Meet Matthew Bowers — a YC Music Student with Adventurous Plans

Matthew Bowers, a Friends of Music Instrumental Scholarship recipient, has musical and cultural adventure in his future. While traveling overseas, he plans to finish the last four courses for his YC Associate of Arts Degree online.

Matthew Bowers came to YC with the flute as his main instrument. Candidly, he did not think he was all that good when he arrived, but he worked hard and really blossomed as a flautist and overall musician during his YC years.

Matthew recently left for Malaysia, planning to stay until next year. He wants to experience Eastern culture and music, especially how they think and feel about their music. He hopes to have the opportunity to share Western classical music with the people he meets and would be thrilled to do some teaching during his travels. Japan is also high on Matthew’s travel target list. He has always wanted to live there.

Home-schooled from grades 6 through 12, Matthew spent the last four years taking classes at YC, earning dual credit for both high school and college.

Invaluable Tutor and Student Assistant

Matthew’s fascination with teaching music, particularly in one-on-one situations, led him to formally and informally tutor other music theory students while at YC. Music majors must complete four semesters of Music Theory, and its reputation as a very difficult class is well deserved!

According to Dr. Roy Breiling, Director of Instrumental Music Activities, “Matthew was one of a few students who earned A’s in all four semesters of Music Theory. He really enjoyed the classes, and to be a good composer, you must have a strong background in Music Theory. Matthew was one of the best music tutors I’ve ever had. He was invaluable to me and the department, both by helping other students with Music Theory and as my work/study student assistant for two years. He loves composing. I especially enjoyed the premier performance of the special quartet he composed for me as a “musical goodbye” at the end-of-semester Instrumental Student Recital last May. I was honored.”

Dreams and Plans

This student’s ultimate dream is to become a professional performer and composer. To facilitate that goal, he hopes to attend a large music conservatory in the future. In his own words, “Performing is my way of (Continued on page 2)
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(Continued from page 1)

sharing my passion for music through an emotional means that can’t be achieved any other way. It brings music to any individual and allows me to connect with that person in a unique way. Composing is an opportunity to create, particularly music resembling great music of the past: Beethoven, Bach, Mozart and Dvorak, my special favorite. I would bring my own musical ideas into forms that have always been treasured in a way that would make my own music timeless, spanning the gaps of musical avant-garde and flighty vogues.”

Another personal goal is to competently learn as many instruments as possible in order to write music with the best sounds and character of each. Matthew feels many composers have a problem writing music using each instrument to its fullest potential, getting the best sound quality. At YC, he expanded his talents as a flautist and added play time on viola, percussion and piano. He also had invaluable experience as a member of the orchestra.

We wish this highly-motivated, talented student musician much success.

Bargain Basement CD Sales at Upcoming Music Department Concerts

Selections from a recently donated CD collection featuring a wide variety of music styles including classical, opera, folk, musical theater, popular, country and jazz, were offered for sale at last semester’s Music Department concerts. At only $2 per disc, sales were brisk!

Approximately 3,000 discs came to us from the estate of a local musician. Our heartfelt appreciation goes to the donor and his executors for their generous contribution to our fund-raising efforts. Look for the CD sales table again at our concerts this year.

Help Wanted — Reply to fommusiconotes@gmail.com or 928.717.0931

Spread the word about membership.
Tell a friend or business owner you know about Friends of Music. They can go to www.yc.edu/friendsofmusic to download our membership brochure or read our newsletter issues.

Help us with projects and programs.
We are looking for:
- New Board Members for FOM to help guide our efforts and our vision.
- More audience members for Brown Bag Concerts and Student Recitals.
- Volunteers for the Pocket Change Bucket Brigade.
- Assistance with fund raising.

Contribute to our initiatives.
Donate to our general fund or designate a specific purpose for your $$$s. Some suggestions are listed below. To contribute, contact Kim Flores at 928.776.2025.
- Immediate-use student tuition scholarships for choral, instrumental and piano students.
- Dr. Will Fisher Yavapai College Choral Music Scholarship Endowment Fund.
- FOM Endowment for Instrumental Music Scholarships.
- Instrument Maintenance & Acquisition Fund.
- FOM general operating funds.
New FOM Endowment for Instrumental Music Scholarships

The new “FOM Endowment for Instrumental Music Scholarships” has been founded with seed money donated by several members of the FOM Board of Directors. This new initiative offers you an opportunity to contribute to scholarships targeted to instrumental students. These funds are managed by the Yavapai College Foundation and the fund will become an actual, scholarship-producing endowment when the total donated reaches $10,000. Our goal is to raise at least $5,000 this year.

Dr. Roy Breiling, Director of Instrumental Music Activities, expressed his appreciation. “In these difficult financial times for the college, I am again so thankful to the FOM for initiating an endowment scholarship for instrumental music students. The students greatly appreciate and really benefit from FOM’s support.”

2011/2012 FOM Membership Drive in Full Swing — Please Join Us

You are invited to join or rejoin Friends of Music — YC and help us continue scholarship fund-raising efforts for students and support of the YC music program. Watch for your membership renewal letter in the mail.

Our official membership year is Sept. 1 through August 31. We had a great first membership year in 2010-2011 with more than 100 music lovers becoming charter members. The Pocket Change Program at concerts has raised close to $6,000 since FOM’s founding in the Fall of 2009. Endowment funds for choral and instrumental scholarships have been established with significant contributions to date. A new Instrument Maintenance & Acquisition Fund has received some exciting donations. Nearly $6,500 in designated contributions have passed through FOM in direct support of student scholarships and Music Department needs.

Our new brochure, individual and business membership details, a membership form and previous newsletters are online at www.yc.edu/friendsofmusic.

Student Performances — Expand the audience and help them grow!

Students need to perform in front of real audiences. Help them by attending their $5 Performance Hall Concerts (no charge for children 14 and under), plus their (Free) Recitals and Brown Bag Concerts in the Music Dept., Bldg. 15, Room 206.

- Sunday, 10/9 — Symphonic Band & Symphony Orchestra at 3 PM ($5)
- Sunday, 10/16 — Choral Union Concert at 3 PM ($5)
- Monday, 10/17 — Evening of Jazz at 7PM ($5)
- Friday, 10/28 — Vocal Brown Bag Lunch Concert at 12:15 PM (Free)

- Friday, 11/18 — Instrumental Brown Bag Lunch Concert at 12:15 PM (Free)
- Friday, 11/18 — Vocal & Piano Student Recital at 7PM (Free)
- Saturday, 12/3 — Holiday Instrumental Concert at 7:30 PM ($5)
- Sunday, 12/4 — Handel’s Messiah at 3 PM ($10)
- Monday, 12/5 — Evening of Jazz at 7PM ($5)
- Tuesday, 12/6 — Instrumental Student Recital at 7PM (Free)

“We had a great first membership year in 2010-2011 with more than 100 music lovers becoming charter members.”

Please join us in 2011-2012!
Meet Chris Eubank — Our New Director of Choral Activities

We are excited to welcome our new Choral Director, Chris Eubank, and we look forward to working with him.

Mr. Eubank completed his Bachelor’s and Master’s Degrees in Music Education at Eastern New Mexico University. After ten years of teaching, Chris was awarded a Teaching Assistantship at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign to work on his EdD in Music Education. He has finished with course work, passed his qualifying exams and is working on his dissertation.

Chris taught every level of general music and conducted choral ensembles at the junior and senior high levels during six years in the New Mexico public schools. Under his direction, the Lovington High School Chorale was selected to participate in the National Youth Chorale, which performed at Carnegie Hall.

Two years later, while Professor of Music and Department Chair at New Mexico Junior college, the NMJC College & Community Chorale was selected to participate in the National Youth Chorale, which performed at Carnegie Hall.

As a clinician, Mr. Eubank has worked with choral groups throughout the United States and as an adjudicator for choral as well as vocal solo and ensemble festivals.

As a conductor and performer, Chris has been involved in choral solo, musical theater and opera and enjoys being both on stage and at the podium. Examples of his on-stage roles include Horton the Elephant in “Seussical the Musical”, Tamino in “The Magic Flute” and Linus in “You’re A Good Man Charlie Brown”.

Chris Eubank, new Director of Choral Activities at YC, is looking forward to the next chapter in his varied and productive career.

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Chris is excited about his new position at Yavapai College and can’t wait to get started with the students, the choirs and his new colleagues.

About Music Notes and Friends of Music — Yavapai College

Music Notes is a quarterly newsletter from the Friends of Music — Yavapai College (FOM). Founded in the Fall of 2009, this all-volunteer organization supports the Music Department programs and students at Yavapai College and is an auxiliary of the Yavapai College Foundation.

FOM’s “Pocket Change” campaign is now a concert tradition. Numerous scholarships have already been awarded. Visit our web site at www.yc.edu/friendsofmusic or contact Kim Flores, YCF Coordinator, at 928.776.2025 or kimberly.flores@yc.edu to learn more.