

HIGHLIGHTING: ALL CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY CHORALE | HEART & SOUL | PURDUE BELLS | PURDUE VARSITY GLEE CLUB | PURDUETTES | UNIVERSITY CHOIR

Yours in Song

A publication
from Purdue
Musical
Organizations

WINTER 2018

THE 84TH
ANNUAL
PURDUE CHRISTMAS
SHOW PROVES
TO BE 'XTRA'
SPECIAL!

Students in 10-N-10 performing "My Favorite Things" during Purdue Christmas Show

A Semester Review, Looking Forward

by William Griffel

Another amazing year has come to a close here at PMO. Our students and staff had a busy fall, and we are excited for the opportunities the spring semester holds.

Beginning last August, the Purduettes and Purdue Varsity Glee Club kicked off our performance schedule with the season opener at the YMCA Camp Tecumseh in Brookston, Ind. The Glee Club's annual "First Nighter" concert packed the aisles in Elliott Hall of Music the first week of classes, and in September, family and friends filled the hills of Slayter Center of the Performing Arts to enjoy sunshine and the outdoor Picnic with the Purduettes performance.

This year's PMO Alumni Day in September broke records for number of tailgate attendees and high temperatures in the upper 90s, but the Glee Club kept its cool while performing on the Homecoming stage. Another exciting opportunity the Glee Club received was performing for the World Food Prize Ceremony in Des Moines, Iowa to honor the 2017 Laureate and Purdue alumnus, Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, who earned



master's and doctorate degrees in agricultural economics.

Closing out our fall performance schedule was the PMO Fall Show featuring the Purdue Bells, Heart & Soul, University Choir and the All-Campus and Community Chorale at the Long Center for Performing Arts, downtown Lafayette. Our busy semester culminated with the 'xtra' special 84th annual Purdue Christmas Show, with nearly 18,000 in attendance.

We are looking forward to another successful semester this spring. Beginning in February, PMO students will help spread the love with our annual Singing Valentines. The Glee Club, Purduettes and Purdue Bells are preparing for spring break performance tours in March, and be sure to mark your calendars for our fifth annual Purdue Day of Giving on April 25.

We are packing the calendar at PMO, and we encourage you to stay connected with us and visit Bailey Hall next time you return to campus.

Read on for articles about these events, distinguished PMO alumni and more.

84th Annual Purdue Christmas Show is 'Xtra' Special

The 84th annual Purdue Christmas Show proved to be an 'Xtra Special' production for more than 17,900 audience members on December 2-3. Enthusiastic patrons filled Elliott Hall of Music for four weekend performances showcasing more than 300 student and community performers.

The 2017 show offered a special surprise near the end of Act I when the newly dedicated Boilermaker 'Xtra Special' joined PMO performers on stage during the BaNaNa number, "Boogie Woogie Choo Choo Train."

"PMO is proud to have collaborated with the Purdue Reamer Club student drivers to add a special touch to this year's show," said Bill Griffel, director.

PMO thanks all who attended and invites you to join us this year as we celebrate our 85th anniversary of the Christmas Show on December 1-2.



Thank you to all who attended our 2017 Christmas Show! Mark your calendars for a special anniversary this year as we celebrate the 85th annual Purdue Christmas Show on December 1-2!



Colton Withers

PMO Welcomes Withers as Associate Director

We are thrilled to announce that Colton Withers, a '13 Purdue graduate, has accepted the newly-created role of Associate Director, Donor & Alumni Relations and Operations at PMO.

Colton is a familiar face in the PMO family, having served as PMO's Director of Development with the Purdue Research Foundation since September of 2015. He brings more than six years of fundraising, marketing and communications experience to his new role.

While an undergraduate, Colton was a member of the Purdue Varsity Glee Club. He is currently pursuing his executive master's degree at the IU Lilly School



THANK YOU, CORPORATE PARTNERS

PMO appreciates our Christmas Show supporters:

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Purdue Federal Credit Union

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Outpost Catering
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of Philanthropy, with an anticipated graduation date of May of 2019.

To the PMO alumni, supporters and friends, he says, "I am thrilled to be back at PMO, which I have always considered my home away from home. Working with PMO alumni and supporters, many of whom made my years singing with the Glee Club so memorable, is a dream come true. My time on the risers with the Purdue Varsity Glee Club was the

defining experience of my undergraduate education, a sentiment so many of my fellow PMO alumni share. I look forward to working with the PMO family to provide the same transformative experiences for members of all of our talented ensembles."

Please join us in congratulating Colton!

“Working with PMO alumni and supporters, many of whom made my years singing with the Glee Club so memorable, is a dream come true.”

Colton Withers

Glee Club to Celebrate 125 Years

October 20, 2018
Alumni Concert 4 – 6 p.m.
Dinner 7 p.m.

Generations of Glee Club alumni will gather on campus October 19 - 20 to celebrate the Glee Club 125th anniversary. The weekend will also bring Glee Club supporters and friends together to honor the past, celebrate the present and solidify a foundation for future generations of the Purdue Varsity Glee Club.

Alumni Activities

Glee Club alumni are invited to join in a group rehearsal in Elliott Hall of Music, Friday, October 19, from 3 to 5 p.m. A welcome reception with dinner and drinks will be hosted afterward for alumni at Bailey Hall, where specialty groups and soloists will have opportunities to perform throughout the evening.



125 Years of



Anniversary Celebration

On Saturday, October 20, from 4 to 6 p.m., the Glee Club will perform an alumni concert in Elliott Hall of Music, with all Glee Club alumni invited to perform. The free concert is open to the public.

Following the concert, alumni, guests and PMO friends are invited to a 7 p.m. dinner in the France A. Córdova Recreational Sports Center. We hope that you will join us to celebrate this milestone in PMO history!

Get All the Details

For more information about the Glee Club 125th anniversary weekend, visit purdue.edu/pmo/gleeclub.



Song



Stewart Directorship Endowment Established

During the four decades, from 1932 to 1974, Dr. Albert P. Stewart served as PMO director, he brought national acclaim to the Glee Club and Purdue University. A firm believer in honoring the past, Stewart liked to remind Glee Club students they were “standing on the shoulders of giants who have come before.”

By bringing them to national prominence, Dr. Stewart put PMO and Purdue University on the map.

Now, PMO invites you to help carry on his legacy by supporting the Dr. Albert P. Stewart Directorship Endowment, which will ensure future generations of the Purdue Varsity Glee Club enjoy life-changing opportunities for years to come.

To learn more, visit giving.purdue.edu/gleeclub.



Dr. and Mrs. Albert Stewart

Purdue Bells manager, Sara Wendte, has attended College Ring-In since 2016.

Purdue Bells Students Attend Annual Convention

While other college students may enjoy the long winter break at home, four Purdue Bells ringers embarked on a cross-country adventure, attending the third annual College Ring-In convention in Princeton, N.J., January 3 – 6. Hosted by Handbell Musicians of America, the national event draws college-aged handbell players from across the country for three days of ringing, learning and making memories.

Purdue Bells students Kara Guinn, Kara Miller, Sara Wendte and Karen You traveled to Westminster Choir College of Rider University, joining more than 30 ringers and celebrating the 40th anniversary of Westminster College's handbell program, the oldest college handbell choir in the country.

Established in 1979, the Purdue Bells are not far behind and will celebrate its 40th anniversary in 2019.

This was the third time Sara Wendte, Purdue Bells manager, attended the Ring-In. A senior electrical engineering student from Willowbrook, Ill., she received a scholarship from Houston Bronze to cover the \$100 registration cost.

One of Wendte's favorite experiences was playing Matthew Compton's arrangement of "Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel?".

"It's a fun piece to play because we get to sing in the middle of the song," she says. "This performance was special because the arranger was actually at the event ringing beside us."

Purdue Bells has played a few of Compton's other pieces, including a specially commissioned arrangement for orchestra, shaker chimes and handbell quartet for the 83rd Annual PMO Christmas Show.



"It's crazy to think that someone my age is already such an accomplished composer," Wendte says of Compton.

College Ring-In is directed by Michael Joy, who has conducted the handbell convention since its inception in 2016.


"Michael Joy does an excellent job teaching us how to become better ringers and play at a high level after only three days," Wendte says.

The convention is open to college-aged ringers but is not exclusive to students. Purdue Bells '16 alumnus Andrew Scher also attended. He now rings with the L.A. Bronze Handbell Choir in Los Angeles.

Wendte looks forward to again connecting with friends at the annual College Ring-In. "It's great to see the event is continuing to grow. There are about 10 of us who have gone every year, and it's awesome to have those friendships established through our shared love of hand bells."



Purdue Bells manager Sara Wendte pictured with Bells '16 alumnus, Andrew Scher, Director Michael Joy, fellow PMO students Kara Guinn, Kara Miller and Karen You at the 2018 College Ring-In concert.



More than 30 ringers attended the annual convention in Princeton, N.J.



Get Ready for Purdue Day of Giving 2018!

Thanks to your generosity last year, PMO raised \$95,687, with a record-breaking 81 first-time donors. Based on participation alone, PMO received \$10,000 in bonus money and came in third overall for total number of donations for all Purdue participants, with 1,186 gifts.

The fifth annual Purdue Day of Giving is scheduled for Wednesday, April 25, and PMO needs your help again this year.

Help PMO win bonus cash by participating in as many hourly challenges as you can throughout the day. The unit with the most gifts, per challenge, will win!

- Unit with the highest number of donations per hour
- Most donations from Purdue alumni
- Most parent donors (PMO placed 2nd for this challenge last year!)
- Most alumni donors of the last decade (PMO placed 2nd for this challenge last year!)
- Most gifts from international donors

In addition to these hourly challenges, PMO has the possibility to win several social media challenges throughout the day by using the Purdue Day of Giving logo on your social media accounts using the hashtag #PurdueDayofGiving and unit handle #PurduePMO.

Last year's Purdue Day of Giving was a huge success, and PMO needs your support again this year so that we can continue to grant opportunities for our students.

More information will be available on purdue.edu/pmo as Purdue Day of Giving 2018 draws closer.

**Help PMO reach our goal of 2,000 gifts in 24 hours
by visiting dayofgiving.purdue.edu on April 25!**

Mark Your Calendars

All PMO performances and details are listed at purdue.edu/pmo, and we invite students, their families, donors, alumni and friends to be among our fans in the audience. To pique your interest, a few dates on our spring 2018 calendar:

FEBRUARY 7 • 6:30 P.M.

Men's Choral Festival

Elliott Hall of Music | Purdue University
No tickets needed

FEBRUARY 14

Singing Valentines

Order Jan. 24 – Feb. 8 at
purdue.edu/pmo

MARCH 31 • 7:30 P.M.

Phenomena

Elliott Hall of Music | Purdue University
No tickets needed

APRIL 3 • 7:30 P.M.

Purdue Varsity Glee Club Concert with Cornell University Glee Club

St. Boniface Catholic Church
318 N. 9th St. | Lafayette
Ticket info at purdue.edu/pmo



APRIL 15 • 2 P.M.

PMO Spring Show | All Campus and Community Chorale, Heart & Soul, Purdue Bells and University Choir

Long Center for the Performing Arts
111 N. 6th St. | Lafayette
Tickets available at 765-494-3941
beginning March 5

APRIL 21 • 7:30 P.M.

Purduettes Spring Spectacular Concert

Long Center for the Performing Arts
111 N. 6th St. | Lafayette
Tickets available online through
Purdue Account Manager
beginning April 2

APRIL 25

Purdue Day of Giving

MAY 12 • 7:30 P.M.

Purdue Varsity Glee Club End of Season Concert

Long Center for the Performing Arts
111 N. 6th St. | Lafayette
Tickets available online through
Purdue Account Manager
beginning April 2

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PMO students help share the love with Singing Valentines on February 14. Order your Singing Valentine today at purdue.edu/pmo!

