



# DOROTHY F. SCHMIDT COLLEGE of ARTS AND LETTERS

*This edition highlights events and activities from the 2013-14 Academic Year*

## A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

We are pleased to welcome 19 very accomplished new faculty members joining the College as of Fall of 2014. You can read about their credentials later in this newsletter. I'm also pleased to announce that David Williams has accepted the position of director of the School of Communication and Multimedia Studies. In other news, six of the 12 faculty fellows named to FAU's Peace, Justice, and Human Rights Initiative are from the College of Arts and Letters. These fellows will help define the direction of the PJHR Initiative from a university-wide perspective. We look forward to reporting more about this initiative in the coming year.

— **Heather Coltman, DMA**  
Dean, Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters



## Two Students Win American Songwriting Awards

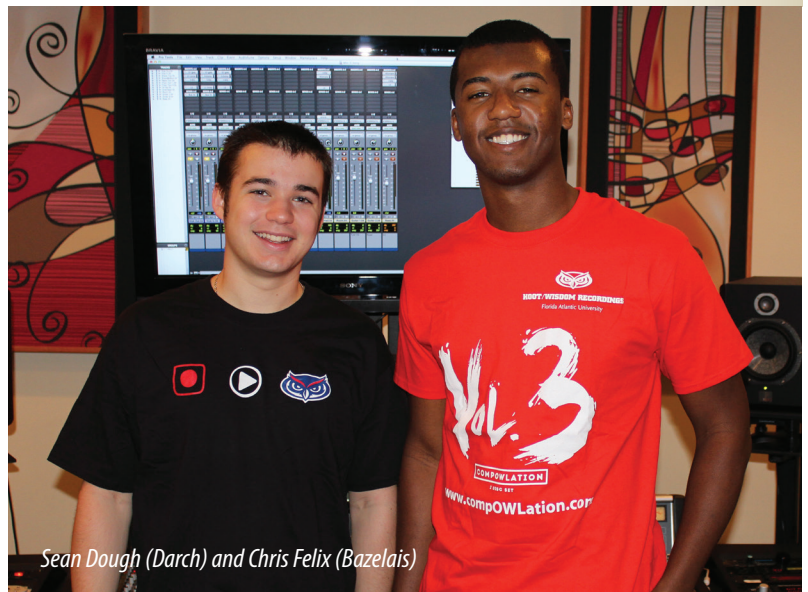
Arts and Letters students Sean Dough (Darch) and Chris Felix (Bazelais) recently won the 2014 American Songwriting Award in the Hip Hop category. Their song, titled "Change Your Mood," was featured on CompOWLation Volume 3, recently released by FAU's Hoot/Wisdom Recordings L.L.C. Chris Felix, who wrote the music, is a current commercial music major and Sean Dough, who wrote the lyrics and performs on the track, is a political science major and commercial music minor. The song was produced, mixed and recorded in Studio A at FAU. You can hear the song on the Hoot/Wisdom site. The American Songwriting Awards is an international songwriting competition open to unknowns and working artists who want to be heard, recognized and rewarded for their songwriting talent. Hoot/Wisdom Recordings is FAU's

student-run/faculty supervised record label. The program, which was established in 2003 by Michael Zager, a music producer, composer and arranger, offers comprehensive undergraduate and graduate programs to help students develop skills for a professional music career. Students are able to study the business of music as they develop their individual instrumental and/or vocal skills. This prepares students for recording careers, studio performance, arranging or producing, and live performances. Other FAU students involved in recording "Change Your Mood" include Ilana Armida (Simone), lead singer; John Frasca, guitar; Reid Santiago and Quincy Knowles, engineering; and Grace Kimmel, Leonia Coleman, Anthony Vincent and David Duque, additional vocals.



## LARKIN SYMPOSIUM

More than 2,500 people came to the Boca Raton campus in February to hear Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward talk about Watergate and comment on the current political situation. The Pulitzer Prize-winning journalists visited FAU as part of the Alan B. Larkin Symposium on the American Presidency. The symposium was established in 2005 by Charna Larkin and her family to honor the memory of her late husband.



Sean Dough (Darch) and Chris Felix (Bazelais)

## FESTIVAL REP

The summer was busy on the Boca Raton campus as the Department of Theatre and Dance and the Department of Music presented two plays and two concerts as part of Festival Rep 2014. "August: Osage County" received outstanding reviews with the *Palm Beach Post* praising the acting as "standout performances." The musical "Bonnie and Clyde" also received praise for excellent singing talent. A Piano Extravaganza and two Big Band Concerts with the FAU Swing Era Jazz Band rounded out the summer with sold out audiences at all three concerts. Festival Rep 2014 is sponsored by Bank of America and the R.A. Ritter Foundation.



## College Welcomes New Cohort of Ph.D. Students

The College's interdisciplinary PhD in Comparative Studies has welcomed another cohort of students into the newly revised track, Cultures, Languages, and Literatures (CLL). As of this fall, recruitment efforts have resulted in a total of 28 new students in the program.

This fall the Theory and Criticism courses are focusing on "French Theories from the 1960s and 70s," taught by Frédéric Conrod of LLCL and the "Philosophy of Culture" taught by Richard Shusterman, the College's Eminent Scholar in the Humanities. In addition, Shusterman is offering an Interdisciplinary Perspectives seminar on the topic of "Pragmatism and the Arts." Students will also be taking seminars in several departments from across the College as they pursue their interdisciplinary interests in a variety of fields.

We were pleased to award two Presidential Fellowships to complement the GTAships in each of the first two years: Betsaida Casanova will specialize in Spanish-speaking Caribbean Literature written from the Caribbean and the diaspora with a major concentration on Cuban writers, and Nancy Jarchow plans to specialize in French literature with an emphasis on theatre and its role in resistance and collaboration during the occupation of France by the Nazis in World War II. For profiles of all of our current students, be sure to visit the program website at [fau.edu/comparativestudies](http://fau.edu/comparativestudies).



## OFF THE PAGE: *Events for Readers & Writers*

For the fourth year, the Department of English hosted the yearlong "Off the Page: Events for Readers and Writers Literary Series." This series brings in writers to work with students and present public lectures. At the first event in January, author Timothy Donnelly discussed his books "Twenty-seven Props for a Production of Eine Lebenszeit" and "The Cloud Corporation." Later in January Brian Turner, author of two collections of poetry titled "Here, Bullet" and "Phantom Noise," talked

about the literary process. In February, William Boggess discussed his career as a literary agent at Algonquin Books and Little, Brown and Company. The Lawrence A. Sanders Writer-in-Residence Tayari Jones finished out the series in March. Jones spent a week as author-in-residence with students from the Department of English. Jones received a Lifetime Achievement Award in Fine Arts from the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation and she is currently an associate professor in the MFA program at Rutgers-Newark University. The annual Off the Page series is presented by FAU's Department of English with support from Chris and Lori Fleuhr.



## GALLERIES

The annual Master of Fine Arts Exhibition, titled "Confluence," featured the works of graduating MFA candidates in the Dept. of Visual Arts and Art History. Linda Behar, Misoo Filan, Raheleh T. Filsoofi, Stephen Futej, Isabel Gouveia and Kandy G. Lopez exhibited their stunning final works in sculpture, printmaking, painting and ceramics.

## *Andre de Shields Meets with Students*

Actor, director, choreographer and educator Andre De Shields visited FAU as the Dorothy F. Schmidt Eminent Scholar in the Arts in January. He worked with students and faculty from the Department of Theatre and Dance and gave a public performance titled "Frederick Douglass: Mine Eyes have Seen the Glory" to commemorate Black History Month. De Shields was also presented with the School of the Arts Making Waves award for 2014.



## ANTHROPOLOGY

>> A study by **Douglas Broadfield**, along with Kristian J. Carlson, University of the Witwatersrand, and Ralph L. Holloway, Columbia University, about the South African Taung Child fossil, was published in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

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## ENGLISH

>> Several faculty members have come out with new books: **Kate Schmitt's** book "Singing Bones" is a memoir about a woman facing inner demons and **Andy Furman** published "Bitten, My Unexpected Love Affair With Florida" a book about living in South Florida. NPR Radio interviewed Furman about the book. You can listen in at [wlrn.org/post/unexpected-love-affair-florida](http://wlrn.org/post/unexpected-love-affair-florida).

>> **Lisa Swanstrom** was part of a research team that got an NEH Start-up Grant from the Office of Digital Humanities (ODH). The project is called CELL: a Search Engine for Electronic Literature.

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## HISTORY

>> **Douglas T. McGetchin** was a U.S. Fulbright Scholar in Kolkata (Calcutta), India in Spring 2014.

>> **Kenneth Holloway** is currently a scholar-in-residence at Fudan University in Shanghai, China.

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## MUSIC

>> **Kevin Wilt's** compositions were performed by the Southwestern Oklahoma State University Band and the Ventoso Winds at the Cave Without a Name in Boerne, Texas. There was also a live performance of a film score, "Perfection at the Plate," in Los Angeles by the Helix Collective.

>> **Michael Zager** is producing an album titled, "Broadway Composers and Lyricists Sing Their Songs." The album consists of Tony Award-winning composers (*continued*)

## MUSIC (CONTINUED)

and lyricists singing their songs with only a piano accompaniment. To date, he has recorded Charles Strouse (Annie, Applause and Bye Bye Birdie), Stephen Schwartz (Wicked, Pippin and Godspell), Sheldon Harnick (Fiddle on the Roof and Fiorello), Stephen Lutvak (A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder-winner of the Best Musical Tony Award 2014), Jason Robert Brown (The Bridges of Madison County-Tony Award for Best Composer and Best Orchestrations 2014) and Adam Guettel (The Light in the Piazza).

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## POLITICAL SCIENCE

>> **Robert Rabil's** book titled "Salafism in Lebanon: From Apoliticism to Transnational Jihadism," examines the emergence and development of Salafism into a prominent religious movement in Lebanon. Drawing on field research trips, personal interviews, and Arabic primary sources, the book explores the relationship between the ideologies of the various schools of Salafism and their praxis in relation to Lebanese politics. Rabil's book will be published in September 2014, at which time he will present it at Harvard University.

>> **Kevin Wagner's** latest book, "Tweeting to Power," coauthored with Jason Gainous of the University of Louisville, provides an analysis of the effect of online social media on how people come to learn, understand and engage in politics. The book includes trends in a dataset comprising tweets from members of Congress during the 2010 Presidential campaign.

>> A paper co-authored by **Mirya Holman** has been selected as the Best Paper for the Women and Politics section of the "American Political Science Association." The paper, titled "Power, Conflict, and Community: How Gendered Views of Political Power Influence Women's Political Ambition" is an evaluation of the role that perceptions of political careers play in political ambition, particularly women's political ambition.

## POLITICAL SCIENCE (CONTINUED)

>> **Mehmet Gurses** has co-edited a book titled "Conflict, Democratization, and the Kurds in the Middle East: Turkey, Iran, Iraq, and Syria." The volume contains a collection of essays from many of the most accomplished scholars from Israel, the United Kingdom and the United States working on the Kurdish issue and questions of democratization.

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## SOCIOLOGY

>> **Patricia Widener** recently returned from a yearlong sabbatical in New Zealand where she studied how New Zealanders are responding to new oil proposals, both offshore and fracking. This research complements her book titled "Oil Injustice," which examines how oil-impacted communities and their transnational allies mobilized in response to the construction of an oil project in Ecuador.

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## VISUAL ARTS AND ART HISTORY

>> "Elephant" magazine included a feature on **Carol Prusa's** (visual arts and art history) work in their summer issue. Prusa was also asked to make an egg for the Big Egg Hunt in New York City last Easter. The egg was installed in midtown Manhattan. Fabergé put on the event to raise money for The Studio in a School art programs for underserved city kids and The Elephant Family, which works to save endangered elephants.

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## CENTER FOR WOMEN, GENDER AND SEXUALITY STUDIES

>> **Josephine Beoku-Betts** received the 2015 SWS Feminist Activism Award from Sociologists for Women in Society, recognizing her "contributions to feminist activism and her consistent use of sociology to better the lives of women."

## SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION AND MULTIMEDIA STUDIES

>> **Noemi Marin** presented a paper, "The Role of the Nation: Starting Points of Political Arguments and Presidential Rhetoric in Post-1989," at the International Society for the Study of Argumentation International Conference, University of Amsterdam.

>> **David Cratis Williams** presented a co-authored paper, "'Rule of Law,' 'Freedom,' and 'Democracy': Domestic and International Building Blocks of Contemporary Russian Political Ideology," at the International Society for the Study of Argumentation International Conference, University of Amsterdam.

>> **James Tracy** presented a paper, "Framing 'Big Jim': The CIA, US News Media, and Press Coverage of the Jim Garrison JFK Assassination Investigation," at the 97th annual Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Annual Conference in Montreal, Canada.

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## LIFELONG LEARNING SOCIETY PROFESSORSHIP IN CURRENT AFFAIRS

>> **Mary Cameron** (anthropology) received the 2014-15 Annual LLS Professorship in Current Affairs, and **Jamie Cunningham** (music) received the 2014-15 Annual LLS Professorship in Arts and Humanities. Both will teach a class for LLS.

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## FAU AWARDS

**Kyle Prescott** (music) received an Award for Excellence and Innovation in Undergraduate Teaching; **Shantelle Maxwell** (English) receive an Award for Excellence and Innovation in Undergraduate Advising; Dean **Heather Colman** received the 2014 FAU Division of Student Affairs Outstanding Faculty Award in appreciation of her contributions to the Division of Student Affairs.

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## PROMOTIONS

>> The following faculty received tenure and promotion to associate professor: **Becka Mckay** (English), **Evan Bennett** (History) and **Carla Calarge** (LLCL).

## PROMOTIONS (CONTINUED)

>>The following faculty received promotion to professor: **David Williams** and **Anthony Guneratne** (SCMS), **Robert Rabil** (Political Science), **Prisca Augustyn** (LLCL).

>> The following instructors received promotion from instructor to senior instructor: **Claudia Dunlea** (History), **Kevin Petrich** (SCMS), **Emanuele Pettener** (LLCL), **Richard Potter** (English), **David Rossow** (Music), **Lilleth Trewick** (English), **Evelyn Trotter** (LLCL).

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## PEACE, JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE

>> Fellows were named in the Spring of 2014 for FAU's Peace, Justice, and Initiative. Among the group are six faculty members from the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters, including **Angela Nichols**, **Kelly Shannon**, **Carla Calarge**, **Fred Fejes**, **P. Raphael Dalleo** and **Wendy Hinshaw**. The other members are **Victor Wang**, College of Education; **Wilma Greenfield**, College for Design and Social Inquiry; **Mark Peterson**, College of Business; **Mark Tunick**, FAU Honors College; **Patricia Liehr**, Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing; and **Robin Vallacher**, Charles E. Schmidt College of Science. PJHR is a University-wide initiative that is supported by Walter and Lalita Janke. For more information, visit [fau.edu/pjhr](http://fau.edu/pjhr).

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## GIMELSTOB SYMPOSIUM

The Gimmelstob Symposia, organized by Federick Greenspahn, Gimmelstob Eminent Scholar In Judaic Studies and professor of Languages, Linguistics and Comparative Literature, bring leading Judaic Studies scholars to FAU in order to explore topics in which there have been significant discussions and debates. Scholars from prominent universities described current understandings of the origins of the rabbinic movement, the synagogue, fixed liturgy, and the break with Christianity, as well as the varieties of Judaism in both its Middle Eastern homeland and the diaspora, including that represented in the Dead Sea scrolls.

## NEW FACULTY

>> Philosophy: **Lauren Guilmette** received her Ph.D. in philosophy from Emory University. Guilmette's current research focuses on feminism, continental philosophy, and theories of affect in ethics and politics.

>> English: **Adam Spry** earned his Ph.D. in English and Comparative Literature from Columbia University. His research specialization is in Native American literature and centers around the literary history of the Ojibwe people.

**Sunny Xiang** earned her Ph.D. in English from the University of California, Berkeley. Her research interests include Asian American literature, Asian Anglophone literatures, narrative theory, Cold War culture, Critical Race Studies, Human Rights, War and Ethics.

>> History: **Kelly Shannon** received her Ph.D. in History from Temple University. Shannon's fields of study are the history of U.S. foreign relations, the modern Islamic world and international feminism.

>> Languages, Linguistics and Comparative Literature: **Viktor Kharlamov** received his Ph.D. in Linguistics from the University of Ottawa. His research interests include experimental and theoretical phonology; phonetics-phonology interface; acoustic and articulatory phonetics; and phonological and morphological processing.

**Roderick Cooke** received his Ph.D., M.Phil., and M.A. (French) from Columbia University. His doctoral research and training focuses on the nineteenth century French context.

>> Music: **Dalaine Chapman** received her Ph.D. in Music and Human Learning from The University of Texas at Austin. Her research interests include music teacher evaluation and assessment as well as the supervision of student teachers.

**Stacie Rossow** holds a Doctorate in Musical Arts degree in Choral Conducting from the University of Miami. Rossow has been a member of the faculty at FAU since 2000 and has served as conductor of the Women's Chorus since 1998.

>> Music *continued*: Irena Kofman holds a Doctorate of Musical Arts from the University of Miami. She performs widely as a chamber musician and has taught at FAU and University of Miami.

>> Political Science: **Rebecca LeMoine** received her Ph.D. in Political Science from University of Wisconsin, Madison. Her research and teaching interests include ancient political thought, theories of global justice, politics and literature, and American political thought.

**Angela Nichols** earned her Ph.D. from the University of North Texas. Her teaching fields include International Relations, Human Rights, Comparative Politics, Peace and Conflict Studies, and International Law.

>> School of Communication and Multimedia Studies: **Stephen Heidt** received his Ph.D. in Rhetoric and Politics from Georgia State University. Heidt's research and teaching interests include contemporary rhetorical theory, the analysis of American and international public address, and the role of political rhetoric in international affairs.

**Shane Eason** holds a M.F.A. in Studio Arts from Concordia University in Canada. He is the acting Multimedia Production Coordinator with FAU's School of Communication & Multimedia Studies and is responsible for instruction of film production courses at FAU.

>> Sociology: **Philip Lewin** received his Ph.D. from the University of Georgia. Lewin examines the cultural contours of persistent poverty, political inequality and environmental injustice in rural United States.

>> Theatre and Dance: **Lynn McNutt** completed her M.F.A. at the Shakespeare Theatre's Academy for Classical Acting at George Washington University. She has since been teaching and working in professional theatre at Washington at Arena Stage and in New York where she was a member of the Shakespeare Workout at Michael Howard Studios.

>> Visual Arts and Art History: **Camila Afanador** earned her M.F.A. in Graphic Design from the Rhode Island School of Design. Through her work she investigates the broadening role of graphic design in documenting, collecting and storytelling.

**Joe Bova** received his M.A. from the University of New Mexico. He comes to FAU from Ohio University and is a visiting Professor/Artist in Residence at FAU.

**Julie Ann Ward** holds an M.F. A. in sculpture from The Ohio State University and another from the University of Cincinnati's department of Design, Architecture, Art and Planning in Electronic Media. Her work embraces the shift from the physically laborious raw materiality of an iron sculptor to the contemporary technologies of the blue screen.

**Emily Fenichel** earned her Ph.D. from the University of Virginia and spent the past year as a Visiting Assistant Professor at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. Her research examines the influence of theology, liturgy and devotion on the art of the Early Modern Period in Italy.

**Andrew Brown** received his M.F.A. in painting and drawing from LSU in 2013, where he continued as an Adjunct Instructor in foundations.



>> **FAU's Diplomacy Program** placed fourth among the 350 schools competing in the 2014 National Model United Nations competition in New York City. Student delegations received the Distinguished Delegation Award and the Outstanding Delegation Award. Forty FAU undergraduates represented the university in what is the largest, most prestigious collegiate simulation of the United Nations in the world. This marks the eighth consecutive year that FAU has received a national award in this competition. FAU was the only school in the state of Florida to receive either a Distinguished Delegation or Outstanding Delegation Award.

DONOR *news*



>> **Band Camp for At-Risk Youth**  
The Department of Music worked with the Mary and Robert Pew Public Education Fund, the Boca West Foundation and another private donor to send more than 100 elementary student campers to the Teaching Outstanding Performers (TOPS) Band Camp during the summer of 2014. The camp was attended by students from South Grade Elementary and Highland elementary schools in Lake Worth, and K.E. Cunningham Canal Point Elementary School in Belle Glade. "It has proven to be a wonderful experience for everyone involved," said Kyle Prescott, director of the camp and associate chair of FAU's department of music. "The elementary school students receive great instruction, and FAU students gain practical experience in teaching."

## >> Keeping the Blues Alive Scholarship for FAU Music Students

Shawn Hagood, B.A. Music, '10, managing director of the non-profit Keeping the Blues Alive Foundation (KTBA), recently established the "Keeping the Blues Alive Award" for FAU music students. Awards worth over \$3,000 were given in the form of equipment and supplies requested by the applicants, all students in FAU's music program. The five recipients included Eerang Ang, Jessica DeMeo, Dragana Simonovska, Jack Hernandez, and Terra Guerra. Collectively, these students received a variety of items, which included an electronic keyboard, a recording system, books and other supplies.

KTBA, which was founded in 2011 by Grammy nominee Joe Bonamassa and artist manager Roy Weisman advocates for music education and funds programs and scholarships for students and teachers. Hagood graduated with a degree in Percussion Performance from FAU. Since graduation, he has taught at the School of Rock in Coral Springs, Florida, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, and played keyboard for the Huntington Beach, CA group "The Dirty Heads."



## >> Rory O'Connor, Jr., B.A.

**Communications, '95**, received the FAU 2014 Distinguished Alumni Award. Rory was chosen for his service to our nation, service to our veterans, and service to FAU as an outstanding graduate. Rory was raised in South Florida and served as a member of the U.S. Navy SEALs for eight years. He pursued a degree from the School of Communication and Multimedia Studies. His 30-year career includes work as vice president of JP Morgan and financial advisor for Edward Jones Investments. He created, and is now vice director of, the Tampa Bay Frogman Swim for the Navy SEAL Foundation, which aids active duty Naval Special Warfare personnel and their families. The event has raised more than \$700,000 over four years and is used as a model for a nationwide series of swims/fundraisers for the Navy SEAL Foundation.

>> **Brian Petuch, B.A., Music '08**, had his composition "If You see Something, Say Something" performed by the New York Youth Symphony in the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall. Petuch was a commercial music major in the Department of Music. Petuch's accomplishments can be found here <http://www.nyouthsymphony.org/first-music/brian-petuch>.

>> **The Advisory Council for the Center for Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies** hosted a fundraising event in the Spring, generously underwritten by Edith and Martin Stein, at the Arts Garage in Delray Beach. Sixty people attended the event which included dinner, the play "Fighting Over Beverley," and a conversation with the actors.



## >> Appraisal Event

College of Arts and Letters Advisory Board member David Miller, a local appraiser, helped the college organize the "On the Road: Sotheby's Appraisal Day at FAU" event, which raised more than \$13,000 for student scholarships and fellowships. International art experts from Sotheby's New York, Kodner Galleries in Dania Beach and Palm Beach Modern Auctions in West Palm Beach gave verbal appraisals for items ranging from paintings to antique muskets to fur coats.



## >> Georgina Dieter Dennis

The department of music received a donation of \$75,000 to continue funding of the Georgina Dieter Dennis Vocal Scholarship Fund. This is the third year that the College has received this scholarship funding, with all money being awarded to students who have graduated from a Florida high school and who are enrolled in vocal studies courses in FAU's department of music. This year, the scholarships will be given to six new freshman and 20 continuing vocal majors.



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*SPECIAL thanks*

*Wells Fargo to Sponsor Concerts*

>> The Department of Music is very thankful to once again have Wells Fargo as a sponsor, supporting student scholarships. During the 2013/14 academic year, the company matched all concert donations/ ticket sales. This was a total of \$25,000, which provided more than \$50,000 in scholarship support. This will be the third year that Wells Fargo has pledged matching support.



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