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Monitor Newsletter February 16, 2004

Bowling Green State University

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City kindergartners becoming musically literate with BGSU students' help

*Apples, peaches, pears and plums
Tell me when your birthday comes*

On a typical Friday in Bowling Green City School buildings, the kindergartners have been reciting this simple, rhythmic verse as part of an innovative music education program. They repeat the same lines over and over, tapping the fingers together, then again with rhythm sticks, and last with finger cymbals and triangles, as they find the rhythm of the words.

For kindergartners in five of the city's elementary schools, Fridays are music days, thanks to a program conceived by Joyce Eastlund Gromko, music education. Under the direction of her advanced methods students, they not only learn to sing, dance and play instruments, but also to read a "touch" chart of musical notation.

The more than 150 kindergartners are receiving instruction not offered through the regular curriculum, using instruments donated by Gromko's mother, Eida Oberheu, who was an Iowa schoolteacher.

Based upon many years of her own research, Gromko has adapted the Kodaly Method for teaching musical literacy to very young children. Using all their senses, they learn "multiple representations of musical sound," Gromko said.

"Young children can become fluent in the language of music," according to Gromko. Her system provides a highly structured approach to teaching them to read, write and think in musical sound.

Using carefully selected songs, the BGSU students lead the kindergartners through three activities: the "Sing and Swing" beginning song, a middle song that is limited in its rhythmic and tonal elements, and the "Wind-up Song," which "says goodbye in a happy way," as Gromko described it.

Each child wears a tag on a string around the neck with pictures or marks denoting the essential components of music—high/low, fast/slow and loud/soft. After they have sung, danced and played a song, they touch the corresponding pictures or marks to encode the musical sound in their minds.

It is the middle song on which the students focus most closely, listening carefully to all its parts. Through careful attention to its pitch, rhythms and volume, they begin to listen differently, Gromko says. "Eventually, the training helps them listen to all the world better," she said.

A recent Friday found the students working on the "apples, peaches" song, led by Brian Maxwell, a junior performance and piano pedagogy major from Zanesville. "It's all literacy based," he said of the teaching system. "It's very different from my background, but I like it because it's all very obviously going somewhere."

Maxwell led the young students through a precise series of exercises, modeling each movement and step along the way, with the help of Kimberlee Taylor, a junior from Grafton, Ohio, and a large puppet called "Mr. Dragon."

Over the course of a semester, the kindergartners will learn to "read" 10 songs in the 20-song repertoire. The songs are a lively mix of folk tunes from the United States—including

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African-American tunes—China, Hungary, Mexico and other countries. There has even been a Zulu song in the repertoire. "Children learn languages very quickly," Gromko noted.

Songs are mostly sung in the keys of F or G, very high, which suits children's vocal development at that age. The male BGSU students must sing in falsetto to achieve the light, bell-like sound, Gromko said.

The program encompasses a variety of learning styles, by combining kinesthetic, tactile, visual and aural elements. "We draw on color, language, shapes—everything we can to help them see the music in their mind," Gromko said. Through dance, the children learn to "feel the beat in their feet," she added, and, because visual representation in dance is important, they use colorful silk scarves, also donated by Mrs. Oberheu.

The instruments include hand chimes spanning two octaves; finger cymbals; triangles; egg shakers; large and small hand drums; the guiro, a Spanish instrument in which a stick is drawn across a ridged block, producing a clicking sound; rosewood claves (another form of wooden rhythm instrument), and jingle bells.

The program also helps fill a void in today's typical kindergarten classroom, in which there always used to be a piano played by the teacher, and instruments were a regular part of a child's day. Gromko comes from a heavily German part of Iowa, where "we were part of a rich musical tradition before we ever got to school."

Research has shown that musical training can improve young children's performance in other areas of cognitive development, Gromko said. "Music is the natural language of children, and it translates to other systems," she noted.

The program benefits not only the kindergartners but the methods students as well. Each semester, they learn about 20 new songs, adding to their own resource base. Though they follow the principles set forth by Kodaly and Gromko, each is responsible for his or her own classroom and brings individual talents and emphasis to it.

The program gives the students, who are mostly juniors, additional classroom experience before they do their student teaching in their senior year with master music teachers in the public schools in and around Bowling Green.

By the time they reach Gromko's classroom-methods class, they have had classes in music history and performance and aural skills. The music-teacher education curriculum for elementary music specialists spans pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. "It's a tough curriculum," Gromko said.

Gromko's own career has reflected the variety inherent in a music education teacher's life. She has been a K-12 choral director in her native Iowa and has taught in inner-city schools in California populated by black, Samoan and Mexican-American children; at the elite Sidwell Friends school in Washington, D.C., and at Punahou School in Hawaii, where the K-12 population was a mix of Chinese, Japanese and Caucasian. In this area, she teaches not only at BGSU but also provides the music program at the local Montessori school and spent a year developing a music program in East Toledo schools.

BGSU-based program evaluates HIV prevention efforts in Ohio

Nearly one-third of homosexual African-American men between the ages of 23 and 29 now have the AIDS-causing human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported last year.

Between 1988 and 2000, about 15 percent of that population was infected annually, according to a six-city study by the CDC.

Statistics like these point to the need for continued HIV prevention efforts, and in Ohio,

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BGSU is charged with evaluating such programs.

This year, faculty in the University's College of Health and Human Services are working with a \$150,000 grant from the Ohio Department of Health to gauge the effectiveness of prevention programs administered by public and private agencies statewide.

Among the specific plans of the Ohio HIV Evaluation and Training Program is organization of a "prevention-for-positives" workshop for interested agencies that have received grants for prevention programs, known as Health Education/Risk Reduction programs.

The workshop's name refers to an emphasis, emanating at the federal level, that's less on people who are considered at risk for contracting the virus and more on those who are already HIV-positive, according to Christopher Dunn, criminal justice and associate dean of the College of Health and Human Services.

The goal is to make prevention programs more effective by targeting people who would be the ones transmitting the virus, said Dunn, one of the evaluation program leaders.

Judy Adams, medical technology; Glenn Shields, director of BGSU's Social Work Program, and Dunn have assumed the leadership role for the program's fourth year based at the University. Jeanne Wright, applied health science, directed the program the last three years.

During the Clinton administration, prevention efforts focused more on trying to reach high-risk segments of the population in the community, including attempts to disseminate information in gay bars and other places where people deemed most at risk could be found, Dunn said.

Those types of interventions have continued, but some organizations conducting them haven't been ready to do evaluation, nor have their clients been very interested in providing information, he said.

How best to reach that population at other locations is among the questions the evaluation program leaders are considering, Adams noted.

Information has also been collected at HIV-testing sites, which have been willing to ask people to complete a questionnaire about their HIV prevention attitudes and behaviors when they come for testing, and again when they return for the results a couple weeks later. Analysis is conducted using the pre- and post-test data, but the advent of rapid testing for HIV, in which results are known immediately, is closing that opportunity for data collection.

"The rapid testing technology is causing us to adopt a different approach," said Dunn, adding that because HIV testing is anonymous, researchers have to figure out if they can even contact people later without violating their confidentiality.

Also complicating matters is the lack of a requirement for agencies to evaluate their prevention programs. Without a mandate—and being busy—many agencies haven't taken the time to collect information for evaluation, Adams said.

Getting past that hurdle is another challenge for the BGSU-based program, which has a part-time student worker and plans to hire two full-time staff to help programs develop their readiness for evaluation and collect data.

"We really need to work with these prevention programs in the cities and find out how we can help them develop their own capacity for evaluation," said Dunn. "If we can describe how these programs work and provide descriptive information about what they think is successful with clients, they can go on and collect information about parameters they identify as important."

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BGSU Opera Theatre presents "Die Fledermaus" Feb. 27-28

Faculty and students will be featured in the BGSU Opera Theater production Feb. 27-28 of "Die Fledermaus" by Johann Strauss Jr.

A lively story in song about love, deception and good-natured revenge, the opera will be staged at 8 p.m. both nights in Kobacker Hall of the Moore Musical Arts Center. Tickets go on sale today (Feb. 16) and are \$8, \$10 and \$12. Call the center box office at 2-8171.

The opera will also will feature members of the Bowling Green Philharmonia conducted by Emity Freeman Brown.

Originally written in German, the three-act tale is based on the dance music of Austria in 1874. The opera tells how Dr. Falke plots revenge on his friend Gabriel von Eisenstein, who left him asleep on a bench after a fancy ball. Falke, who is wearing a bat costume ("Die Fledermaus"), is awakened by a jeering crowd.

An opportunity for revenge presents itself when Prince Orlofsky gives another ball at which Eisenstein intends to flirt with all the ladies. Without Eisenstein's knowledge, his wife, Rosalinda, and chambermaid, Adele, also attend the party. Rosalinda gathers evidence of Eisenstein's philandering and he is thrown in jail on a minor charge. As morning breaks, everyone gathers at the jail where Falke reveals his plot and all are reunited.

BGSU's production will be sung in English under the direction of Eugene Dybdahl, who has cast more than 40 Bowling Green students in the comic opera. To enable more students to take part, the director has assembled a double cast, which means different students will perform each night.

Eisenstein will be portrayed by tenor Christopher Scholl, music performance studies. Eisenstein's wife, Rosalinda, will be played by graduate students Lori Hicks of Bowling Green and Sarah Nicholas of Dakota, Ill.

Second-year graduate student Summer Ellis of Seguin, Texas, and junior Abigail Studor of North Royalton will portray Eisenstein's maid, Adele. Senior Gregory Ashe of Huber Heights and first-year graduate student Russell Gartner of Findlay will share the role of Alfred, Rosalinda's former lover.

Prince Orlofsky will be played by senior Elizabeth Baldwin of Sylvania and first-year graduate student Renee Huss of Bluffton. Seniors T. Edward Federle of Cincinnati and Justin Randolph of Zanesville will appear in the role of Dr. Falke.

The part of Frosch will be played by David Kuhlakowski of Toledo. Kuhlakowski has performed with the BGSU Summer Musical Theater since 1996, including roles as Marcellus in the "Music Man," Nicely-Nicely Johnson in "Guys and Dolls" and Ali Hakim in "Oklahoma."

Undergraduate art exhibition under way

The work of 101 BGSU students is featured in the 53rd annual Undergraduate Art and Design Exhibition in the Dorothy Uber Bryan and Willard Wankelman galleries at the University's Fine Arts Center.

The exhibition, which continues through March 3, displays 208 of the 371 student-submitted pieces, ranging from photography and digital imaging to painting and jewelry. More than \$3,000 in prizes and scholarships have been awarded to students in the competitive show, which is sponsored by University Advancement.

Gallery hours for the duration of the exhibit are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-4 p.m. on Sundays.

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BGSU welcomes Four Freshmen alumnus Greg Stegeman

The University will welcome Greg Stegeman, a former member of the Four Freshmen, to campus Thursday-Saturday (Feb. 19-21).

Stegeman, who was both a performer and arranger with the well-known vocal jazz group from 1989-2001, will meet with students in jazz classes and be the guest judge for BGSU's annual Jazz Day on Saturday.

The Four Freshmen, founded in 1948 at Butler University in Indianapolis, led the way for many rising vocal jazz ensembles with their inventive, modern style.

Stegeman recently released a solo CD titled "Culmination," which includes songs such as "Unforgettable" and Tony Bennett's "Yellow Days."

Five Ohio and Michigan high school jazz ensembles will participate in the annual workshop and competition.

Hosted by the College of Musical Arts, the day will begin at 10 a.m. with 30-minute performances by the area ensembles. Among those attending the all-day event will be students from Garfield Heights, Maumee, Miamisburg and Monroe (Mich.) high schools, and the Toledo School for the Arts.

After each ensemble's performance, Russell Schmidt, jazz studies, will hold individual performance clinics. These will be followed by instrumental clinics conducted by several jazz faculty members in the college.

The day's events end at 4:30 p.m. with a concert by the BGSU Jazz Lab Band I and members of the Faculty Jazz Group.

IN BRIEF

Plan to attend president's University update

Mark your calendars for President Ribeau's State of the University address, slated for 10 a.m. Feb. 26 in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom at the Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Meet for coffee and snacks with friends and colleagues at 9:30.

Public skate to benefit Dance Marathon

The BGSU Ice Arena will hold a special promotional public skating session from 8-10 p.m. on Feb. 25. Half of the proceeds from this public skate will be given to Dance Marathon, an organization dedicated to raising money and awareness for children in our area in need of medical attention.

Special discounted rates will be in effect for this event only. Admission is \$2 and skate rental is \$1.

Utz, Crooks to fill interim positions

Interim appointments have been made following the deaths of two staff members, the Office of Student affairs has announced.

Rebecca Utz, assistant director for radiology, is interim director of the Student Health Service, and David Crooks, student affairs, is interim director of the Ice Arena.

Searches are under way for both positions, and are hoped to be completed before the start of the next fall semester, according to Camille Consovo, assistant vicepresident for student affairs.

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Randy Sokoll, Ice Arena director, and Dr. Josh Kaplan, director of the Student Health Service, died in December and January, respectively.

Spirit of BG award goes to Carol Holland

From rescuing a woman with car problems to giving her personal time to decorating the Bowen-Thompson Student Union for special events, Carol Holland "has always shown the core values of BGSU on a daily basis," her co-workers at the union say of her. They describe her as one of the nicest and most generous people they know.

Holland was presented the Classified Staff Spirit of BG award, along with a check for \$75 and congratulations from her colleagues.

CALENDAR

Feb. 16

Presidents' Day Open House, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 17

Debate, "Is the Patriot Act Un-American? Moral and Political Considerations," featuring James Child and Sangeeta Sangha, both philosophy, 7:30-9 p.m., 228 Union. Hosted by the philosophy department.

Flute Choir, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Movie, "Love Actually," 9:30 p.m., Union Theater. Sponsored by the University Activities Organization.

Wednesday, Feb. 18

Classified Staff Council, 9 a.m., 316 Union.

Brown Bag Lunch, "Newsflash! Women as Foreign Correspondents," by Catherine Cassara, journalism, noon-1 p.m., Women's Center, 107 Hanna Hall.

Women's Basketball vs. Northern Illinois, 7 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Faculty Artist Series, concert, by Venti da Camera, College of Musical Arts, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Thursday, Feb. 19

CFDR Workshop Series, "Criminology Data," 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 315 Union.

Arts and Sciences Forum, "Musical Landscapes in Color: Conversations with Black American Composers," with William C. Banfield, chair in humanities and fine arts at the University of St. Thomas, noon-1:15 p.m., 228 Union. An \$8.75 taco buffet will begin at noon. Those interested only in the free presentation may arrive at 12:30

p.m. Reservations are requested. Call 2-2017.

International Film Series, "L'Auberge Espagnole (The Spanish Inn)," a 2002 film directed by Cédric Klapisch, 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater, Hanna Hall.

Friday, Feb. 20

Women In Science Conference, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Lenhart Grand Ballroom, Union. Hosted by Continuing and Extended Education. For more information, call 2-8181.

Mathematics and Statistics Colloquium, "Modified Raviart-Thomas Spaces," by So-Hsiang Chou, mathematics and statistics, 3:45 p.m., 459 Mathematical Sciences Building.

Movie, "Love Actually," 11 p.m., Union Theater. Sponsored by UAO.

Saturday, Feb. 21

Women's Basketball vs. Kent State, 1 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Sunday, Feb. 22

Concert by guest artist Robert Naim, double bass, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Movie, "Love Actually," 9:30 p.m., Union Theater. Sponsored by UAO.

Monday, Feb. 23

CFDR Speakers Series, "The Policy Implications of Women's and Men's Differing Interests in Modern Marriage," by Steven L. Nock, University of Virginia, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 207 Union.

Pallister French-Canadian Lecture Series, film screening, "Emporte-Moi (Set Me Free)," with LÉa Pool, Québec filmmaker, 7 p.m., Gish Film Theater, Hanna Hall.

Film Screening, "Curve," a short, upbeat

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film about the pressures of body image in the modeling world, 8 p.m., Union Theater. The film's director and executive producer will speak at 9 p.m. following the film.

Continuing Events

Through Feb. 18

Student Art Exhibit, enameling exhibition, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily, Little Gallery, BGSU Firelands.

Through Feb. 25

Art Exhibit, pinhole photography, Union Art Gallery. Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-6 p.m. daily.

Through March 3

Art Exhibit, Annual Undergraduate Art and Design Exhibition, Dorothy Uber Bryan and Willard Wankelman galleries. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-4 p.m. Sundays.

Through March 5

Planetarium Presentation, "The Wright Way to Fly: How the Wright Brothers Invented the Airplane," showings at 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays, 7:30 p.m. Sundays and 2 p.m. Saturday (Feb. 21). \$1 donation suggested.

Key: CFDR-Center for Family and Demographic Research.

JOB POSTINGS**FACULTY**

Romance Languages. Visiting Assistant Professor. Call R.-J.Berg, 2-2667. Deadline: March 12.

English. Distinguished Visiting Writer (spring 2005). Call Simon Morgan-Russell, 2-6841. Deadline: March 15.

Ethnic Studies. Instructor. Call the department, 2-2796. Deadline: March 19.

Sociology. Visiting Assistant Professor and Instructor (two positions). Call Gary Lee, 2-2292. Deadline: March 19.

Psychology. Instructor. Call Deborah Smith, 2-6013. Deadline: March 19.

Contact the Office of Human Resources at 419-372-8421 for information regarding classified and administrative positions. Position vacancy announcements may be viewed by visiting the HR Web site at www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr.

Employees wishing to apply for these positions must sign a "Request for Transfer" form and attach an updated resume or data sheet. This information must be turned in to Human Resources by the job deadline.

CLASSIFIED

There were no new postings this week.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Director of Gift Planning (V-046)—Office of Development, University Advancement (Re-advertised). Administrative grade 18. Review of applicants will begin Feb. 20. All applicants will receive full and fair consideration until the position is filled.

Financial Aid Web and Server Applications Manager (V-074)—Student Financial Aid (re-advertised). Administrative grade 14. Deadline: Feb. 27.

Associate Director of Recreational Sports (V-005)—Recreational Sports. Administrative grade 17. Deadline: March 5.

Staff Internal Auditor (R-077)—Internal Auditing and Advisory Services. Administrative grade 15. Review of applications began Dec. 15 and will continue until the position is filled.

University General Counsel (04-004NF)—General Counsel/Office of the President. Salary will be competitive and commensurate with experience. Review of applicants will begin March 1. All applicants will receive full and fair consideration until the position is filled.

OBITUARIES

There were no obituaries this week.