Niewood had lived for more than three decades. The Oct. 14 concert — **Eastman School of Music** Salutes the Musical Legacy of Gerry Niewood — is designed to pay tribute to his music and to raise funds for a Gerry Niewood Memorial Jazz Scholarship at the Eastman School.

Democrat & Chronicle (Aug. 7)

Elizabeth Buccheri and Richard Boldrey: Romantic Music for Piano Four-Hands.

Piano four-hands repertoire (two pianists playing at one piano) can be some of the most challenging out there. For one thing, each pianist only gets half the range of the piano (there are some tricky hand crossings occasionally). Second, you have to balance the musical

lines not only with your two hands, but between you and your partner. Buccheri, an **Eastman School of Music** graduate and former Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra pianist, and her Chicago duo partner Boldrey crank out the notes with ease and flair. The music is mostly lighthearted and quick, but the most fun is discovering Romantic music written by a few unknown composers, such as Mily Balakirev and Georges Onslow. —Anna Reguero

Ottawa Citizen (Aug. 9)

Ying family prove they have the talent, and the patience, of a stellar quartet

It doesn't seem fair: four siblings who play string instruments well enough to form an international-calibre string quartet. Yet that's what we heard in Dominion-Chalmers United Church Thursday evening.

What's more, violinists Timothy and Janet, violist Philip and cellist David Ying apparently get on well enough with one another to make it work, whether in performance, recording or in education. In the last capacity, one of their distinctions is being Quartet in Residence at the **Eastman School of Music**.

Thus it came as something of a surprise to learn that first violinist Timothy is retiring from the ensemble to live a more settled life in Toronto with his wife and three children.

Democrat & Chronicle (Aug. 9)

Gateways Music Festival celebrates African-American classical musicians

The first time trumpeter Herbert Smith played in the Gateways Music Festival — one of the only music festivals in the country featuring all African-American classical musicians — it was one of the few times he has been able to connect with his culture through classical music.

"This is completely new to me," he remembers thinking at the time. "I've never been on stage with all African-American musicians playing music."

The Gateways Music Festival, a biennial event which will return to Rochester later this week, has given musicians like Smith a place to make a statement about the importance of inclusion and give African-American musicians a place to convene.

Smith, a graduate of **Eastman**, also moonlights as a jazz trumpeter and teaches at the **Eastman Community Music School** in addition to his third trumpet position at the RPO. He says his background never held him back from becoming a professional musician.

Broadway World (Aug. 12)

Award-winning Playwright-Director Stephen Stahl Will Direct SOUVENIR At New hope Arts Center, Performs 8/20-9/6

Casey Molino Dunn is known for his rich baritone voice plus his range of dramatic and musical performances. He has appeared with Manhattan's Dicapo Opera Theatre, Mercury Opera/Rochester Philharmonic, and the Eastman Opera Theatre. Performances have also taken this Kunkletown, Pennsylvania native throughout the eastern United States as well as to Italy and China. . . . A multi-faceted musician, he is active as a keyboardist and this past year became the Director of Music at Rutherford , New Jersey's Congressional Church. He recently received a Master of Music degree from the University of Rochester's **Eastman School of Music** and is also a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill .

Bennington Banner (Aug. 13)

World-class Hyperion Quartet joins MMF Aug. 13

The Hyperion String Quartet, founded in 1999 at the **Eastman School of Music**, will perform works by Schubert, Shostakovich and Dvorak at the Aug. 13 concert presented by the Manchester Music Festival. Described as "vivacious" by New York City's WQXR classical radio station and "a single living breathing organism ... bringing grand and glorious life to the music" by Classical Voice of North Carolina, the two violins, viola and cello combination has won numerous competition prizes. (*Also reported by the Manchester Journal*)

The Boston Globe (Aug. 13)

A detailed Liszt

Janice Weber has quite a rep as an interpreter of the classics, particularly Liszt. The pianist has been described in Time magazine as a masterful liberator of the "prophetic music" of the composer's 1838 "Transcendental Etudes." Not just focused on the past, Weber is also a champion of modern composers, particularly Leo Ornstein. A graduate of the **Eastman School of Music**, she has performed at the White House, Carnegie Hall, and Symphony Hall.

Aspen Times (Aug. 13)

Hodkinson counters classic notions of contemporary music

The concert was already a week in the past, the composer was 75 years old, and the crowd that showed up was there to see composers who are far older than that. Still, the world premiere of his String Quartet No. 5 performed by the Jupiter String Quartet at an Aspen Music Festival chamber music concert in late July was giving composer Sydney Hodkinson visceral pleasure.

"It's the best thing that's happened to me in the last five years, both the performance and the piece," said the septuagenarian Hodkinson, who has been a composer in residence in Aspen, and the director of the Aspen Contemporary Ensemble, since 1998. "It turned out to be a very strong piece. And they played the living crap out of it. It was written in 2001, and as it turns out, worth waiting for." . . .

So much for the idea that contemporary music is joyless and unpleasant, and that the people who compose it couldn't care less about the audience's reaction to it. While the string quartet may have been a recent highlight, Hodkinson is witness to that sort of energy and passion on a regular basis. He is retired from the **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester, N.Y., where he taught for a quarter-century, but in northeast Florida, when he's not swimming, Hodkinson occupies the Almand Chair of Composition at Florida's Stetson University. And in Aspen, where he came at the invitation of music director David Zinman, he leads concerts by both the Music Festival's composition students and by the Contemporary Ensemble.

Sun News (Aug. 15)

New Cleveland Heights High orchestra director Daniel Heim is ...

Daniel Heim brings a rich background to his new position of instrumental music teacher and orchestra director at Cleveland Heights High School.

In his first year as a full-time teacher in public schools, from 2008-2009, Heim was named Teacher of the Year at Miller South School for the Visual & Performing Arts in Akron. Heim earned a master's degree and licensure in music education from Case Western Reserve University, where he graduated last year.

His bachelor's degree, in viola performance, is from the **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester, N.Y. He also has done post-graduate study at the University of Michigan.

All About Jazz (Aug. 17)

Large Ensembles: Is There a Place in This Large Music World?

The big band in jazz has a long and glorious history. It was a prevalent form in jazz music in the '20s and '30s, comprising a substantial part of America's popular music heard on radio, spun on gramophones and record players, and enjoyed in dance halls. It gave rise to iconic band leaders like Fletcher Henderson, Count Basie, and the maestro, Duke Ellington; as well as a slew of talented and renowned individuals who made their names in history as big band leaders: Claude Thornhill, Artie Shaw, Glen Miller, Jimmie Lunceford, Stan Kenton, the Dorseys and many, many more. . . .

Maria Schneider has paved the way in recent years with her fabulous orchestra, a Grammy and armfuls of industry awards. Darcy James Argue composes and arranges for a fine group in New York City that is rising to critical acclaim and gaining a following. . . .

For Dave Rivello, who leads the Dave Rivello Ensemble in Rochester, N.Y., getting players has been easy because the **Eastman School of Music** is located in his city and so musicians are plentiful. "I couldn't have my band here if it wasn't for the school," he says. The band released *Facing the Mirror* this year, its first major recording (Allora Records). The music is not easy to play." . . .

Rivello studied at **Eastman** with Rayburn Wright, a highly respected music educator from whom Rivello took a lot and is ever grateful. He calls his association with Brookmeyer, which included working for him as a copyist, invaluable. "I consider that my doctorate... Words don't even describe what he gave me." . . .

Rivello, who formed his band in 1993, does freelance arranging and music copy work. He also holds a part-time teaching job at **Eastman**. Along with running the band, all those functions take up so much time that it's hard to find time to keep up on his instrument, the trumpet. "I miss playing," he notes, "but the trumpet is a very unforgiving instrument. Every time I started to feel like getting in shape (for playing)," work--often with a deadline--turns up in one of his various areas of expertise. "I run out of time in the day."

(Note: Maria Schneider is a graduate of the Eastman School.)

CNYLINK Syracuse Eagle Newspapers (Aug. 17) **Skaneateles Festival gives intimate concert to eager audience**

Approximately 75 people were invited to the hillside vineyard to hear selections of classical music that will be played throughout the coming weeks of the Skaneateles Festival. According to festival Executive Director Susan Mark, the preview was an opportunity for those who may not normally attend the concerts to hear the sounds.

To give the casual crowd a taste of what was to come during the festival, co-artistic directors David Ying on cello and Elinor Freer on piano played for the audience. For the last five years, Ying and Freer have taken on the task of being co-artistic directors. The husband and wife team, who make their home in Rochester where they both work for the **Eastman School of Music**, had been long-time audience members at the festival when they were asked to take over in their current capacity.

Philanthropy Journal (Aug. 18)

New arts-fund chief aims to keep the beat

As a student studying percussion at the **Eastman School of Music**, Scott Provancher says, he learned a musician's job is "trying to communicate" and becoming "part of an orchestra or band to get people excited and make them feel good about what you're doing."

As a fundraiser and leader at professional orchestras and arts funds, he says, he has put those lessons into practice, spending "a lot of time ensuring that you're connecting with your potential donors, connecting with the community and shaping your strategy based on that feedback."

Provancher says listening and communicating will be critical in his new job as president of the Arts & Science Council, which made big cuts this year in its staff and benefits and in the funds it distributes to arts and culture groups after its annual fund drive earlier this year fell 31 percent short of its \$11.2 million goal.

Estes Park Trail-Gazette (Aug. 19)

Voice and piano concert in Allenspark Sunday

Soprano Elizabeth (Betsy) Blades Skinner and pianist Margaret (Margie) Patterson will present a benefit voice/piano recital at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 22, at 16716 Highway 7 in Allenspark. . . . Skinner received both masters and doctor of musical arts degrees from the **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester, N.Y., where she also taught classes in voice and vocal pedagogy. She has had a long career in opera, operetta and Broadway musical theatre with roles ranging from Violetta in "La Traviata" to Hannah in "The Merry Widow" to Eliza Doolittle in "My Fair lady."

Forest City Summit (Aug. 19)

Alumni celebrate time at Britt-West Hancock Schools

The Britt-West Hancock Alumni Association held their annual Alumni Banquet on Aug. 7 at the West Hancock Elementary School. . . . The highlight of the evening was the Alumnus of the Year Court of Honor. This year's alumnus of the year was Lois McCallum Hopkins, class of 1944, presently living in Pennsylvania. She graduated from Morningside College and **Eastman School of Music** and did post-graduate work at Kent State University in Ohio. She taught music classes at Youngstown State University in Pennsylvania for 35 years and at Westminster College for 15 years. She is also an accomplished composer having composed hundreds of compositions for band, chorus, schools and hymnals. She also played horn, piano and organ in many symphonies, orchestras and choruses.

The Nation (Aug. 21)

Quintessence: A Musical Reunion

Thailand's top classical musicians are coming together for an evening of chamber music in a concert titled "Quintessence: A Musical Reunion", this Sunday at 6 pm, at the Church of Christ. . . . Pianist Pornphan Banternghansa returns to make her much anticipated first appearance since receiving her doctorate in music from New York's prestigious **Eastman School of Music**.

All About Jazz (Aug. 24)

Ron Carter: Finding The Right Notes

Songwriter and vocalist Gil Scott-Heron said that his basslines "glowed in the dark." Trumpeter Miles Davis proclaimed him the "anchor" of his groundbreaking quintet of the 1960s. And he literally laid down the groove for the Tribe Called Quest's hip-hop classic, "The Low End Theory."

From 1960 to 2009, whether the music is rock, pop, bop, post-bop, fusion or third stream, you will find one constant presence. A tall, quiet black man, whose bone-thick basslines have provided the foundation for modern music. Whether it was with reed player Eric Dolphy, or as the chief bassist for Creed Taylor's pop-friendly CTI label, Ron Carter is easily the most ubiquitous jazz musician of the last half century, with over 1,000 recordings as a leader and sideman to his credit. But as influential as he is, he is also an enigma. His recent recordings are in the U.S. via a licensing deal with a Japanese company. And like a sphinx, his quiet nature belies an intimidating devotion to the music, and a fierce pride that can be overpowering.

Such a figure would be a challenge for any biographer. Fortunately Dan Ouellette's biography, *Ron Carter: Finding the Right Notes* is an informative, insightful, and engaging read that unveils all of the complex inventions and dimensions of this important artist. Ouellette, a contributor to *Down Beat* and former editor at Schwann Spectrum and columnist for *Billboard*, had unprecedented access to the usually guarded Carter, and he interviewed dozens of musicians including keyboard players Chick Corea, Herbie Hancock and Dr. Billy Taylor, saxophonist Jimmy Heath, hip-hop artist and producer Q-Tip, and bassists Buster Williams, Christian McBride, Charlie Haden and Dave Holland.

What Ouellette reveals is a musician with a firm grasp on his role in the music. The writer's pacing is like that of his subject's playing: steady, with a natural rise and fall befitting of the subject matter. For those familiar with Carter's biography, all of the main parts are detailed: his birth in Ferndale, Michigan, just outside Detroit in 1937 to a solid, middle class family; his

schooling in the Motor City's Cass Tech High School, where he changed from cello to bass; his intense studies of European classical music at the **Eastman School**, where as a student he was studied by the conductor Leopold Stokowski; and his dues paying gigs in New York in the 1950s and 1960s.

WHEC TV-10 (Aug. 24)

Eastman School of Music move-in day

Its move in day at the Eastman School of Music. Organizers say about 140 freshman are moving in today and so far, it's been a smooth process."

Ben Fang is coming from Seattle, Washington. This 18-year-old says he's here to master all aspects of acoustic guitar. He gave us a sample and is definitely headed toward musical success. . . .

Ben says he didn't realize just how much Rochester has to offer. "What brought me to Rochester? Eastman, basically. I hear Rochester's a pretty cool town though with a lot of music here because of the music school."

MPNnow (Aug. 27)

DISC-OVERIES: "Facing the Mirror" by the Dave Ravello Ensemble

The Dave Ravello Ensemble's membership has fluctuated as members have moved on — as most have been master's or doctoral students at the **Eastman School of Music** — but the constant has been bandleader Ravello. The composer, arranger and conductor teaches part-time at Eastman, directs its New Jazz Ensemble — and, for 16 years now, has directed his own 12-member group to showcase his original compositions.

WREX-TV (Aug. 28)

RSO Announces New Youth Symphony Conductor

The Rockford Symphony Orchestra is pleased to announce the selection of Mr. Daniel Black as the new conductor of the Rockford Symphony Youth Orchestra. Mr. Black will begin his artistic leadership of the RSYO this September.

Mr. Black currently resides in Evanston, IL where he is a doctoral candidate in orchestral conducting at Northwestern University. Originally from Milwaukee, WI he received a Bachelor's degree in composition from the University of Wisconsin - Madison, a Master's Degree in conducting from the **Eastman School of Music**, and a diploma in symphonic/operaic conducting from the St. Petersburg Conservatory (Russia). In addition to conducting festival and chamber orchestras in the US, Canada, and Russia, Mr. Black has composed prize-winning works for horn and orchestra, wind ensemble, and brass quintet.

California Chronicle (Aug. 29)

The Charlotte Observer, N.C., Lawrence Toppman Column: 'Mamma' Touring is Musician's Dream

You may be music director of one of the most popular Broadway touring shows, bringing pleasure to millions. But the joys of the road don't run to champagne cocktails. Luxury is the sweet tea served between Saturday shows in Memphis, where ushers bring the crew a home-cooked meal. So says Bill Congdon. He's spent the last five years on tour with "Mamma Mia!", which left Charlotte this month.

His job is an itinerant musician's dream: a steady paycheck in an uncertain economy, leading a musical that's nowhere close to exhausting its audience's demand. (It has just started playing split weeks in smaller venues such as South Bend, Ind., and Rockport, Ill.) Yet it has one big drawback: Though his home and partner are in east Charlotte, Congdon has stayed there just one week in each of the last four months.

"I couldn't imagine not having done this," says Congdon. "It's the dream I never knew I had. But my relationships and my home are the most important things, and it takes a lot of thought to keep that balance."

He didn't fall into this gig until he was 42. Congdon graduated from South Mecklenburg High School, East Carolina University and **Eastman School of Music**, where he took a master's degree and specialized in percussion. He had played as a teen in the Charlotte Youth Symphony and Charlotte Pops Orchestra, so he had classical connections. But after returning to Charlotte in the mid-'80s, he didn't hook up full-time with an orchestra.

Democrat & Chronicle (Aug. 30)

Rochester writers

Musical Exoticism: Images and Reflections by Ralph P. Locke (Cambridge University, \$99). The author argues that Western attitudes about foreign cultures have played an underappreciated role in the proliferation of Western music from the Baroque era to today. Musical Exoticism outlines trends in such locales as Japan, the Middle East, Spain and Latin America as well as of the Gypsy (Roma) culture. The book reveals how those portrayals have been presented in opera, instrumental music, popular song, Broadway musicals, jazz and film scores. Locke, a professor of musicology at the University of Rochester's **Eastman School of Music**, lives in Brighton.

Orlando Sentinel (Aug. 30)

Stetson's teacher of the year shares passion for music

Noel Painter was unaware that he had won the most prestigious award given to Stetson faculty members until it was announced at spring commencement in May. His students are driven by his high standards and expectations, inspired by his enthusiasm for his subject," said Michael King, the previous year's winner, at the ceremony. Especially gratifying to Painter: Students and faculty pick the winners of the McEniry Award for Excellence in Teaching. Painter, 40, of DeLand received his doctorate in music theory from the prestigious **Eastman School of Music** at the University of Rochester. The Asheville, N.C., native has been on the Stetson faculty since 1999 and currently directs the music-theory curriculum. He spoke with Orlando Sentinel staff writer Luis Zaragoza.

(Note: There are numerous references every day in the media identifying musicians and scholars as Eastman School of Music alumni or current or former faculty; this report includes selected clippings.)