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# Fine Arts Chamber Players

Summer 2016

## Endowed scholarship named for Co-Founder Rogene Russell



Photo credit: LifeTouch

Rogene Russell

Fine Arts Chamber Players is pleased to announce that longtime supporters **Don and Norma Stone** have made a \$500,000 gift to endow a college scholarship fund benefiting student musicians from DISD, particularly those who have participated in Fine Arts Chamber Players' free music education programs. The fund, held at The Dallas Foundation, will provide college scholarships to Dallas public school students and alumni who wish to pursue degrees in music, and is named in honor of Rogene Russell, the artistic director and co-founder of Fine Arts Chamber Players.

"It is a privilege for Fine Arts

Chamber Players to help develop the talent of so many DISD high school students who are challenged to pay for music lessons. With this extraordinary lead gift from the Stones, we will be able to continue nurturing these young musicians at the college level," said Rogene Russell. Ms. Russell founded Fine Arts Chamber Players in 1981, and for nearly four decades has dedicated herself to organizing free chamber music concerts and free in-school music education for hundreds of thousands of North Texas residents, "I am profoundly humbled and honored that my name is associated with this magnanimous fund initiated by the generosity of **Don and Norma Stone.**"

"Rogene has made us aware that there are musically gifted, highly talented students in Dallas who need mentoring and financial assistance to reach their musical potential," commented Don Stone. "The fund can provide some of their needed financing each year. **Musical genius needs to be supported.**"

Over the past few months,

Mr. and Mrs. Stone have also helped to raise an additional \$60,000 for the Fund from other arts education supporters across Dallas. **The Rogene Russell Scholarship Fund is open for additional contributions of any amount.** For more information on contributing to the Fund, see "I'd like to Give to a Fund" under [www.dallasfoundation.org](http://www.dallasfoundation.org)

"Through their leadership on the Rogene Russell Fund, **Don and Norma have not only demonstrated their dedication to the DISD students and musicians who will benefit from the scholarship, but also their support for the future of our arts community.** We are so pleased they selected The Dallas Foundation to help make their philanthropic vision a reality," said Mary Jalonick, President & CEO of The Dallas Foundation. The first scholarships from the Fund will be awarded in early 2017, and the application process will begin in fall 2016. Application information will be posted on The Dallas Foundation and Fine Arts Chamber Players websites in fall 2016.

Save the Date

Announcing  
the 2016-2017  
Bancroft Family  
Concert dates:

October 15  
November 12  
January 28  
February 25  
March 25  
April 15  
May 13

All concerts are  
on Saturdays  
at 3 p.m.  
in the Horchow  
Auditorium at  
the Dallas  
Museum of Art,  
1717 N.  
Harwood St.  
Dallas 75201

All concerts are  
free and open  
to the public.  
No tickets or  
reservations  
required!

## FACP alum Quinn Mason wins Young Composers Competition



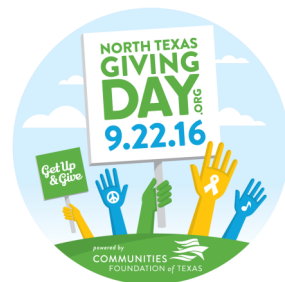
Photo credit: Rachel Assi  
**Quinn Mason**

Congratulations to Richland College composition student, Quinn Mason. He took **first place in the Voices of Change annual Young Composers Contest** this spring. While he was a student at North Dallas High School, Mr. Mason worked with an FACP Teaching Artist who mentored him on music composition. His award-winning piece *2 Fleeting Daydreams* is for piano, violin, and clarinet. The movement called *Lights that fire up the sky...* can be found on SoundHound.com.

Voices of Change is a 41-year-old professional chamber music ensemble dedicated to performing contemporary classical music.

## Get Up & Give: 8th annual North Texas Giving Day, September 22

North Texas Giving Day, administered by Communities Foundation of Texas, happens September 22, 2016! Log on to [NorthTexasGivingDay.org](http://NorthTexasGivingDay.org) between 6 a.m. and midnight to give to **Fine Arts Chamber Players**. Gifts over \$25 will be increased with a portion of bonus funds, which are raised from local foundation and business partners by Communities Foundation of Texas. The bonus funds boost every donation made on North Texas Giving Day. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter for more info on #NTXGivingDay!



## UIL success for Booker T. Washington, David W. Carter choirs

The choral department at Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts deserves applause for its performance at the UIL contest held this spring. The non-varsity Treble, varsity Tenor/Bass, and varsity Mixed Choirs all earned **sweepstakes awards**. The choirs received the highest honors – straight 1s – on stage and in sightreading.

Our supporters may remember that FACP places Teaching Artists at BTWHSPVA and David W. Carter High School in Dallas to work with music student in private lessons, and in group settings.

Carter choir students also did well: Mixed Choir was awarded a sweepstakes and the Treble and Tenor/Bass groups earned 1s onstage.

## Carter HS choir invited to perform at House of Blues

On May 17, student musicians from David W. Carter High School performed at House of Blues-Dallas. The House of Blues Music Forward Foundation invited the Carter choir to perform along with three other local schools in a free community concert.

Fine Arts Chamber Players provides private and group

voice and piano lessons to music students at David W. Carter High School. Classes are free for the students, but are staffed by professional musicians who are paid by FACP.

A grant from the House of Blues Music Forward Foundation goes toward this program.



Photo credit: Rogene Russell

**David W. Carter High School choir members delighted the crowd at House of Blues.**

## Basically Beethoven Festival 2016: dynamic & diverse!



Join us on Sundays in July for our FREE, family-friendly concerts – the 36th annual **Basically Beethoven Festival!** Each afternoon begins with a recital at 2:30 pm. featuring local student virtuosos, followed by the featured concert at 3 p.m. The Festival is held at Dallas City Performance Hall.

### July 10, Westerly Winds

Rising Star Recital: Quinlan Facey, piano

**Feature Performance:** a wind quintet plays Beethoven, Francaix, and Ligeti.

### July 17, Menagerie: Two Pianos, Six Hands, and a Herd of Animals

Rising Star Recital: Alexander Davis-Pegis, cello

**Feature Performance:** Three pianists, including Guest Festival Director and previous BBF artist Alex McDonald, bring to life several pieces, including a new arrangement of Stravinsky's *Firebird* by McDonald.

### July 24, Let's Dance!

Rising Star Recital: Jay Appaji, *mridangam*, traditional Indian

percussion

**Feature Performance:** chamber music group Ensemble75 presents pieces by Bragato, Brahms, and Faure.

### July 31, Nocturnal Scenes

Rising Star Recital: Jason Zhu and Jason Lin, piano

**Feature Performance:** A string quintet featuring performers from the Dallas Symphony Orchestra and National Ballet of China Symphony Orchestra closes the Festival with Mozart's *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* and Schubert's Cello quintet.

## Meet Carnell Simmons, our ExxonMobil CSJP intern

A flute performance major and arts administration minor at TCU, Carnell Simmons joins FACP this summer as Assistant Festival Director for the 2016 Basically Beethoven Festival.

Executive Director Rachel Assi remarked, "Carnell has been a fantastic addition to the Fine Arts Chamber Players team. He's an ambitious and accomplished musician and arts manager, and he has brought fresh ideas and enthusiasm to

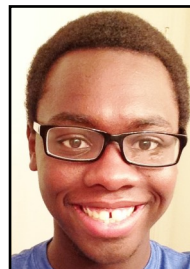
this year's Basically Beethoven Festival."

Mr. Simmons, an incoming senior, has staged his own flute conference in the Brazos Valley area and plans to start a non-profit organization with the goal of uplifting youth through arts, leadership, and education. He is also an aspiring collegiate flute professor and leadership educator.

"I'm so thankful to SMU and TCU faculty and facilities,

ExxonMobil CSJP summer internship program, and especially to FACP for selecting me for this ultimate opportunity."

He has a high admiration for all art forms and high aspirations for his own future. We'd say it looks pretty bright!



**Carnell Simmons**

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