Alexa York
International Trumpet Guild Conference
Hershey, Pennsylvania
May 30–June 3, 2017
From May 30 to June 3, 2017, I attended my first International Trumpet Guild Conference in Hershey, Pennsylvania. I was able to immerse myself in a community of fellow trumpet players and students like myself, as well as attend recitals, concerts, clinics and competitions.

I think one of my favorite aspects about the conference was the showroom. It housed thousands of different trumpets and mouthpieces that were available to play, as well as mutes, sheet music, cleaning supplies and just about any trumpet-related item you could think of. During my time spent in the showroom, I got the chance to play a historical Baroque rotary trumpet, which was an incredible experience.

I was extremely impressed with the high quality of performance in the concerts presented at the conference. The first night, the opening concert featured several trumpet features accompanied by the Eastern Wind Symphony. It is a rare thing to have a concert consisting of pieces written for trumpet, and I will never forget it. Another fantastic concert was given by the Gomanal Brass, a well-known brass quintet that came all the way from Italy to perform at the conference.

This was my first time seeing a professional brass quintet live and the musicianship and showmanship displayed was unreal. I was left in awe for quite some time following the concert.

Of course, being in “the sweetest place on Earth,” we also took an afternoon of visits to various Hershey’s Chocolate World, which (naturally) had an overwhelming amount of chocolate with some pretty crazy flavors like “Texas BBQ” and “Strawberry Cheesecake.”

At the end of the week, as a conference scholarship recipient, I had the opportunity to attend the awards banquet with several famed trumpet players, including Doc Severinsen, Allen Vizzutti, and Eric Hickman; the latter two I met and got a picture with after the banquet. Being able to attend the International Trumpet Guild Conference was amazing. I learned so much about my instrument and being around so much talent gave me the inspiration I needed to practice hard over the summer.

What a fantastic and memorable experience!
Samuel Teeple

American Musicalological Society/Society for Music Theory Annual Meeting

Burlington, British Columbia
November 3–6, 2016

Due to the generosity of Pro Musica, I was able to attend the American Musicalological Society (AMS) and Society for Music Theory’s Annual Meeting in Burlington, British Columbia, from November 3-6. At this meeting, I had the opportunity to present research that I have been working on throughout my graduate career, resulting in a new academic paper that is currently under review.

The conference was an excellent opportunity for me to network with other scholars and researchers in my field. I was able to attend sessions led by leading scholars such as Dr. Lisa Gruen, Professor of Music at Bowling Green State University, and Dr. Mathis, interim dean of the College of Musical Arts. These sessions provided me with valuable insights and perspectives that I can use in my own research.

I was particularly impressed by the presentations given by Dr. Mathis and Dr. Gruen. Dr. Mathis’s talk on her research into the history of public musicology was fascinating, and Dr. Gruen’s presentation on her work in music therapy was inspiring. Both speakers provided compelling arguments for the importance of music education and highlighted the ways in which music can be used to promote social justice.

Overall, the conference was a wonderful opportunity to connect with other scholars in my field and to continue my research in a supportive community. I look forward to attending future conferences and contributing to the scholarly conversation.

Alysha Szczubelski

Ohio Music Education Association Professional Development Conference

March 2–5, 2016

The Ohio Music Education Association’s Professional Development Conference is an annual event that brings together music educators from all over the state. This year, I had the opportunity to attend the conference and present my research on the role of music in early childhood education.

The conference was a great opportunity to network with other music educators and to learn from their experiences. I was impressed by the passion and dedication of the educators I met, and I was happy to have the chance to share my own research with them.

I presented my research on the role of music in early childhood education, and the feedback I received was very positive. Many educators were interested in incorporating music into their own classrooms, and I was able to provide them with practical strategies for doing so.

Overall, the conference was a valuable experience that helped me to connect with other music educators and to continue my own research in this important field.
Student Essays

Samuel Teeple
American Musical Sociology/Society for Music Theory Annual Meeting
Boston, Massachusetts, USA, November 3–6, 2016

Due to the generosity of Pro Musica, I was able to attend the American Musical Sociology (AMS) Annual Meeting in Boston, Massachusetts, USA, from November 3–6, 2016. The AMS is a professional organization that promotes the study of music and musical life.

I attended the AMS Annual Meeting to present my research on the role of music education in the public schools. My presentation focused on the challenges faced by music educators in the current educational landscape. I discussed the importance of music education and the need for public support.

My presentation was well-received, and I was able to engage with my colleagues and peers. I received valuable feedback and ideas for future research. I am grateful for the opportunity to present my work and share my passion for music education.

Alysha Szczebski
Ohio Music Education Association Professional Development Conference
March 2–5, 2016

The Ohio Music Education Association (OMEA) Professional Development Conference is an annual event that brings together music educators from across the state. This year’s conference was held in Columbus, Ohio.

I attended the OMEA Conference to attend sessions on music education and to network with other educators. I presented a paper on the role of technology in music education, and I had the opportunity to attend a session on the importance of music in the classroom.

The conference was a great opportunity to learn from my colleagues and to share my ideas with others. I am grateful for the opportunity to attend this conference and to continue my education in the field of music education.
Alexa York
International Trumpet Guild Conference
Hershey, Pennsylvania
May 30–June 3, 2017

From May 30 to June 3, I attended my first International Trumpet Guild Conference in Hershey, Pennsylvania. I was able to immerse myself in a community of fellow trumpet players and students like myself, as well as attend recitals, concerts, clinics and competitions.

I think one of my favorite aspects about the conference was the workshop. It housed thousands of different trumpets and mouthpieces that were available to play, as well as muters, sheet music, cleaning supplies and just about any trumpet-related item you could think of. During my time spent in the workshop, I got the chance to play a historical Baroque rotary trumpet, which was an incredible experience.

I was extremely impressed with the high quality of performance in the concerts presented at the conference. The first night, the opening concert featured several trumpet features accompanied by the Eastern Wind Symphony. It is a rare thing to have a concert consisting of pieces written for trumpet, and I will never forget it. Another fantastic concert was given by the Gomalan quintet live and the musicianship and showmanship displayed was unreal. I left in awe for quite some time following the concert.

Of course, being in “the Sweetest Place on Earth,” we also took an afternoon off of visiting Hershey’s Chocolate World, which (naturally) had an overwhelming amount of chocolate with some pretty crazy flavors like “Texas BBQ” and “Strawberry Cheesecake.” At the end of the week, as a conference scholar recipient, I had the opportunity to attend the awards banquet with several famed trumpet players, including Doc Severinson, Allen Vizzutti, and your humble self, the latter two I met and got a picture with after the banquet. Being able to attend the International Trumpet Guild Conference was amazing. I learned so much about my instrument and being around so much talent gave me the inspiration I needed to practice hard over the summer.

What a fantastic and memorable experience!

Nathaniel Haering
Noisefloor, Experimental Sound and Image Festival 2017
Stoke-on-Trent, United Kingdom
May 4–6, 2017

Noisefloor festival at Staffordshire University in the United Kingdom was a resounding success. Kenneth J Cox and I presented my piece Cimmerian Isolation, on the final concert of the festival, which was an incredible experience.

Noisefloor, Experimental Sound and Image Festival 2017.

Texas Summer Flute Symposium 2017
Commerce, Texas
June 11–16, 2017

I was very fortunate to be able to attend the 2017 Texas Summer Flute Symposium in Commerce, Texas, with the generosity of Pro Musica. At the symposium, I was able to perform in masterclasses and attend recitals by prestigious members of the flute community.

This year the guest artists were Christina Jennings (University of Colorado at Boulder), Elizabeth McNutt (University of North Texas), Carol Wincenc (Juilliard School and Stony Brook University) and Dr. Conrad Nelson (Bowling Green State University). I performed in a masterclass with Christina Jennings and Elizabeth McNutt, with whom I also had an hour-long private lesson.

It was a fantastic week of learning from masters of the flute and networking with other members of the flute community. I am extremely thankful for the opportunity to attend an event that was so impactful on my education.

Alexa York

Special Thanks to Naslada Bistro in Bowling Green

From left to right: Julie Valera, Cathy Schafer and Alexa York

Promoting Musical Excellence

Pro Musica supports the College of Musical Arts by inviting the participation of alumni, friends, parents and the Bowling Green community in a wide variety of musical events and by providing financial support for music students.

Natalie Magaña
Texas Summer Flute Symposium 2017

Natalie Magaña performing


Dr. Lisa Martin
2016 Pro Musica Faculty/Staff Award for Exceptional Service to Students

Growing up in New Jersey, Dr. Lisa Martin fondly remembers that music was ever-present in her home. Either an 8-track tape or a record was always playing. One of Martin’s strongest musical influences was her Mom, who plays both the piano and the French horn. Although her mom didn’t pursue a career in music, Martin states that her mom remains a life-long music enthusiast. Her Mom’s influence continues to be a presence, through her French horn that is displayed in Martin’s office.

Martin met her seventh grade band director, Kristen Siebenhunther, in fifth grade. Siebenhunther assisted with the purchase of her first trombone and became her private lesson instructor throughout her high school years. Martin is the first to admit that she was a reluctant student until she reached the eighth grade. Reaching a turning point, she realized that playing the trombone was what she wanted to do. After earning a Bachelor of Music in Education from the University of Illinois, Martin traveled to the University of Colorado at Boulder for her graduate studies.

A morning person, Martin devotes the early hours of her day to academic writing. Because her goal is to make progress each week, she tries to maintain a consistent writing schedule. Additionally, each week she visits schools to coach graduate students working with BGSU’s partner Catholic schools, to observe student teachers or to work with K-12 student musicians. In her own words, “It would feel strange if I didn’t see a child in any given week.” Not surprising then to see her collection of paper trombones constructed by art students from the Bowling Green Middle School or a photo of her former eighth-grade band students presenting her with a potato they had autographed. Among her weekly routines, she includes reading something new that provides a spark and connects with what she might be teaching. Occasionally, she’ll share the article with her students. Alternatively, her reading might simply be proofreading an article for a colleague. Engaging in meaningful conversation during the week is another important part of her routine, as well.

One grant-funded outreach program that she oversees at the College of Musical Arts is Music Plus. Through this program, high school students from the Toledo Public Schools are transported to the BGSU campus on Wednesday evenings. These students receive free supplemental music lessons for two hours, including music composition instruction, private lessons and piano instruction. BGSU’s undergraduate and graduate students in music education, along with faculty members of the college, work with the students that evening. At the conclusion of the 10-week program (which is offered during