

# ***IAMA Online Notes***

**December**  
**2017**

## **President's Message**

***Lynn Wheeler, President, IAMA***

***Merry Christmas!*** It is Christmas Eve as I write this message. I am a little nostalgic as the end of 2017 approaches because I retired from full-time teaching in July (even though I am still teaching two days a week). The state of music in our education system has certainly changed in these past 55 years!

My teaching career for the denomination began at the academy level in 1962 while still a student. At that time academies typically had three music teachers: choir, band, and keyboard; now it seems if an academy hires a music teacher, that person has to cover all of the music areas plus at least one subject such as history, physical education, religion, etc.

When I came to teach at PUC in 1971, we had thirteen music professors: 3 in band/winds, 3 in choral/voice, 2 in orchestra/strings, a percussion teacher, an organ teacher, and 5 piano teachers in addition to several contract teachers. Most of the time when I served as chair of the music department from 1986 until 2010 we had six full-time music teachers, but beginning this year there are only three.

Leaders of our denomination have set a lower priority on music than in the past. They cannot carry all the blame, however, because financial budgets are a concern. The Rieger pipe organ at PUC is needing expensive repair, and I recently talked to one of the church board members who feels we should not repair the pipe organ, but let it be a museum piece at the front of the church, and get an electronic organ to be placed in the balcony. This year they are already hiring a non-Adventist to play the organ for church services and important college events. I also know of at least two colleges which have hired non-SDA's to chair their music departments as "acting" or associate chairs.

Depressing? Yes, but let your spirits be lifted by the stellar accomplishments of what is reported in this and each edition of our online *IAMA Notes*.

This issue of Notes has many interesting items you will want to read more about:

- The Oakwood University Aeolians and their director winning the top prize at an international competition in Wales!
- A new B.Mus. Degree in Music Therapy at Washington Adventist University
- Reunion of the Atlantic Union College Aeolians
- The Montecito International Music Festival at La Sierra University
- Updates in *Segue*, *Personal Notes*, and at the IAMA website
- The *Obituaries* list the recent passing of colleagues which reminds us about how transient life is. I noted Leland Tetz's name with whom I worked here at PUC when we were much younger.

Please let us know more about the good things happening in your area. Read on, be encouraged, and may you have a blessed musical New Year!

## News

### *Oakwood University Aeolians named 2017 Choir of the Year*

The OU Aeolians competed and won in the finals of the World Competition during the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod in Wales, on July 5-9, 2017. An earlier first place win in the Youth Choir Category in the festival qualified them to compete against four other choirs in the finals, where they were successful and awarded the top prize, 2017 Choir of the World Pavarotti Trophy. Director Jason Max Ferdinand was awarded the Gwobr Jane Davies Prize for Outstanding Conducting, a new award at the festival.

The Aeolians and the festival started within a year of each other in 1946 and in 1947, respectively. The Aeolians was started by Eva Beatrice Dykes, the first black woman in the United States to complete all requirements for a Ph.D., a feat she accomplished in March 1921 at Radcliffe. That spring, she and two others became the first black women in the U.S. to earn Ph.D. degrees. Prior to coming to Oakwood, she had taught with distinction at Howard University for fourteen years.

In December of her last year at Radcliffe, Dykes had joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It was a commitment she took seriously. Even though she had been a child prodigy and was an accomplished pianist, she used her ability in every possible way to assist in the evangelistic mission of her church.

OC had just claimed senior college status and although it was unaccredited and had an unrestricted admissions policy when she began to teach there in 1944, Dykes believed she could make a contribution in that setting. During the rest of her career she became a major force in upgrading the college's programs and helping it achieve accreditation as a four-year institution.

Although her primary responsibility was teaching English and Latin, she also conducted the OC choirs for many years, organizing the Aeolians in 1946. It was a double octet of eight men and eight women organized from within the church choir.

The group has had a succession of gifted conductors who each in their own way led to a group that now enjoys an enduring national and international reputation for musical excellence. The choir has won in several national and international competitions in recent years, including several HBCU (Historically Black College and University) competitions and others.

Ferdinand, director of choral activities at OU, has conducted the Aeolians since 2008. He attended Caribbean College, now University of the Southern Caribbean, before transferring to OU, where he graduated in 1999. He completed an M.A. with high honors at Morgan State University two years later, and a D.M.A. at the University of Maryland in 2015.

## **Washington Adventist University to offer B.Mus. in music therapy . . .**

Washington Adventist University (WAU) has been approved to implement a new Bachelor of Music Therapy degree program. WAU is the first Seventh-day Adventist institution in North America to offer this degree.

The new four-year program will be offered within the WAU Department of Music and will prepare students for careers in music therapy. Music therapists enjoy careers in general and psychiatric hospitals, day care facilities, nursing homes, substance abuse programs, forensic facilities, hospice programs, and schools, as well as in private practice.

“Music Therapy is a growing field that has seen miraculous results in a variety of settings,” said WAU Music Department Chair Daniel Lau, D.M.A. “It is so gratifying to be able to offer this degree at WAU.”

The new program will build student competencies in musical, clinical, and music therapy foundations and principles; and it culminates with an internship at a site approved by the American Music Therapy Association (AMTA) or one affiliated with Washington Adventist University.

Program graduates will be eligible to take the music therapy national examination, administered by the Certification Board for Music Therapists (CBMT). Those who pass the exam will be granted the “Music Therapist-Board Certified (MT-BC)” credential, which confers on them the ability to practice as a music therapist within the CBMT scope of practice in the United States.

The music therapy degree program is approved by The National Association of Schools of Music, and recommended for implementation by the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC). Along with the new Music Therapy (BMT) degree, the department of music also offers a B.A. in Music, and a B.Mus. in music performance, and music education.

The above is excerpted from an article at the WAU website: <https://www.wau.edu>

## **Atlantic Union College Aeolians Reunion**

AUC Campus      April 20-22, 2018      Contact Terry Koch at  
[terrko2@charter.net](mailto:terrko2@charter.net)

## **Montecito International Music Festival 2018**

La Sierra University Campus (July 16- August 4, 2018)

*Celebrating its Tenth Year*      Information: 626-493-6180  
[registrar@mpntecitomusicfestival.com](mailto:registrar@mpntecitomusicfestival.com)

### **Segue**

#### **Cristian Neacsu**

Assistant Professor of music, Orchestra director, Burman University. A violinist, Cristian has a D.M.A. from the University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign; M.Mus. from the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music; and a B.Mus. from Andrews University.

#### **Adam Pardy**

Music, Cariboo Adventist Academy, Williams Lake, British Columbia, Canada

#### **Qian Yin**

Performer at Burman University. Qian has a D.M.A. in violin performance from the University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign. She is married to Cristian Neacsu.

### **Personal Notes**

#### **Adriana Perera**

Adriana Perera, chair of the Andrews University department of music and associate professor of theory and composition, is a pianist and composer.

**She is an active musician who has composed over 200 sacred works that are performed frequently around the world. She has taught music at the high school and collegiate levels for over twenty years.**

**Adriana was born and raised in Uruguay on March 31, 1970, one of two daughters of Jose and Wilda Larrarte de Perera. She was raised in a home surrounded by music. Her father was an amateur musician with a rich baritone voice who sang often in a male quartet and in Camerata, a vocal ensemble at the Instituto Adventista del Uruguay.**

**She started piano lessons with Nair de Perera at age six and entered the Vittoria Schennini Conservatory two years later. She would subsequently study recorder and marimba with Leticia Freire and classical guitar at twelve with Maria Perezat. She later related how she developed her ability to memorize music and improvise:**

**When I was about to turn twelve, I asked my father to buy me a bike for my birthday, and he said he would, if I memorized the Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal - so I did! I will never forget that March 31<sup>st</sup>, when I sat in front of the piano, at home, and dad selected some hymns... I had to play all of them by memory. When I finished, there was a bike waiting for me in the garden!**

**My father did that so I could be a piano accompanist at my local church. I was timid and he thought that if I learned all the hymns by memory, I would become more confident when I played in public. That experience was fantastic, because I gained confidence, and from that moment I decided to memorize everything before I played in public. When I was 13, I was accompanying the high school choir, the church chorale, and my father's quartet.**

**Leticia Freire, our music teacher in middle school, was the person who nurtured my passion for music. She organized musical theatre events, in which we had to create melodies, design costumes, invent instruments, learn to play ethnic instruments that she owned, and so much more. We met and practiced three times a week in her home. She had been a missionary in the Amazon, where she had collected indigenous and world instruments, which she displayed in her living room. After the rehearsal time, she always had some hot chocolate or lemonade,**

**We loved to hear her stories about life, music, ministry, and a young, revolutionary, creative Jesus. I also discovered my passion for composition with her. She encouraged me to play by ear when she realized I had a gift for improvising. She would give me three notes, and then let me play the marimba, recorder, piano, or whatever instrument she had at hand to create a musical piece. She loved jazz and introduced me to both it and classical music. I was totally amazed by her love for people and music, in that order.**

**Adriana completed elementary, middle school, and two years of high school, including the middle school music experience, at Instituto Adventista del Uruguay. She completed high school at Instituto Adventista del Plata in Argentina in 1986. During her high school years, she had taken college classes, and two years after graduating from high school she received a B.Mus. in piano performance and music education from IAP.**

**In 1989 she moved to Spain and pursued a master's degree in piano performance and accompanying at Conservatorio Joaquin Rodrigo, Valencia. Following completion of her study there, she earned a master's degree in theory and solfege**

at the Conservatorio Superior de Valencia in 2001. She also studied orchestra and band conducting with maestro Ferran Ferrer at the Allegro School of Music.

During these years in Spain, Perera taught high school music at the Colegio Adventista de Sagunto, gave piano lessons from 1989 to 1997, and conducted the vocal ensemble Amanecer from 1990 to 1997. In 1997 she took first prize as "Best Choir Conductor" in the Certamen de Villancicos Choral Competition. From 2000 to 2006, she conducted the CAS chorale and served as the Conservatorio J. S. Bach chairperson and choir director, professor in piano and solfege, and composer in residence for the J. S. Bach orchestra.

In 2006, when her family moved to the U.S., Perera continued her education at Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee. She graduated summa cum laude in 2009 with an M.Mus. in music composition, having studied with Bryan Clark, William Pursell, and Paul Godwin. She is currently completing doctoral studies for a D.M.A. in music composition at the Universidad Catolica de Argentina.

From 2006 to 2008, she worked at Oakwood University as an accompanist and teacher of accompanying and piano. From 2008 to 2017 she held the rank of associate professor at OU, where she also taught theory and composition. She became chair of the department of music at Andrews University in 2017.

Perera continues to perform as a pianist, doing a live recording for 3ABN in 2009 and giving a recital in 2010 that featured music by J.S. Bach, Beethoven, Granados, and a composition of her own for violin and piano. Proceeds from her album, *Canta Comigo, a Project from Children to Children*, were used by Spain's ADRA to provide running water for children in Peru. This album and project earned her the 2000 ADRA award for Best Solidarity Project.

She is a prolific composer and is the recipient of numerous commissions. Perera's writings have included three religious musical comedies: *Bascule* (2000), *La Promesa* (2002), and *Jesus, Version Original* (2004); fifty songs for soloist and piano; fourteen children's songs; five sacred works for SATB choir and piano; an oratorio, *Crossing Point*, and several chamber music works.

Some of her writings are included in the SDA Spanish hymnal, *Bienvendos a Ador*, and in the Portuguese youth hymnal, *Louvor e Adoraco*. She also penned the 2007 and 2010 theme songs, *Love Care and Serve* and *Win the Race*, for the SDA General Conference Youth Department. In January 2012, her work, *Psalms 146*, for SATB choir and organ/piano, was the winner of the Huntsville New Music Festival. The Oakwood University Choir, directed by Jason Max Ferdinand, premiered it during the festival.

Perera has published several articles and two books on music and worship: *En Espiritu y en verdad* (Pacific Press Publishing Association, 2013) and *More than Music: Worship* (Biblio Publishing, 2017). She is interested in research related to the African-American legacy in music and its influence on contemporary choral music.

Perera has been married to Francisco Burgos, a baritone and assistant professor in the department of religion and Biblical languages at AU, since 1993. They have two children, Laia and Marcos, who play violin and flute, respectively.

## **Lynn Wheeler**

Lynn Wheeler, professor and former chair at Pacific Union College retired at the end of this year after teaching for 51 years. He began his career in 1966, teaching for one year at Portland Union Academy, now Portland Adventist Academy, before accepting a position at Columbia Union College, now Washington Adventist University, where he taught until he accepted a position at PUC in 1971. In his 46 years at PUC, he also chaired the department for 24 years. He continues to teach piano as an emeritus professor.

Lynn graduated from Walla Walla College, now University, in 1966. He completed an M.Mus. in piano performance at Catholic University of America in 1971, and a D.M.A. at the University of Oregon in 1976. He gained membership in Pi Kappa Lambda for the music program at PUC and upgraded its pianos. He served as a representative for the National Schools of Music (NASM) and was an evaluator in reviews of over twenty member schools.

During this year's PUC Alumni Weekend in April, the music department arranged an afternoon concert at which several of his former piano majors performed. In the reception that followed, he and his wife, Charlaine Amey, greeted the many students, former colleagues, and friends who gathered to congratulate them for their contributions to the college.

Lynn, a charter member of IAMA, has served as its president since 2009.

Thank you, Lynn, for your support of and leadership in IAMA.

## **IAMA Website**

Many revisions have been made in the biographies at the website since the last mailing of *Notes*. A partial listing of the revised and corrected biographies is printed below. See SDA Musicians listing at [www.iamaonline.com](http://www.iamaonline.com) for other changes (marked with asterisks) since AMBR was released in 2014.

*Updates or suggestions for corrections or additions are welcome:  
shulda@charter.net.*

### ***Updated and Revised Biographies at the Website***

***(Since Autumn/Winter Online Notes***

***[www.iamaonline.com](http://www.iamaonline.com)***

**Jason Max Ferdinand**

**Donald Haynes**

**Cedric Haussler**

**Doris Haussler**  
**Melvin Hill**  
**Paul Hill**  
**Claire Hodgkins**  
**Wayne Hooper**  
**Betty Lawson**  
**Adriana Perera**  
**Aquila Patterson Read**  
**Norman J. Roy**

## **Obituaries**

### **Betty Joanne Tormoehlen Lawson**

June 3, 1933 – August 27, 2017

Betty Lawson was a mezzo-soprano, choir director, and voice teacher who enjoyed a long and successful career as a soloist, giving concerts and lyceum programs featuring mostly sacred music and on occasion operatic arias at high schools and colleges. She was featured with many choirs in productions of oratorios and other works, conducted the Samoan Gospel Heralds, an all-male chorus in Hawaii, for 25 years, and recorded three albums with Chapel Records in 1962, 1963, and 1968. She and her husband, Gene Lawson, a physician, lived in Hawaii for many years. She was living in Loma Linda at the time of her death.

Biography at [www.iamonline.com](http://www.iamonline.com) and AMBR, 452, 453

### **Aquila Patterson Read**

January 21, 1933 – May 25, 2017

Aquila and her husband, John, taught at Campion, Shenandoah Valley, and Collegedale academies before accepting positions in 1962 at Southwestern Junior College, now Southwestern Adventist University. She completed a B.Mus.Ed degree with a major in organ in 1974 at the school which had become a senior college in 1971. She both taught at the college and assisted with organ duties at the college church. She and John were responsible for the installation in Evan's Hall of a Casavant two-manual pipe organ which was sold in the 1980s, much to her disappointment. She maintained a private studio in their home and held Sunday church positions for over 50 years, in some instances also serving as choirmaster. She came to believe that her real calling was to serve as a church musician. She is survived by John, three sons and three grandchildren.

Biography at [www.iamonline.com](http://www.iamonline.com) and AMBR, 684-686

### **Leland Robert Tetz**

August 14, 1938 – December 7, 2017

Leland, singer and conductor, taught and served as an administrator in two college and two academy music programs in a career that spanned over forty years. He was born in Lacombe, Alberta, Canada, and attended Forest Lake Academy, Washington Missionary College, later Columbia Union College, now Washington Adventist University, and Southern Adventist University where he completed a B.Mus.Ed. in 1960. While teaching at Takoma Academy, he completed an M.Mus. in vocal performance and classwork for a doctorate at Catholic University. He subsequently taught at Pacific Union and Columbia Union colleges, serving as chair at the latter for three years. He held several church music positions and ended his teaching career at Mount Vernon Academy, where he taught for six years until 2007, four years past his official retirement.



## **Amazon Smile Foundation . . .**

IAMA is listed with the Amazon Smile Foundation. If you regularly make purchases at Amazon.com, you can contribute a certain percentage of the cost of your purchase to IAMA, without adding any additional cost to your purchase. Simply enter through [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) and Amazon will donate 0.5 percent of each eligible purchase to the organization of choice (International Adventist Musicians Association). Thanks!

## **Contributions Solicited . . .**

IAMA works on a shoestring budget with typical annual expenses totaling \$300 to \$500. These include incorporation, website, and domain and mailbox fees, mailing expenses, and research expenses for SDA history and ongoing biography research. We previously relied on dues to support activities of the association but now rely on donations.

Contributions of any size are welcome and should be sent to:  
IAMA PO Box 476, College Place, WA 99324

Thank you!

## **Bulletin Board**

### **Known SDA Music positions for 2018-19 schoolyear Summary/Status/New listings**

For more detailed information on unfilled positions, see  
[www.iamaonline.com](http://www.iamaonline.com) SDA Music Positions

### ***Walla Walla University* <sup>(1)</sup> *Music Department Chair***

#### **Description**

The Department of Music at Walla Walla University invites applications for a fulltime, tenure track faculty position in music to begin as soon as possible but not later than July 1, 2018. Duties of the chair include leading the Department of Music

in its academic program and performance activities, including curriculum development, recruitment activities, financial decisions, accreditation matters, and community outreach.

The ideal candidate will have administrative experience and a commitment to building the music program in collaboration with colleagues and other academic departments. The ideal candidate will also need to teach either music theory or history as well as studio teaching in a performance area (such as woodwinds, voice, or strings) since the position includes a part-time teaching load. Teaching skills in composition, music technology, improvisation, music education, or ethnomusicology are also desirable.

The music program of Walla Walla University is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM). The department offers a Bachelor of Arts in music and a Bachelor of Music degree in performance or music education. The department also offers a minor in music, and the ensembles include substantial participation by student musicians majoring in other disciplines.

### **Qualifications**

The successful candidate will be a Seventh-day Adventist dedicated to integrating faith with teaching, performance and scholarship. An earned doctorate is preferred with an exceptional record of excellence in teaching and performance.

### **Application**

Interested persons should fill out an application online at <http://jobs.wallawalla.edu> and include a cover letter, CV. Three letters of recommendation are to be sent to Pam Cress, Interim Chair, Department of Music, Walla Walla University, 204 S. College Ave., College Place, WA 99324. Consideration of applicants will continue until the position is filled.

### **Contact:**

If you would like further information, please contact Dr. Pam Cress, Interim Chair, Department of Music by phone at (509) 527-2420 or e-mail at [pam.cress@wallawalla.edu](mailto:pam.cress@wallawalla.edu)

To learn more about WWU's music program visit the following web site at <http://music.wallawalla.edu>

## ***University of Southern Caribbean*** (2,3)

### ***Possible openings***

*(A continuation of a listing first posted in the last IAMA online newsletter)*

### ***Description***

These appointments can be made on short-medium term contracts as individuals are available. Persons who may be interested in pursuing the option of a sabbatical are also welcome. Come enjoy life in the tropics while giving service and helping to build a solid music program at one of the oldest tertiary institutions in the Caribbean region. Kerron Hislop, music department chair

### **String Teacher / String Program Coordinator**

#### *Responsibilities:*

- Teach Applied Music classes in Strings to university students
- Teach Private Lessons in strings for the university's Music Program
- Help create/develop the Music Department's String Program
- Help develop a String Ensemble/Orchestra
- Assist in the recruitment of players for the string program
- Other music-related duties as qualifications allow.

### **Choral Director**

#### *Responsibilities:*

Manage and direct the university's choral ensembles including:

- University Chorale (large ensemble)
- University (chamber) Singers
- Manage and develop the overall Choral Program including exploring options for growth and expansion.
- Assist in the recruiting of members for the choral ensembles
- Assist in the teaching of related music program content, e.g. Conducting, Piano, Choral Techniques etc. Any additional expertise would be appreciated.

### **Contact Information:**

Email: [music@usc.edu.tt](mailto:music@usc.edu.tt)

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/uscmusictt>

Instagram: [uscmusictt](https://www.instagram.com/uscmusictt)

Twitter: [@music\\_usc](https://twitter.com/music_usc)

Phone: 1 (868) 662-2241 ext. 2507/2519

**You are invited to send news, information, or links to performances by yourself or your ensembles . . .**

*Dan Shultz, Editor*

*IAMA publications and website*

[shulda@charter.net](mailto:shulda@charter.net)

*509.525.8252 Pacific Standard Time*