

Oakwood University President's Spring Message Sets Stage for New Musical Composition

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The Oakwood University Church sanctuary was packed to capacity on Sabbath, April 18, when President Delbert Baker delivered an inspiring Spring Message entitled, "Simon of Cyrene – Crossing Point." The sermon focused on how life events that seem at the time to be interruptions or disruptions to our daily routines can become the signal incident that saves our very lives.

It offered a close-up of the encounter that Simon of Cyrene, a black man from North Africa, had with Jesus when he was called on to assist the Savior with the cross after He had fallen beneath its weight on His way to Calvary—a divine interruption that became the crossing point in Simon's life.

Dr. Baker's 20-minute sermonette provided the backdrop for the Passion oratorio that was to follow. It was truly the icing on the cake, performed by the Aeolians, the Oakwood University Wind Ensemble, and the Belmont University (Nashville, Tenn.) Chamber Ensemble, and conducted by Aeolians director, Jason Max Ferdinand. The elaborate musical composition, entitled *Crossing Over*, was

dramatically narrated by OU alumnus Timothy Allston and was written by OU music department adjunct professor and piano accompanist Adriana Perera as part of her Master's



Simon of Cyrene Oakwood University
Alan Collins, sculptor

thesis on Negro spirituals. It received two standing ovations and called many a handkerchief out of obscurity.

At a private luncheon reception held later that afternoon, Perera shared a few thoughts about

what inspired such a soul-stirring composition with family members, friends, and guests who had traveled to OU's campus that Sabbath to hear the first official public performance of the composition. It was inspired, she said, by a private moment spent with family one evening at the foot of the Monument to Service, an 8-foot bronze statue in the center Oakwood's Centennial Square that depicts Simon of Cyrene assisting Jesus with the cross. The statue, which was sculpted by Alan Collins and dedicated in the fall of 2006, evoked such deep feelings of appreciation for the biblical account of Simon's personal encounter with Jesus on the way to His crucifixion that it became the theme of her Master's thesis on Negro spirituals.

Perera, who is the daughter of missionary parents, drizzled snippets of Negro spirituals throughout this new composition. Having lived in South America and Spain during her childhood and adolescence, she was always fascinated by spirituals.

When asked why she chose this musical genre as the subject of her thesis, she responded, "It is a very special music, and has been translated

Hotline

President's Message



C. Lynn Wheeler

For more than twenty-five years now we Adventist musicians have been keeping in contact with each other through IAMA. Much has been accomplished with job postings, our website, IAMA Hotline, *Notes*, and the histories of our North American Adventist colleges and other aspects of Adventist music. These accomplishments are due primarily to the efforts of two people - Elsie Buck and Dan Shultz.

Elsie served as our president for seventeen years. She has been a

guiding force in bringing many of the projects of our group to fruition. The financial assistance and support she and her husband contributed made it possible for IAMA to continue through the past quarter century. Without her leadership there were several times when our organization would probably have been disbanded.

Dan Shultz has been at the heart of IAMA from its conception. He has authored and/or edited all of our publications. He has sleuthed out information concerning the histories of our colleges that would easily have been lost forever by visiting for hours with people who either remembered or knew where to find information. It is impossible to imagine how many hours he has spent in the researching and writing of biographies. His remarkable skills have also made it possible for all of this information to be collected on our website. In many ways Dan IS IAMA!

The concern, though, is that an organization cannot be totally dependent upon only a couple of

people. There is still much to be done. Although histories of North American Colleges have been written up to the beginning of the 21st Century, time keeps marching on. Our future needs to continue being archived, and there are colleges in other countries whose music histories need to be written. I am sure there are still other musicians who need to be included in the biographies. Is your biography there? How about your teachers, students, or colleagues?

We all need to feel a responsibility for our organization. I would encourage you to write an article to be included in *Notes*, or a biography of someone who has been inadvertently omitted. Or maybe you have an idea about something you would like IAMA to do - please share it with us. And almost all of us could contribute a few dollars extra beyond our dues to help with expenses. By all of us becoming involved, IAMA can continue being an important voice within our church.

C. Lynn Wheeler

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IAMA LOGO



IAMA's Logo, created in a few seconds with the quick movements of a writer's quill, Is a cluster of notes from Beethoven's sketchings for Symphony No. 9.

Hotline Notes

A summary of news provided by the *IAMA Hotline*, a service of the International Adventist Musicians Association. Additional information: IAMA, Box 476, College Place, WA 99324 Dan Shultz Editor

Oakwood . . .

into about 300 different languages. There's something about how each of these spirituals has its own story. I think God has somehow protected that music."

However, when she shared the subject of her thesis with her graduate professor at Belmont University, he didn't like the topic. "He felt I didn't have enough of a background," she explained. But the gifted Uruguayan composer

persevered and gained access to many of the original musical manuscripts.

After diligent prayer and study, Perera took on the four-month challenge of writing the musical score that would trace the steps of Jesus on the Via Dolorosa, all the way to Calvary. It took another month, Perera said, to write the lyrics for the composition in English, her

second language. With the support of Oakwood Music Department chair Audley Chambers, Ph.D., Aeolians conductor Justin Max Ferdinand, and vice president for Academic Affairs John Anderson, Ph.D., what has resulted is a moving contribution to the music arena that will surely find its rightful place among the annals of inspired compositions.

Walker Memorial Academy Steel Band wins Top Prize in East Coast Competition



The Fire 'n Steel band at WMA in Highland Park, Florida, was the grand prize winner in the instrumental category in Universal Studio's annual Music USA Festival, held in Orlando on March 27, 2009. They were in competition with concert bands and other instrumental ensembles. The USA competitions, which are held in New York and Washington, D.C., as well as Orlando, are the most prominent musical events for middle and high school choirs and instrumental groups on the East Coast. In the competition with other steel drum groups they won first place, which then qualified them for possibly winning the grand prize. One of their members, sophomore Gopaul Sankar, was also chosen as one of five outstanding soloists in the festival. The 18 members of the group, directed by Leonard Caan, are drawn from grades 7-12. They must be able to read and memorize music, play rhythmically, and be members in the school band. Source: Southern Tidings 6/9

SDA College/University Enrollments

Enrollment information available as of 17 November 2009 . . .

Andrews University

3,589 students are enrolled, an increase of 170 students or 5% over the previous high-enrollment school year. Overall, headcount enrollment has increased by more than 30% over the last eight years. Additionally, the undergraduate enrollment of 1,816 students is the highest undergraduate enrollment since 1984. There are 483 freshmen overall (the highest in more than a decade). Graduate student enrollment is 1,625 students, the highest graduate student enrollment in more than 10 years.

Atlantic Union College

461 undergraduate and graduate students are enrolled, a 19% increase over last year.

La Sierra University

1,857 undergraduate and graduate students are enrolled. This year's freshman class is La Sierra's largest of the past three years, a 12.2% increase over last year.

Oakwood University

1,861 students are enrolled this year, an increase over last year's record enrollment. The president of the OU has promised to do a high-board jump when it reaches 2,000.

Pacific Union College

1,511 students are enrolled this year, an increase of 11.1 % over last year's enrollment.

Southern Adventist University

2,891 students are enrolled, an increase of 4% over this past year. There are 603 freshmen, the second highest freshmen class ever. This year also marks the university's 14th successive year of continuous growth.

Union College

883 students are enrolled this year, a larger number than the school had anticipated.

Walla Walla University

1808 undergraduate and graduate students are enrolled this year, an increase over last year.

Washington Adventist University

1,049 undergraduate and graduate students are enrolled, a 17% increase over last year. Freshman enrollment is 47% higher than a year ago.

Columbia Union College renamed Washington Adventist University

Known for nearly a half-century as Columbia Union College, the Adventist college in the nation's capitol changed its name and identity to Washington Adventist University this summer. The school, which celebrated its centennial during the 2003-2004 school year, was first named Washington Training College and then Washington Foreign Mission Seminary before becoming Washington Missionary College in 1914, a decade after the school was founded. It retained that name for 47 years before being renamed CUC in 1961.

The music department, under the chairmanship of James Bingham for the last fifteen years, has gained widespread recognition for the quality and activity of its ensembles. Construction of a new music facility, a longstanding need, will begin during this year. Information about the building will be provided, as it is available.

Music Major Enrollment and Faculty in SDA Colleges and Universities in the U.S. and Canada 2009

428 students are enrolled this autumn as music majors in SDA colleges and universities in the U.S. and Canada. This compares with about 275 in a similar survey in the 1990s when both public and private colleges and universities across the country were all experiencing low enrollments.

Since the beginning of the 1970s, when there were 77 full-time music teachers in SDA colleges and universities in North America, there has been a gradual decline. There are presently 55.

Current enrollment figures are from a survey of chairs in October/November this year. Other data are from IAMA files. ds

IAMA Election Results

In the election held this spring, the following IAMA officers were elected to serve on an interim basis for two years (November 2009 - October 2011):

**C. Lynn Wheeler, President
Carlos Flores, Vice-President
Dan Shultz, Secretary/Treasurer**

In the interim, the IAMA *Hotline* will be serving as the primary conduit for news, articles, and posting of music position vacancies. At IAMA's annual board meeting on November 22 in San Diego, the board reviewed and endorsed a prototype of a four-color newsletter that summarizes *Hotline Notes* information that will be mailed in early January. It also voted to accept a recommendation that dues be reduced to \$15.

Biography Project Nears End

Now in its tenth year, the biography project will end in summer 2010. Over 830 SDA musicians and their biographies have now been listed and the final number will likely exceed 1,000. Since there have been *thousands* of musicians associated with the Adventist church since its beginnings, the intent of this project from the start was to create a listing of the most famous as well as a sampling or cross section of musicians from all eras and areas of musical service. There have been numerous invitations extended to present musicians to participate in the project. If you have not yet responded, we invite you to do so.

A reference book with these biographies will be published at the end of the project.

Contact Dan Shultz for additional information and forms needed to be included in this project: shulda@charter.net

New biographies at the Website

www.iamaonline.com

Florence Standish Abel
Vernon E. Andrews
Gerald Babanezhad
Brett Barry
Vonda Beerman
David Bell
Gordon L. Brown
Helen Sorensen Brown
Naomi Bruette
Joyce Bryant
Angela Bryant-Brown
Patty Cabrera
Raymond K. Casey
Moses A. Chalmers, Jr.
Carleen Chalmers-Wymer
Grace Choi
Celia Abney Cleveland
Marcelo Constanzo
Steven Darmody
Charles G. Davis
Phil Draper
Robert Dunkin
Christopher Ederesinghe
Ruth Lay-Erntson
Ysis España
Gary Evans
Lennox Fleary
Cindy Haffner
O. E. Hanna
F. Graham Heppel

Mary D. Hopkins
Vidal Hulbert
Ullanda Innocent-
Palmer
T. Marshall Kelly
Wes Knox
Ana Laura
Pete Lorentz
Adriane Mace
Greg Mace
Lucy Hatley Mace
Max Mace
Val Mace-Mapa
Tom Macomber
Art Mapa
Jim McDonald
Rudy Micelli
John W. Nuemann
Michael O'Brien
Jean Magno Ouro
Cynthia Goodloe
Palmer
Richard Penniman
James Rainwater
Pamela Mashburn
Rathbun
Scott Reed
Trenton Russell
Alessandro Samadello
Joe Savino
Rafael
Scarfullery
Kathy Schallert
Annie Rebeka Smith

John Stoddart
Reger Smith, Jr.
Duawne Starling
Rudolf Strukoff
Donna Hill Strukoff
Lisa Benfield Thorman
Sverre Valen
Mae Sorensen
Wallenkampf
John L. Waller
Kimberly Palmer
Washington
Kelli Williams-Malcolm

Updated and/or Expanded biographies

Harlyn Abel
Charles Bell
Elsie Landon Buck

Ethel Knight Casey
Joseph Eunkwan Choi
Dagmar Clottu
Melvin Davis
John David De Haan
Jason Max Ferdinand
Maudie Carr Hartman
Hans-Jørgen Holman
Lorne Jones
Katrina Koch
Adrian R. M. Lauritzen
Barry Lauritzen
Evelyn Sorensen
Lauritzen
Jeffrey K. Lauritzen
Raejin Lee
Michael J. Stepniak
Trina Thompson
Gabriela-Anca Baciuc
Vincent
Ryan Wells
Melvin K. West

Of Special Interest . . .

As our project concludes and new biographies are listed, an unusual biography or personal story in the words of the subject of the biography (a feature following the basic biography in some instances) from past and new biographies will be featured. On the following page is Rudolf (Rudy) Strukoff's personal story about his childhood in World War II Europe. Strukoff, a music graduate of Andrews University, taught at three academies and was a professor at Indiana State, Andrews, and Governor's State universities before retiring in 1997.

A Painful Childhood Odyssey

Rudolf Strukoff

My mother's father came to the United States at the end of the nineteenth century, bought a farm, and was ready to bring his fiancée over, but she refused. He loved her too much to stay so returned to Russia, where he became a wealthy farmer with extensive holdings in land, orchards, and cattle. Because he was a German and a prosperous farmer, he was taken off to Siberia in the middle of the night in the 1930s, during one of Stalin's purges of landholders.

He escaped with another prisoner and they made their way back home, having to sleep in trees because of the wolves. The family hid him, keeping his return a secret. It was during this turbulent time that my mother married my father, an officer in the Russian army.

My father had had a very difficult life. When he was ten, his father died during a famine. He dug the grave himself and wrapped him in a rug. He couldn't bury him deep enough and the end of the rug was still showing when he finished.

He became a cavalry officer in the Russian army. When he married my mom, who was German, it didn't sit too well with his superiors. My mother was an outspoken lady and at some point she happened to mention something about a politician that got back to the NKBD, forerunner of the KGB. They arrested her and threw her in a common jail that held men and women together in one room with no toilet. Fortunately for her, they discovered she was pregnant, expecting me, and they let her go.

My Dad's superior, who was also a good friend of his, told him, "Take your wife and go as far away as you can from here." He did. He went down to the Caucasus Mountains region near the border of Georgia. I was born on the way there in Rostov. They stayed there for two years and my brother, Robert, was also born there.

When Germany attacked Russia, my father was recalled to the army due to a

shortage of officers and posted to Crimea to slow the German advance. By the spring of 1942, my mother's entire family (labeled "undesirables") was sent off to Siberia never to be heard from again. The last trainload of "undesirables" was doused with gasoline and burned because the German army was too close. My mother and we boys were spared because she was married to a Russian army officer.

The blitzkrieg overwhelmed the Russian defenders, driving them into the Black Sea and total annihilation. The Germans occupied our city by summer 1942 and it was not possible to get official information about my father's fate. We heard by word of mouth that he had been killed. He was only 32.

When the Germans lost the battle of Stalingrad [now Volgograd], they were forced to retreat. Since my mother had worked for the Germans as an interpreter, she would be branded as a collaborator if we had stayed. Therefore, we had to leave Russia. We traveled with the Germans in a convoy as far as the Ukraine. After that we were pretty much on our own and traveled in boxcars, oxcarts, open trucks, anything we could find, to get away from the battlefield, traveling through the Ukraine, Poland, and into what is now the Czech Republic.

Along the way we stayed in a refugee camp in Poland that was about thirty miles from Auschwitz. In the late fall and winter when the wind was coming from the northeast, we could smell the stench of burning flesh since the camp was closer to us than it was to the city. My brother and I witnessed public executions. The Germans were desperate. They couldn't hang onto the large number of prisoners so they would line them up against a wall and shoot them.

We were actually in Czechoslovakia during the time when Schindler was able to get some of the Jews safely into that country, as related in the movie, *Schindler's List*. We also saw the first American soldiers arrive in that country in 1945. And

that was how the ordeal ended for us. We traveled first class (by boxcar!) into Germany, arriving there in June of 1945.

This wartime experience became an important part of my development. It was the "worst of times," to quote a phrase from Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities*. Donna and I went to see *Schindler's List* and bought the video. I have not been able to watch it again. The circumstances surrounding those efforts by Schindler are more than just a story to me. I witnessed the dying and the killing. Those remain as painful memories for me.

My mom had it in her mind from the time we arrived in Germany that we should emigrate to America. She applied for a visa four years before we actually got it. We departed from the port of Bremerhaven in Northern Germany on December 12, 1951, and arrived in the New York City harbor on Christmas Eve.

Although a family in North Dakota had sponsored us, we were on our own when we arrived there in the middle of a brutal winter as bad as any in Siberia. We moved to Harvey, where Sheyenne River Academy was located, and Robert and I worked on the farm and attended school while mother worked at the hospital in town.

When I graduated from there, we moved to Lincoln, Nebraska, where we lived for four years before my brother joined the navy in 1956 and mother and I moved to Wisconsin. Mother passed away in 1977 and my brother, Bob, in 1996.

Strukoff enrolled at Emmanuel Missionary College, now Andrews University, in the fall of 1957 as a music education major and graduated in 1960. He completed a Ph.D. in music in 1970 at Michigan State University. Complete biographies for Rudy and his wife, Donna Hill Strukoff, also a music graduate from AU and MSU, are provided at www.iamaonline.com

Segue

Eric Anderson Band, Cascade Christian Academy, Wenatchee, Washington

Harry Bennett, Jr. Retired, music teacher and pastor, key figure in development of the college music programs in Brazil, now residing in National City, California.

John Boyd Chair, Music Department, Southwestern Adventist University

Naomi Bruette Music Program, Midland Adventist Academy, Shawnee, Kansas

Grace Choi Piano, Auburn Adventist Academy, Auburn Washington

Christie Critz Music Program, Union Springs Academy, Union Springs, New York

David Dunkin Music Program, Mile High Academy, Denver, Colorado

Jason Max Ferdinand Director of Choral Activities, Oakwood University, Huntsville, Alabama (since 2008)

Diana Heinrichs Harp, Keyboard, Auburn Adventist Academy, Auburn, Washington

Leonard Hild Music Program, Midland Adventist Academy, Shawnee, Kansas

Ljuba Kelly Vocal/Choral, Auburn Adventist Academy

Katrina Koch Music Program, Indiana Academy, Cicero, Indiana

Bonnie McClarty Keyboard, Auburn Adventist Academy

John W. Neumann Retired, Choir Director at Auburn Adventist Academy for the past 18 years, 35 years in teaching

Eurydice Osterman Chair, Northern Caribbean University, on leave from Oakwood University

Asher Raboy Wind Ensemble & classes, Pacific Union College (since 2008)

Kristii Rasmussen Music, Rogue Valley Adventist School, Oregon

David Rowland Music Program, Holbrook Indian School, Holbrook, Arizona

Trenton Russell Band, Auburn Adventist Academy

Michael J. Stepiak Dean, Shenandoah Conservatory of Music, Virginia

Cynthia Owen Stokes Band/Orchestra/Instrumental Music (full-time), Union College

Ryan Wells Private studio teaching of piano and theory and free lance performer, Hastings, Nebraska

Beverly Zacharias Retired, residing in Georgia

New Members

Harry Bennett, Jr., retired minister and music teacher

Jeremy Francisco, graduate study, Greely, Colorado

Dean Kravig, Band, Upper Columbia Academy, Washington

Maurice Woods, retired music teacher, DMA student, Arizona State University

Obituaries

Alma Montgomery Blackmon 1921 - 2009

Frank Graham Heppel 1918 - 2009

Barry Jon Lauritzen 1958 - 2009

Joni Mae Robinson Pierre-Louis 1927 - 2009

Biographies at www.iamonline.com

2110 General Conference Session Brass Choir

Dean Kravig

Are you interested in playing in the 2010 General Conference Session's 2nd International Brass Choir? We are recruiting college-level and professional brass players to play the service music for the Church Service on June 26, 2010. The GC Session will be held in the United States at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta, Georgia.

Voicing for the Brass Choir will be 3 Trumpet parts, 4 Horn parts, 3 Trombone, Euphonium BC or TC, Tuba, and Percussion. Players must provide their own transportation and lodging.

For those of us who participated in the 2005 GC Session International Brass Choir, the experience of providing worship music with 40 high-level brass players from ten different countries proved to be well worth the expense. There will also be several other opportunities and venues for performance in order to maximize the experience for all those involved.

If you are interested in obtaining more information, please contact Dean Kravig, director, at dlkravigs@gmail.com

Adventist Gospel Music Directory

Tina Carriger

I am putting together a directory that will be distributed to all of the leaders within the SDA church, so they will have a reference/resource as to what gospel musicians and singers are available and hopefully use them. I will need each singer and musician to email me the following information:

1. Name (first and last),
2. Photo (glossy pic if scanned),
3. Current residence (City/ State),
4. Home church or church they attend,
5. Short bio (1 paragraph either emailed, or in Microsoft Word),
6. Contact info (phone number, email address),
7. Website or myspace page address

Send this information to: tina@adventsource.org

Deadline for submissions is **November 30, 2009**. We are hoping to have the directory printed and distributed by February 2010.

Questions? Contact me via email, or call 800-328-0525

CD Listings

Heritage Singers CDs and DVDs of gospel music
www.heritagesingers.com/CDs.html

Jemuel Anderson, Three different CDs of virtuoso contemporary piano hymn interpretations are available
www.JemuelAnderson.com

Morning Song Store, numerous recordings of Christian Artists
www.morningsongstore.com

Rudolf and Donna Hill Strukoff, two different CDs, singing and solo piano, all proceeds from sales of CDs go to support the Migdal Ohr (Tower of Light) Orphanage in Northern Israel

strukoff@comcast.net

Ryan Wells, four different CDs of classical piano music are available www.rwpiano.com

Send information to list your CDs in future mailings.