

VANDERGRAM

SHARING YOUR PASSION FOR MUSIC **News & Events**

January 2017

Dear Alumni & Friends,

A new year, a new semester. VanderCook College of Music has a lot in store for the new year. Coming off a very successful fall 2016 semester the college looks forward to seeing many of you at upcoming state music educator conventions, our Alumni Appreciation Concert, or at our spring A Night At The Pops Scholarship Concert or summer TrusTEE Golf Open.

This spring we turn our attention to you and specifically ask for your continued support of our efforts. VanderCook has historically been a tuition-driven institution. We know that our graduates are in great demand and are doing terrific work in their schools and communities. So we are personally asking you to help us spread the word. If you know a student who wants to be a music educator; band director, choir director, orchestra director or music teacher, please encourage them to learn more about VanderCook. Better yet, help them set up a visit to campus so they can see first-hand what makes VanderCook so unique.

If you have a colleague that is considering a master's degree, introduce them to VanderCook and they will discover how practical and affordable our summer master of music education degree program is. The knowledge and skills learned in this great degree program have been championed by music teachers around the world.

Our MECA Continuing Education program continues to expand with great on-campus and online offerings. Give yourself the gift of education and continue to refine your skills and increase your knowledge through these great, relevant classes.

Finally, you are asked to continue to support the college with your time and your treasure. Please attend our concerts, recitals or events, and set aside a few dollars every month to make a gift to VanderCook. Every dollar we raise goes to help provide a great educational experience for our students. Every dollar raised goes to help us keep our tuition affordable. Every dollar raised helps to impact the next generation through the power of music education.

May you and yours have a happy, healthy and prosperous 2017 and may all of your musical experiences be memorable ones.

Sincerely

Charlie Menghini

**Charles T. Menghini, D.M.A.
President & Director of Bands**

Dr. Charles Menghini Honored with Midwest Clinic Lifetime Achievement Award



On Friday, December 16, 2016, members of the Midwest Board and VanderCook College of Music Board of Trustees presented Dr. Charles Menghini with a Lifetime Achievement Award. In the past 70-year history of the Midwest Clinic, this prestigious award had only been given out once before, to Col. Arnald D. Gabriel in 2012. A glass sculpture was presented to Dr. Menghini in appreciation for his achievements and leadership.

Dr. Menghini shared this special experience with his college band director, Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser, and his student teaching cooperating teacher, Mr. Jerry Hoover. Both mentors were guest conductors at the 70th Annual Midwest Performance of the VanderCook Symphonic Band.

Alumni Appreciation Concert

This year's Alumni Appreciation Concert will be something you won't want to miss! We are in our third year and each year the event gets bigger and bigger. Please consider joining us for the fun on Sunday, February 26, 2017.



ALUMNI APPRECIATION CONCERT

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2017

JOIN YOUR FRIENDS...JOIN THE FUN!

On Sunday, February 26, 2017 we invite you, our alumni, to join with the Symphonic Band, Concert Choir, and Orchestra to perform in concert.



Rehearsals

Symphonic Band
Orchestra
Choir

12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.
12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.
1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Concert

3:00 p.m.

After the concert we will hold the Annual Alumni Reception. The reception will include dinner and the presentation of various awards and honors including...

- Distinguished Alumni Award
- Roseanne Rosenthal Award
- Tom Drake American Legion Band Award
- Eddie & Patty Oyer Scholarship

Participation is FREE! Once you register, we will send you music.

[REGISTER HERE](#) FOR THE ALUMNI APPRECIATION CONCERT

Kevin Lepper - Professor Emeritus



After nearly 20 years at VanderCook, Percussion Professor and Director of Applied Studies, Kevin Lepper retired in the spring of 2015. Since retiring, Kevin continues to write percussion ensemble pieces for players of all ages and ability levels, serves as a clinician nationwide, and manages [Advantage Network](#) a music supply company. Advantage Network offers competitive options in tuxedo shirts, formal wear, marching shoes, garment bags, drum sticks, drum heads, flag poles and much more. As with everything in Kevin's life, he conducts the business with the upmost integrity and care.

On Friday, December 16, Kevin Lepper was recognized as Professor Emeritus during the winter Board of Trustee meeting. An honor well deserved and a credit to the powerful impact he left with the entire VanderCook community. Congratulations, Kevin!

VanderCook on the Road



MICHIGAN MUSIC CONFERENCE - January 19 - 21

Grand Rapids, MI

At the booth:

Patrick Benson (BMEd '08), Director of Continuing and Online Education

Jennifer Culler (MMEd '06)

Presenting:

[The Full Package Clarinet Section](#)

Mallory Voris (MMEd '13) and Eric Clauder (MMEd '13)

Room: Amway - Governors, 3:00 PM on Sat, January 21



ILLINOIS MUSIC EDUCATORS CONFERENCE - January 26 - 28

Peoria, IL Booth #368,270

At the Booth: Andrew Watson, Dr. Robert Sinclair, Stacey Larson Dolan, Dr. Roseanne Rosenthal, Brian Logan, David Eccles, James Yakas, Patrick Benson, Cindy Tovar

Presenting:

[Recruiting and Retention: Building the Bridge Between Music and Athletics](#)

Brandon Crawford (BMEd '05)

Room: WHS Ballroom, 9:00 AM on Thursday, January 26.

[The Big Picture: Producing and Directing Your Marching Band Program](#)

Ken & Pamela Snoeck

Room: CC210/211, 12:15 PM on Thursday, January 26

[Orff of Course!](#)

Jean Hersey & Cynthia Seputis

Room: CC220/221, 12:15 PM on Thursday, January 26

[Glenn Westlake Middle School Jazz Ensemble](#)

Anthony Kidonakis (MMEd '09), Guest Artist

Room: CC220/221, 1:30 PM on Thursday, January 26

[Moraine Valley Percussion Ensemble](#)

James Yakas, Guest Artist

Room: CC1135/136, 1:45 PM on Thursday, January 26

[Teaching For Transfer: Making Every Moment Count](#)

Dr. Robert Sinclair

Room: WHS Ballroom, 12:15 PM on Thursday, January 26

[Beatboxing 101](#)

Chris Moan (MMED '09)

Room: WHS Ballroom, 3:00 PM on Thursday, January 26

[Recruiting By the Numbers \(And Other Secrets To Recruiting More Low Brass\)](#)

Doug Adams and George Quinlan, Jr. (VanderCook Trustee)

Room: CC212/213, 4:15 PM on Thursday, January 26

[The Digital String Class: Powerful Tools for the 21st Century String Music Educators featuring Essential Elements Interactive](#)

David Eccles

Room: CC408, 4:15 PM on Thursday, January 26

[InterAct with Assessments: Formative and Summative Assessments with InterActive Technology](#)

Manju Durairaj (MMEd '03)

Room: CC222, 9:45 AM on Friday, January 27

[Performance Norms](#)

Peter Eilrich and Monica Fuentes (BMEd '10)

Room: CC408, 1:15 PM on Friday, January 27

[Glenbard West High School Honor String Orchestra](#)

William Ortega (BMEd '10)

Room: CC403/404, 1:15 PM on Friday, January 27

[New Band Music Reading Session - sponsored by J.W. Pepper](#)

Stacey Larson Dolan (MMEd '98) and Brian Logan (BMEd '83)

Room: CC 403/404, 3:45 PM on Friday, January 27

[Our Product is a Certain Kind of Kid: A Comprehensive Musicianship Through Performance Overview](#)

Paulette Boddy (MMEd '01), Jeremy Little, Ray Ostwald and Bill Rank

Room: CC210/211, 8:30 AM on Saturday, January 28

[Hill Middle School Women's Chorus](#)

Ron Korbitz (BMEd '90, MMEd '96)

Room: WHS Ballroom 9:45 AM on Saturday, January 28

[Teaching Music History Through Rounds](#)

Ron Korbitz (BMEd '90, MMEd '96)

Room: WHS Ballroom 11:00 AM on Saturday, January 28

[Backwards Curriculum Design: A Framework for Mindful Music Education](#)

Manju Durairaj (MMEd '03)

Room: CC210/211, 11:00 AM on Saturday, January 28

[Lincoln Park High School Wind Symphony](#)

Chad Smith (MMEd '13)

Room: CC Theatre, 10:45 AM on Saturday, January 28

[Beatboxing 101](#)

Chris Moan (MMED '09)

Room: CC222, 2:15 PM on Saturday, January 28



MISSOURI MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

January 26 - 28

Osage Beach, MO

Booth #B9

At the Booth:

Dr. Charles T. Menghini, President & Director of Bands

Presenting:

[Programming Your Jazz Band for Success](#)

Rob Babel (MMEd '96)

Room: Parasol I 9:15 AM on Friday, January 27



OHIO MUSIC EDUCATION ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

February 2 - 4

Cleveland, OH

Booth #612

At the Booth:

Andrew Watson, Director of Student Recruitment

Presenting:

[Rangoli: Introducing Indian Music in Elementary General Music Education](#)

Manju Durairaj (MMEd '03)
2:00 PM on Thursday, February 2

[Small Group Activity in the Large Ensemble Classroom: Encourage Creativity, Autonomy and Engagement](#)

Betty Ann Gottlieb (MMEd '01)
8:00 AM on Friday, February 3

[Treasures of Music Literacy: Addressing Music Concepts through Children's Literature](#)

Thom Borden
10:30 AM on Friday, February 3

[Learn to Harmonize Round the World](#)

Cheryl Lavender. (Honorary Doctorate 2016)
12:30 PM on Friday, February 3

[Teaching for Transfer: Making Every Moment Count](#)

Dr. Robert Sinclair
12:30 PM on Friday, February 3

[Active Music Making with Available Technology: iPads in Pre K-5 General Music](#)

Manju Durairaj (MMEd '03)
Classroom 12:30 PM on Friday, February 3

[Same and Different: Building Empathy in the Music Classroom Through Diverse Children's Literature](#)

Manju Durairaj (MMEd '03)
3:45 PM on Friday, February 3

[Play-Parties and Singing Games for Everyone](#)

Thom Borden
9:15 AM on Saturday, February 4

[Score to Performance: The Science of Musicality](#)

Dr. Robert Sinclair
9:15 AM Saturday, February 4

[SE Management Program Version 5.8](#)

Greg Taylor (MMEd '99)
9:15 AM Saturday, February 4

[Active Music Making with Interactive Technology: Optimizing Interactive Whiteboards and Tablets](#)

Manju Durairaj (MMEd '03)
12:15 PM Saturday, February 4



TEXAS MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

February 8 - 11

San Antonio, TX
Booth CF67 - Hall 4B

At the Booth:
Dr. Robert Sinclair & David Eccles

Presenting:

Collegiate Texas Music Educators (CTME) Leadership Summit

Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser, (Honorary Doctorate '95)

Marriott RW Salon ABC 6:00 PM on Wednesday, February 8

If I Knew then What I Know Now

Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser, (Honorary Doctorate '95)

CC Ballroom 1-2 11:30 AM on Thursday, February 9

Teaching for Transfer: Making Every Moment Count

Dr. Robert Sinclair, Graduate Dean, Director of Choral Activities

G. Hyatt Lonestar ABC 11:30 AM on Thursday, February 9

Intermediate String Players: Strategies for Success

David Eccles, Director of String Music Education and Orchestral Activities

CC 214 6:30 PM on Thursday, February 9

Essential Music Technology in the Strings Classroom

David Eccles, Director of String Music Education and Orchestral Activities

Product showcase #3 12:00 PM on Friday, February 10

ALUMNI NEWS



Tom Drake (BMEd '56, MMEd '60)

On December 11, 2016 Tom Drake was recognized with a Lifetime Achievement Award from VanderCook College of Music President Dr. Charles Menghini. The presentation was made at the annual "Sounds of Christmas" concert held at the Rialto Theatre in Joliet, celebrating Drake's 60 years of service to the Joliet American Legion Band. The Joliet American Legion Band was founded in 1946 by A.R. McAllister and William Austin. The two served in World War II together and vowed to start an adult concert band upon their return from war. Drake joined JALB in 1956 as a clarinetist and Associate Director, and in 1963, after McAllister retired, he took the helm as Director. Today JALB has over 100 members that range in age from high school students to senior citizens. VanderCook Board of Trustee, Dennis Galle, along with many other friends and alumni of VanderCook have been a part of this wonderful ensemble.

JALB Chairman, Gary Picha, and members of the band established a scholarship in Tom Drake's name, awarded each year to a VanderCook junior who exhibits traits necessary to become a successful music teacher. Past recipients include:

2015 - Robbi Hicks, trumpet

2014 - Amber Love, trombone
2013 - Juan Osorio, trombone
2012 - Paul Cepela, flute
2011 - Calvin Gresl, oboe
2010 - Monica Rizzo, clarinet



John Marshall (MEd '82) "I am now retired after 38 years of fulfillment and fun in the classroom, band room, on stage, the basketball court and the band (football) field. I now direct two community bands: The New Horizon's Band of Indianapolis and the Indianapolis Municipal Band (associate conductor). I also am an Instrumental Advisor for Paiges Music, having a great time helping students decide on an instrument that "fits" nicely and helps out their band program. I also get the opportunity to adjudicate many band festivals, guest conduct, and teach trumpet lessons. I will begin supervising instrumental student teachers for DePauw University this semester and still have time to sing in my wife's church choir where we just finished a trip to New York City with a performance at Lincoln Center. Blessed with four kids and four grandchildren (a fifth on the way), life is full and rich!"

Making Connections



On December 13, 2016 the Chairman of our Board of Trustees, John Huston, attended his granddaughter's concert at Glen Grove School. He was amazed by the creativity of the music teacher **Cindy Warren (MEd '08)**. He asked his daughter to find out if Mrs. Warren had heard of VanderCook. Huston was happy to find out not only was Mrs. Warren a VanderCook alum, she also takes continuing education courses through the MECA program. Addison, Huston's granddaughter, loves playing the trombone! She also loves playing duets with her grandpa.

Music and the Teenage Brain



PhotoCredit(WBEZ/Becky Vevea)

Kelsey Tortorice (BMed '11), Choir Director at UIC College Prep, participated in a study to research the effect music has on the teenage brain. The study was conducted by the Auditory Neuroscience Laboratory at Northwestern University. Tortorice's classroom was chosen for the experiment because the research was dependent on the subjects' engagement in music four or more consecutive years. At the time, UIC College Prep required students to take music classes each year of high school. "They found that after two years, the brains of the students studying music did a better job processing sound and were less distracted by background noise than peers who didn't study music long term." says Nina Kraus, Northwestern neurobiologist. Tortorice encourages more schools to offer music more than the minimal one year requirement.

Read the entire WBEZ News article [here](#).

VANDERWEAR ITEM OF THE MONTH



FEATURE OF THE MONTH

This month we are featuring our VanderCook License Plate Holder! Buy one get one 1/2 off if you order before January 31st.

You'll find many more items by visiting the VanderStore.

<https://store.vandercook.edu>

Offer Expires: January 31, 2017

UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

January 19-21	Michigan Music Educators Association (MIMEA)
January 21	All-Catholic Honor Band
January 25-28	Illinois Music Educators Association (ILMEA)
January 26-28	Missouri Music Educators Association (MOMEA)
January 27	IMEC - Symphonic Band to Peoria
February 21	Chamber Ensemble Concert
February 25	Day of Percussion
February 26	Ensembles & Alumni Concert
March 7	Medium Ensemble Concert
March 21	BandFest & ChoralFest
April 1	A Night at the Pops Benefit
April 5	BandFest & Orchestra Fest
April 18	Chamber Ensemble Concert
April 23	Student Conductor Concerts
May 5	Undergraduate Commencement

Know A High School Graduate Who Wants To Teach Music?

If you know a high school student who is interested in learning more about a career as a music teacher, please have them contact our Admissions Office at [312-788-1126](tel:312-788-1126) or visit [Admissions](#). We are now accepting applications for the 2017/2018 Academic Year.