



FACULTY – SPRING 2011

Priskali Achumi (Piano, Choir Accompanist) is in the M.C.M. program with Piano concentration at Southern Seminary. She holds the B.C.M. degree with Piano Concentration from Singapore Bible College (May, 2008) as well as Royal Academy of Music (A.B.R.S.M.) certifications in Piano, Voice and Theory. She has taught piano privately since 2005. Ms. Achumi served as church pianist at Thomson Road Baptist Church, Singapore for four years and at Sumi Baptist Church, Kohima in Nagaland, India. She sings alto in Southern Seminary's premier *a cappella* vocal ensemble Doxology, and performed in live broadcast with that ensemble last fall on WUOL-Louisville Public Radio's Lunchtime Classics series. She has served since June, 2010 as church pianist at Parkwood Baptist Church.

Matthew Albanese (Viola), a native of Chicago, is a third-year M.Div. student in the School of Theology. He holds the B.M. degree from Case Western Reserve University in conjunction with the Cleveland Institute of Music, where he studied viola with Mark Jackobs. Mr. Albanese has a strong jazz background, having started saxophone in fifth grade and played in jazz bands through high school. He took up violin at age seven and in high school studied viola with Desiree Ruhstrat of the Lincoln Trio. As a student at Butler University, Mr. Albanese studied with Michael Strauss, principal violist of the Indianapolis Symphony. While enrolled at Case Western Reserve, he played on the worship team at Cleveland Heights Church. Mr. Albanese has taught viola at Seminary String Camp in 2009 and 2010, and joined the SSA faculty in August, 2009. He is active at Immanuel Baptist Church.

Jennifer Bersaglia (SSA Interim Director, Master Teacher of Piano, Voice) holds the M.M. in Piano Performance from Indiana University and is completing the D.M.A. in Piano Performance with a Certificate in Theory Pedagogy from the University of Kentucky. She taught on the faculty of Pikeville College (KY) from 2001-2007, where she was Assistant Professor of Music/Director of Keyboard and Vocal Studies and taught piano, music theory, and other courses. Mrs.

Bersaglia is active throughout Kentucky and the South central region as an adjudicator for choral festivals, piano festivals, and competitions, and as clinician, choral conductor, vocal coach, and accompanist. In June, 2010 she was Choir accompanist for the Kentucky Baptist Convention's annual All-State Youth Choir and Orchestra tour of approximately one hundred high school musicians. She served as Collaborative Pianist for the University of Michigan from 2007-2008 and for Indiana University Opera Division from 2000-2001. She is founding Director of the Eastern Kentucky Piano Competition and has served as the competition's Artistic Director since 2006. She was named KMEA College Teacher of the Year for her district in 2004 and 2005. She has been selected as a participant for two international workshops, the Summer Music Institute in Graz, Austria (2005), and the *Academie de Musique* in Gargenville, France (2001), as well as for the TCU/Van Cliburn Institute for Piano in 1997. Mrs. Bersaglia's students have included Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts winners and a KMTA Vocal Competition Winner (2009). Her students have won scholarships to Interlochen Music Camp, New York University, Belmont University, North Carolina School for the Arts, University of Kentucky, and other institutions. She is married to Dr. Scott Bersaglia, who is Conductor of the Seminary Orchestra as well as Director of Bands and Professor of Conducting at Campbellsville University. The Bersaglias are the proud parents of Isabella Matea.

B. Neal Green (Violin, Suzuki Violin, String Chamber Music Coach) holds the Bachelor's degree from Indiana University (General Studies, 2007) and will complete the M.C.M. with a Violin Performance concentration in December, 2010. After early violin studies with Mrs. Hiroko Driver Lippmann, he has studied with Mr. Michael Davis from the age of 13 through the completion of his M.C.M. degree recital in April, 2010. Mr. Green has taught private violin for 8 years, including the past 2 years at the SSA, and has done substitute teaching in the Oldham County Public Schools. He holds the Suzuki Level I "Every Child Can" Certification and

will be enrolled this Fall in teacher training for higher levels of Suzuki certification under Dr. Timothy (Terry) Durbin, Master Teacher in the University of Louisville Suzuki program. Mr. Green has served as Concertmaster of the Seminary Orchestra since January, 2009, and has performed as violin soloist with the Seminary Orchestra in Spring, 2006 and Fall, 2009. He plays with the Southern Seminary String Quartet and other groups. He has served as Minister of Music at First Baptist Church of Eastwood, KY since June, 2009.

Mark Kersting (Trombone) is a graduate of Xavier University with a B.A. in Music and of the University of Louisville with the M.M. in Instrumental Conducting. He has served the Seminary community as trombonist in the Seminary Orchestra for the past 12 years. From 2004-2007 Mr. Kersting served on the music faculty and was Band Director at Kentucky Wesleyan College. He has performed in professional brass groups including Star of Indiana, Brass Theater, and BLAST! Mark is married to Ginny who is a violist. They are active at Southeast Christian Church, where he sings in the Master's Men choir and occasionally plays in the Southeast Christian Orchestra.

Jared Lafitte (Piano and Voice) holds the Bachelor of Music Composition degree with Voice emphasis from Wheaton College Conservatory of Music (Wheaton, IL) and is a second-year Master of Divinity student at SBTS in the School of Theology. Mr. Lafitte studied composition with Dr. Jan Bach (who studied under Aaron Copland), Dr. Howard Whitaker (who studied with Darius Milhaud), and Dr. David Gordon. Mr. Lafitte studied voice with Dr. Stephen Morscheck and orchestration and conducting with Dr. Daniel Sommerville. He has taught private voice, piano, guitar, percussion, and drumset for nearly 10 years, and has taught with the SSA since Fall, 2009. He taught the Songwriting class at Seminary String Camp in 2010. Mr. Lafitte is a tutor through the JCPS school system and teaches locally through several music and tutoring agencies.

Maryellen Liu (Piano, Violin, and String Chamber Music Coach) holds the degree Bachelor of Industrial Design from Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (Melbourne, Australia), and is currently a piano major enrolled in the M.C.M. program at Southern Seminary. She has studied piano pedagogy with Dr. Sandra Turner. Also a string player and pedagogue, she studied viola with Jacqui Cronin of Sydney Omega Ensemble and Rosemary Michael of the School of Instrumental Music, Australia. She has taught both piano and violin with SSA since Fall, 2009. In Spring, 2010 she was Chamber Coach for the SSA intermediate String Trio. Her passion is music pedagogy through which she hopes to engage and train children and adults in greater fluency in musical

language. She has taught at Seminary String Camp since 2009 as well as at string camps in West Virginia (Clay and Fayette Counties) with the SBTS Appalachian Music Missions team in 2009. She sings soprano in Southern Seminary's premier *a cappella* vocal ensemble Doxology, and performed in live broadcast with that ensemble last fall on WUOL-Louisville Public Radio's Lunchtime Classics series. Ms. Liu has served as church pianist at Lyndon Baptist Church since Fall, 2009.

Joshua McClain (Choir Conductor) is a Master of Church Music student at Southern Seminary. Mr. McClain graduated with a Bachelor in Music Education degree from the University of Memphis in December 2009, with saxophone as his major instrument. Mr. McClain has conducted the SSA Choir since January, 2010. Prior to joining the SSA, he held the position of Music Intern under Dr. Carter Threlkeld for the School of Performing Arts on the staff of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, TN. Mr. McClain has performed extensively in wind and jazz ensembles and has taught as a substitute music teacher in the Memphis City Schools. In Spring 2010 he became the first Conductor of the School of Arts Choir and served as SSA Coordinator and String Camp Coordinator. He has served since March, 2010 as Minister of Music at Cedar Creek Baptist Church.

Chris McDonald (Trumpet, Wind Ensemble Conductor), a native of Knoxville, received the Bachelor of Music in Church Music degree from Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, TN. Mr. McDonald is in the M.C.M. program at SBTS, where he has studied trumpet with Dr. Douglas Smith and now studies with Dr. Reese Land. He has served since August, 2009 as Minister of Music at First Baptist Church in Taylorsville, KY. He teaches trumpet with the School of the Arts and will direct the SSA Wind Ensemble in Fall 2010. He has played trumpet for 12 years and has experience working with young trumpet players of all ages.

Anna Pan (Piano, Organ) has taught private piano and has served several congregations as church pianist and in other aspects of music ministry for over 20 years. She is currently pursuing the DMA degree with concentration in Organ at Southern Seminary. Ms. Pan earned the Bachelor in Church Music degree from Taiwanese Theological College in Taipei in 1994 and the M.C.M. degree with a Performer's Certificate in Organ at SBTS in 2008. She has pursued extensive graduate studies in German Language and Literature at the University of Trier, Germany, and is a fluent German speaker. She has taught piano and organ to students of all ages at the Seminary School of the Arts since 2004. She has served as church organist at Bethany Baptist Church in Louisville since 2004 and also directed the preschool choir there.

Chandi Plummer (Voice) teaches voice at Boyce College and Seminary School of the Arts and performs actively in the Louisville area. Mrs. Plummer holds the B. M. in Voice Performance from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and the M. M. in Voice from SBTS, where she was recipient of the Outstanding Female Voice Recital Award and the Vocal Pedagogy Award. She has also taught at the Louisville Academy of Music. Her students have auditioned successfully as college voice majors, performed in musical theater and operatic performances, and recorded commercially on a nationally-known label. Mrs. Plummer has been a NATS competition finalist, has performed as soprano soloist in Louisville performances of *Messiah*, *Elijah*, Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Mozart's *Requiem*, and Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*. She has performed musical theater and operatic roles including Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro* and roles of Menotti, Gilbert and Sullivan, and Humperdink. Her directing debut was Walden Theater's 2002 production of *Quilters*. In 2007, Mrs. Plummer sang before First Lady Barbara Bush at a fundraiser for mothers with cancer in Tennessee. Since 2003, she has performed annually as the featured soloist at the Seminary Orchestra's well-loved Summerfest Pops Concert. She is married to Dr. Robert L. Plummer who serves on the School of Theology faculty at SBTS. They have three young musical daughters and are active at Sojourn Community Church.

Greg Ross (Clarinet, Saxophone, Wind Chamber Coach) serves as Seminary Chapel Orchestra Conductor, Chapel Worship Coordinator, and as academic advisor in the School of Church Ministries for Church Music and Worship majors. He has served since 2004 as Instrumental and Handbell Consultant for the Kentucky Baptist Convention, where he co-directs and implements the annual All-State Youth Choir and Orchestra tour of one hundred high school musicians. Mr. Ross holds the B.M.E. degree with teaching certification from Lander University (Greenwood, SC) and the M.A. Worship degree from SBTS. He spent twenty-one years in the Army Band program in the role of saxophone section leader and serving on a skills team that traveled throughout Texas and Arkansas recruiting and giving master classes in schools. He has taught public and private school band, choir, and orchestras at both middle and high school levels. From 2000 to 2004 he served concurrently as full-time Instrumental Music Associate for East Cooper Baptist Church in Mt. Pleasant, SC and as band director for Palmetto Christian Academy. He has played saxophone professionally with the Charleston Symphony Orchestra and for prominent artists. Mr. Ross has served as orchestra director at Highview Baptist Church, as Band and Choir Director at Whitfield Academy, and as Director of the Boyce College Instrumental Ensemble. Mr. Ross has taught at Calvin Academy and Noteworthy Studios in Louisville. He is

married to Mary Lynn Ross who is Admissions Administrator at Highlands Latin School. Their daughter Kathryn is a recent graduate of Hillsdale College and son Grayson is a recent high school graduate from Highlands Latin School. Mr. Ross is in his fourth year on the faculty of the SSA and directed the Woodwind Quartet in Spring 2010.

Andrew Sheffield (Piano), originally from Macon, Georgia, joins the SSA this fall as a M.Div. Worship Leadership student. He graduated from the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance with the M. M. in Piano Performance in May, 2009, where he held a graduate assistantship in accompanying. He holds the B.M. *summa cum laude* in Piano Performance (2007) from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (2007). Mr. Sheffield served from May 2009-2010 as Minister of Music at Faith Community Church in Kansas City, MO, where he assisted in founding and directing the Faith Community School of Music. He has served under Associate Pastor Clay Layfield at FBC Eastman, Georgia and Pastor Juan Sanchez at High Point BC in Austin, TX. Mr. Sheffield is married to Kimberly who is an elementary school teacher.

T. Martin Stam (Bass, Guitar) grew up in a musical home and began violin study at age five, later continuing with piano, cello, and ultimately bass. He holds the B.M. in Bass Performance from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the M.M. in Classical Performance from the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College (NY). Mr. Stam has been active in church music all his life and is currently enrolled in the Master of Arts in Worship Leadership at Southern Seminary. He has taught in and maintains a private studio, offering lessons in piano, guitar, and ukulele. He has taught bass and coached ensembles at Raspberry Ridge String Camp for over 12 years. He has worked with the Louisville Youth Orchestra as Low String Section Leader, has taught at Seminary String Camp in 2004 and 2010, and has taught with the SSA since January, 2010. An in-demand bassist both in Kentucky and North Carolina, he performs regularly with the Louisville Bach Society and the Fayetteville and Wilmington Symphony Orchestras. When not playing music, Mr. Stam runs marathons, bikes, and creates visual art. Since January, 2010 he has played on the worship team at Sojourn Community Church, Midtown Campus.

Angela Stephens (Voice, Children's Choir) teaches voice and directs the children's choir at the Seminary School of the Arts. She holds the B.M. in Vocal Music Education from Liberty University, studying with bass Wayne Kompelien, and is currently finishing up the M.M. in Choral Conducting at the University of Louisville, studying with Edie Tidwell for voice

and Kent Hatteberg for Conducting. She has conducted with Cantate, The Children's Choir of Central Virginia, as well as the University of Louisville University Chorus, and has sung in prestigious groups such as the Liberty University Chamber Singers from 2005-2008 and The University of Louisville Collegiate Chorale from 2009 to the present. In addition, she enjoys leading worship, and is currently a member at Immanuel Baptist Church.

Samuel Tandei (Voice) is a native of Indonesia. He is on his final year in pursuing a Master of Divinity in Church Music (majoring in vocal performance) and expecting to graduate in May 2011 from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY. Apart from his music studies, he has a bachelor's degree in political science from Parahyangan Catholic University in Indonesia and a master's degree in religious education from Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA. He is studying voice under the tutelage of Dr. Ronald Turner and Dr. Thomas Bolton. He has sung in voice masterclasses for Mr. Robert Edwin (NATS) and Mr. Philip Webb (Metropolitan Opera). He also passed the first year of Directors of Young Singers' certification program held by the Choristers Guild Institute, led by Dr. Anton Armstrong (St. Olaf College) and other faculties in the area of children and adolescent choir. As an accomplished tenor soloist he has been featured several times with the Southern Seminary Oratorio

Chorus and Seminary Orchestra, presenting the works of Bach and Mendelssohn. In regional level, he has performed roles with the Indiana University Southeast Opera and is scheduled to perform his debut recital at Louisville' Classical 90.5 WUOL in November 2010.

Leila Trindade (Suzuki Violin) a prominent Suzuki teacher in the Louisville area, directs the Suzuki program at the School of the Arts and has served since 2006 as Co-Director of Seminary String Camp. Mrs. Trindade earned the B.M. in Violin Performance from the University of Rio de Janeiro, studying with Paulo Bosisio, and the M.M. in Violin Performance from Florida International University in Miami, where she studied with Ivan Chan. She holds six Suzuki certifications and has taught at Suzuki camps and events including the University of Louisville Suzuki Institute in 2007 and 2008. She served as Concertmaster of Seminary Orchestra from Fall, 2006 through 2008. An active performer, she plays with the Highland Chamber Players, Southern Seminary String Quartet, and other groups. She has served since 2005 as Concertmaster of the Orchestra at Walnut Street Baptist Church where she and her family are members. Mrs. Trindade also teaches in the University of Louisville's Suzuki program, the Indiana University Southeast Arts Institute, and the Aaron Boaz Music Academy in Indiana. She and her husband Eduardo are the parents of violinist Gabriela, cellist Luisa, and Julia.



The School of | **CHURCH MINISTRIES**

BIBLICAL WORSHIP ► FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP ► PASTORAL LEADERSHIP