

News from the Recorder Music Center

The grand opening of the Recorder Music Center (RMC), at the July 2005 ARS Festival and Conference at Regis University in Colorado, was featured on Denver's Channel 9 News and brought a considerable amount of attention to the RMC. The RMC web site is updated regularly and includes a report on the festival last summer; see <www.regis.edu/recorder>.

The newest addition to the RMC is the **Martha Bixler Collection**, materials donated by Martha Bixler including music, books, interviews, correspondence, and other papers associated with her involvement with the ARS over the past five decades. Bixler also donated a bass viola da gamba, to be added to the RMC musical instrument collection. Initially, the gamba will be on loan to a very enthusiastic music student.

The entire **Gordon T. Sandford Music Collection** (3,200 scores) has been inventoried and is available in Special Archives. Many boxes of materials continue to be received and inventoried for the **David Goldstein Collection**.

A permanent exhibit case has been installed in the RMC alcove on the third floor of Dayton Memorial Library (*photo above right*) and currently features the RMC recorder instrument collection. In addition to the acquisition of a solid ivory alto recorder, and the large donation of recorders by Martha Sandford, four newly donated recorders were added to the collection. The instruments will be on display and can also be used by students/members in the Regis collegium musicum.

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The physical space of the RMC alcove has been completed. Framed copies of the AR covers hang on the walls. The circulating and reference shelves, and research desk in the RMC alcove are now installed. The shelves include a "Reference Materials Non-Circulating" section and a "Circulating Scores" section. To date, reference materials include the Center's collection of books directly relating to the recorder, and a complete bound set of AR and *Recorder and Music*. This past semester the first set of circulating scores was catalogued, bound and shelved.

On the RMC web site, there is a direct link to the library's web site; or if you go to <<http://lumen.regis.edu/search>> and type in "recorder music" for the keyword, you can explore some of the RMC holdings. Note that currently cataloguing (versus inventorying) is only being done for the reference books, periodicals and circulating scores. Cataloguing has not yet started on the thousands of scores in the Special Archives. As duplicate copies of materials continue to be received in the archives (through donations), all materials will eventually be catalogued.

Note also that the library citations include the location of the materials—either on the fourth floor (in the Special Archives) or on the third floor (the RMC alcove) of Dayton Memorial Library. Additional music materials, if not directly related to the RMC, are in the regular stacks.

Students and community patrons are beginning to use RMC materials. Several research projects were conducted last semester utilizing the materials.

Thanks to the generosity of recorder enthusiasts and collectors, donations of music, books and instruments continue to arrive. The RMC also received its first substantial cash gift (\$5,000) to be used to support students who want to conduct music and research projects at the RMC.

Perhaps the most significant development has to do with the restructuring of the library's Technical Services division, which added a permanent staff member to do music cataloguing. Consequently, a significant amount of funds that was anticipated to be spent on outsourcing in this area can instead support other activities, such as sponsoring student research paper competitions, recorder workshops for music educators, and concerts of recorder soloists and ensembles.

Last year the Center sponsored a concert by the Flanders Recorder Consort. This month, RMC and Early Music Colorado will co-sponsor a concert by Texas-based Istanpitta. In January 2007, at the Colorado Music Educators Association Conference in Colorado Springs, the RMC will be among the many exhibitors.

We hope ARS members will take advantage of the services provided by the Recorder Music Center—and we encourage you to continue to think of the RMC if you have donations of recorder music, instruments or other materials relating to the activities and development of the recorder movement.

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