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Music School Launches New Program

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John Rokosz (B.M. Music Technology, 2004) has used his talents and training to become a versatile musician in the Pittsburgh area. Since graduation, Rokosz has been the music director of Greensburg Central Catholic High School’s performance of *Oklahoma!*, an apprentice pianist at Pittsburgh’s Sing-Sing Dueling Piano Bar, a piano instructor, an independent film composer and a freelance vocalist and pianist.

He was also a member of the indie-rock band Paul Luc, playing piano, organ, accordion, singing backup vocals and composing/arranging string parts for the band’s two albums.

Today, Rokosz has turned his sights back to a more classical focus, serving as music director for the Holy Wisdom Parish Latin Mass Community of St. Therese in Pittsburgh’s North Side neighborhood. His choir performs a challenging repertoire—from 16th century polyphony to full Gregorian Chant propers and great Masses of the Classical and Romantic eras—at High Mass every Sunday.

Music School Launches

**Bachelor of Music with Elective Studies in Business**

The Mary Pappert School of Music launched a new program in Fall 2013. The Bachelor of Music with Elective Studies in Business, which is unique among music degrees, combines a bachelor of music degree with a certificate in business from the Palumbo•Donahue School of Business.

While there are schools nationwide that offer a degree to prepare students for work in the music business, there are very few that provide a strong background in general business. This difference is key for new students who not only wish to pursue a career in music, but want to increase their opportunities in other areas, as well.

“The purpose of the Bachelor of Music with Elective Studies in Business is to provide performing musicians with a basic understanding of business administration that will enhance their career opportunities in today’s professional music world,” said Dean Edward Kocher.

The School of Music frequently receives requests from prospective students and their families for the option of a business certificate in addition to the degree programs that are offered. The new program meets this need with a dual focus—by first developing the skills necessary for students to be successful in music performance and, second, by providing students with a solid knowledge base in business.

“I am very excited about the Bachelor of Music with Elective Studies in Business degree track,” added Troy Centofanto, director of admissions for the music school. “In particular, it provides our students with an option to gain an additional skill set and a competitive edge for a very competitive field. I also believe the overall academic experience of our music students will be enhanced through increased exposure to an outside discipline. This is a rare opportunity for any student attending a conservatory-style music program.”

The Bachelor of Music with Elective Studies in Business program not only opens doors for students preparing for successful music careers—it also forges an interschool collaboration between the schools of music and business.

“At Duquesne University, we recognize the value of interdisciplinary and joint-degree programs,” Kocher said. “We are pleased to create a more formal partnership between the Mary Pappert School of Music and the Palumbo•Donahue School of Business.”

For more information on the new program, call 412.396.5064 or visit duq.edu/MusicAndBusiness.