

MUSIC FACULTY BIOS

BRASS PROFESSORS



Dr. Tom Smith, Discipline Chair of FSW Music Studies, Professor of Trumpet, Director of Jazz Studies

Dr. Smith received the Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Instrumental Music Education from the Florida State University in Tallahassee, Florida, and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Trumpet Performance from the University of Texas at Austin. As a music educator, he has taught instrumental music and Trumpet performance at the middle school, high school, and college levels in Texas, Georgia, and Florida.

He began performing professionally at the age of 14 and has shared the stage with numerous prominent artists and musical ensembles from many genres of music. Among these include performances with jazz greats Lionel Hampton; Diane Schuur; Charlie Haden; the Duke Ellington Repertory Ensemble with Gunther Schuller; the Victoria Bach Festival Orchestra; the Rome Symphony Orchestra (GA); the Chamber Players of the South; the Georgia Bach Festival Orchestra; the Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra; the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra; the Naples Bach Ensemble; and as Solo Cornetist at the North American Brass Band Association Finals; pit orchestra performances with numerous Regional and National productions, including the Radio City Music Hall *Rockettes*; *Camelot* with Richard Harris; Peter Allen; and many others.

At FSW, Dr. Smith teaches Applied Trumpet; Music Theory; Music Appreciation; Jazz History; and Jazz Improvisation. He directs the FSW Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Combos; the Trumpet Ensemble and Brass Quintet; and serves as Discipline Chair of the FSW Department of Music.



Cheryle F. Naberhaus, Professor of French Horn

Cheryle F. Naberhaus, a graduate of East Carolina and Southern Methodist Universities, has been a highly respected Hornist from a young age. She has been a guest soloist, featured artist, and guest lecturer/clinician on many occasions. Her musical travels have allowed her the privilege of working with some of the world's best Hornists such as Greg Hustis, Barry Tuckwell, Eric Ruske, and Dale Clevenger. She has performed with numerous orchestras and may be heard on recordings with the Dallas Symphony, Bee Gees, Ray Charles, Group El Niche, and award-winning independent films. Ms. Naberhaus has also accompanied many big name artist including Pavarotti, Josh Groban, Il Volo, Itzak Pearlman, Frank Sinatra Jr., Doc Severinson, and Della Reese. She currently plays Horn with several area orchestras, as well as Bass Guitar with the rock band "Feast or Famine". In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her Jack Russell mix, Abner...who likes to sing along when she practices.



George Mancini, Professor of Low Brass

Mr. George Mancini is a professional musician with over 30 years of performance and teaching experience in low brass, with a specialty in trombone. A native of Longbranch, New Jersey and Setauket, New York, he attended Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts, until entering the United States Air Force in 1983. Mr. Mancini served for 21 years in the U.S. Air Force as a distinguished and highly decorated trombonist. During this time, he served as a member of the 752nd Air Force Band and the U.S. Air Force Band of the Pacific, among others. He was also Musical Director of the Greatlanders Showband for more than 260 performances that included the Special Olympics World Winter Games, the world premiere of the movie, "Pearl Harbor," and numerous live television performances. He was a featured performer at the Sitka Jazz Festival, and received recognition as "world class" at the Hawaii International Jazz Festival.

Mr. Mancini has performed countless professional engagements on trombone, including: major Broadway touring shows at theaters throughout Florida, including *Wicked*, *The Book of Mormon*, *Chicago*, *The Color Purple*, *A Chorus Line*, *Young Frankenstein*, *West Side Story*, *Anything Goes*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Mary Poppins*, *Hair*, *Dreamgirls*, and many more. He also serves as Trombonist at The Broadway Palm Dinner Theater, Fort Myers, and was Principal Trombonist and Personnel Director, at the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, 2006-14. Other notable performances include stints with the Miami Ballet's *The Nutcracker*, 2010, and the Boston Pops Orchestra, July 4, 1994.

PERCUSSION PROFESSOR



Gary Leone, Professor of Percussion

Gary earned his Bachelor of Music Education at Heidelberg College, Tiffin, OH; his Master of Music Performance from Youngstown State University, Youngstown, OH; and did his Doctoral program in Music Performance at The University of Miami. In addition to inspiring his FSW students, he is a percussionist at the Broadway Palm Theater in Fort Myers. He has also performed as a principal percussionist in the Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra; as a percussionist for Norwegian Caribbean Cruise Lines; and as a percussionist with national touring Broadway companies. In addition, he has performed in concert with several national recording artists. Gary teaches Applied Percussion and directs the FSW Percussion Ensemble.

WOODWIND PROFESSORS



William Larsen, Professor of Flute

Bill Larsen has been the principal flute of the Southwest Florida Symphony for more than thirty years. Bill has also acted as soloist with the symphony on many works. Mr. Larsen premiered *Pandora's Waltz: A Flute Concerto* written by James Stephenson, III, in honor of his 25th season with the SWFLSO. Mr. Larsen and his wife, flutist Beth Larsen, have also performed as featured soloists with the FSW Concert Band. Bill earned his Bachelor of Music in Performance from Arizona State University and his Master of Music in Performance from the College-Conservatory of Music, associated with the University of Cincinnati. Visit the Larson's website at www.theLarsenFluteStudio.com.



Ruth Kostush-Christman, Professor of Oboe

Ruth Kostush earned her Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Concordia University, and her Master's degree in Oboe Performance from Northwestern University. She also has a Professional Studies degree in Oboe Performance from The Harid Conservatory in Boca Raton, Florida (currently Lynn University). She is very active as both a performer and teacher throughout South Florida and has performed for various orchestras in Florida as well as solo performances and shows. She is also very active with The Music Foundation of Southwest Florida, serving as the Executive Director and a member of the Florida Music Teachers Association.



Scott Ellington, Professor of Clarinet

Scott Ellington is a member of The Southwest Florida Symphony and has performed with numerous regional and national symphony orchestras, including The Naples Philharmonic and Charlotte Symphonies. He is in high demand as a freelance artist and performs with many shows and professional musical groups throughout Florida.



Dr. Scott Courtney, Professor of Saxophone

Dr. Courtney received his B.A. from Mount Vernon Nazarene University and M.M. Ed from the Boston Conservatory. Mr. Courtney earned his Ph.D. in Music Education at the University of Hawai'i Manoa where he has taught music education courses and worked with instrumental ensembles. His primary research interests include comparative education of instrumental music and the study of Indonesian music and education. Mr. Courtney's secondary experience includes over sixteen years of teaching in Florida, Massachusetts, Ohio, and Hawai'i. In addition to teaching Applied Saxophone, Music Appreciation and directing the Drumline at FSW, Mr. Courtney serves as director of music at Punta Gorda Middle School, and is also a professional percussionist.

STRING PROFESSORS



Reiko Niiya, Professor of Violin

A native of Tokyo, Reiko attended the prestigious Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music, where she received the Bachelor's degree in Violin Performance. Following her graduation, Reiko crossed the Pacific Ocean to continue her training at the celebrated Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, where she studied under world-renowned Italian violinist, Franco Gulli. In addition to teaching Applied Violin at FSW, Reiko has been the Concertmaster of the Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra since 1992 and has served as Concertmaster of many other orchestras. She has performed

for Presidential inaugurations and other Presidential concerts as Concertmaster with the National Symphony Orchestra and the Washington Opera Orchestra. Her students have won many competitions; have been featured on radio shows such as National Public Radio's *From the Top*, and are highly ranked in Florida and Virginia. Reiko plays an Italian violin made by Vincenzo Panormo in 1793.



Rachel Cox, Professor of Violin and Viola

Rachel Cox, violinist and violist, has performed with the Naples Philharmonic, Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra, and is a charter member of the Isabella Stuart Gardner Museum Chamber Orchestra. She has been a member of the Southwest Florida

Symphony Orchestra since 1998, holding the positions of principal viola, acting assistant and principal second violin, and acting assistant concertmaster. She has also been a charter member of several orchestras that have been founded in Southwest Florida. Rachel holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Viola Performance from the New England Conservatory in Boston, where she studied with Walter Trampler, and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from IMPAC University in Punta Gorda, Florida. Performance credits include a performance in Carnegie Hall under the baton of Michael Tilson Thomas, broadcasts on WGBH-FM "Off the Record" program, guest artist at the 2006 Ohio Federation of Music convention and the New York Viola Society, and two PBS nationwide broadcasts as a member of the Naples Philharmonic under the direction of Erich Kunzel.



Si-Cheng Liu, Professor of Cello

Si-Cheng Liu graduated from Nanjing University of the Arts before coming to the United States to pursue further professional studies in cello performance. She received her Master of Music degree and Artist Diploma in Cello Performance from UMKC and Duquesne University, respectively. As a graduate student in the United States, she won the

Concert-Aria Competition. Since 1995, Si-Cheng played with the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra and Southwest Florida Symphony. She is a faculty member at Florida SouthWestern State College, Florida Gulf Coast University and CSN, teaching cello and string orchestra.



Kevin Gerard Mauldin, Professor of Bass

Professor Kevin Mauldin received the Bachelor's in Music degree from Memphis State University, and the Master of Music in Performance from the Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music. Mr. Mauldin has performed as Principal Bassist with the Chattanooga Symphony and Opera; and the Naples Philharmonic, where he has been a member since 1990. He has served on the faculty of the University of Miami, the Brevard Music Festival, the Luzerna Music Festival, and the Hot Springs Music Festival (2007 – present). A multi-talented performer, Mr. Mauldin has performed with numerous groups from all genres of music including: Artis Naples Chamber Series; Bergonzi Quartet; The Florida Orchestra; The Richmond Symphony; and the Cincinnati Symphony and Ballet. He is also a highly sought after jazz Bassist, having performed with such notable artists as the Naples Jazz Orchestra; the Stardust Memories Big Band; Danny Sinoff; and trumpet master, Bob Zottola.



Dr. Ken Puls, Professor of Guitar

Dr. Puls has taught guitar at FSW since 2006. He is originally from Omaha, Nebraska where he studied classical guitar and music theory at the Omaha Conservatory of Music. He earned his Bachelor of Music degree in Music Theory and Composition from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. He is a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, where he received his Master of Music and Ph.D. degrees in Church Music Ministry. He has led music in churches in Nebraska, Texas, and Florida. Dr. Puls teaches Applied Guitar, Class Guitar, Fundamentals of Music Theory and Music Theory. Website: Kenpulsmusic.com.



Dan Heck, Professor of, Jazz Guitar

Dan Heck's background as an educator includes a degree in music education from Berklee College of Music, 20 plus years of private students, clinics and master classes around the world, and eight years of teaching guitar students at the college level for the University of Washington in Seattle and Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington. Dan is also an internationally acclaimed jazz guitarist who has performed all over the world, has had recordings in the top 100 nationally for jazz plays, and continues to perform regularly in Southwest Florida while teaching at the Community School of Naples. A classical cellist since age four and member of dozens of advanced orchestras throughout his youth, he brings a vast knowledge of orchestral literature, in addition to his years of performing and teaching experience as a jazz musician.

VOICE & PIANO PROFESSORS



Dr. Ronald Doiron, Professor of Voice and Piano, Orchestra Director

Dr. Doiron, earned a B.M. in Organ Performance from Chapman University, a M.M. in Church Music and a D.M.A. in Conducting with secondary studies in Music History and Vocal Pedagogy with Departmental Honors from the University of Southern California. He has served as the Conductor/Artistic Director of The Bach Ensemble of Naples, Florida. He is currently the Director of Music and Organist at St. Monica's Episcopal Church in Naples and Assistant Conductor/Choral Conductor of the Naples Orchestra and Chorus and also performs regularly with the Naples Opera Society. Dr. Doiron has been recognized by United Arts Council of Collier County as a "Star in the Arts" for his services as a Musician/Educator in Southwest Florida and for Outstanding Contributions to the Arts on Marco Island by the Marco Island Center for the Arts. Dr. Doiron teaches Applied Voice, Applied Piano and Organ, Music Appreciation, Music Theory and conducts the FSW Symphony Orchestra and Community Chorus.



Mary Griffin Seal, Professor of Piano

Ms. Seal studied music at Hartt College of Music and Boston University's College of Fine Arts, where she received her Bachelors and Masters degrees in piano performance and was elected to membership in Pi Kappa Lambda, the National Music Honor Society. She took additional course work at Columbia Teachers College and Manhattan School of Music.

She performs frequently as both piano soloist and accompanist for choirs, singers and instrumentalists, including the Symphonic Chorale of Southwest Florida, the Edison Chorale, American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria, Festival of Gold invitational choral festival (New York and San Francisco), and has also performed on choral tours in Prague, Vienna, Salzburg, Rome and Florence. As a piano soloist in Montreal-du-Gers (France) she has participated in recitals premiering new music by contemporary composer Emmanuel Dubois.

In addition to teaching Applied Piano, Class Piano, and Sight-Singing/Ear-Training at FSW, her teaching credits also include Westminster Conservatory in Princeton, NJ, Cypress Lake Center for the Arts, and Florida Gulf Coast University.



Dr. Camille Ortiz, Professor of Voice

Dr. Ortiz received the Doctor of Musical Arts in voice performance and pedagogy from the University of North Texas, where she was a Teaching Fellow, and the Master's degree from the Manhattan School of Music. She is an internationally recognized soprano, having established herself as a leading artist in standard operatic roles, as well as in baroque and concert literature. Recent appearances include Gilda in *Rigoletto*, Micaëla in *Carmen*, Valenciienne in *The Merry Widow*, Marguerite in *Faust*, Christine in *The Phantom of the Opera*, and Maria in *West Side Story*. Recent summer concerts include a Florence debut as soprano soloist for Rutter's *Requiem*, J. Rutter conducting the Orchestra da Camera Fiorentina; recitals in Leipzig; and Schubert's *Mass in G-major* and Vivaldi's *Gloria* in Syros, Greece with the International Festival of the Aegean. The 2018-2019 season sees a return to San Francisco for the "Mozart Magnified" series with Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra; a Houston debut as Poppea in Handel's *Agrippina* with Ars Lyrica Houston, and a return to Gulfshore Opera as Norina in *Don Pasquale*. Dr. Ortiz is currently resident soprano with Gulfshore Opera in Naples, FL, and has also served on the faculty of the Greek Opera Studio and as a clinician at Florida Gulf Coast University and Ave Maria University.



Julius Davis, Professor of Piano and Voice

Originally from New Orleans, Louisiana, Mr. Davis grew up in the Cleveland, Ohio area, where he was part of the renowned Cleveland Music School Settlement. He attended Miami University, Ohio, where he received the Bachelor of Music Degree in 1978. Mr. Davis continued graduate studies in music at Kent State University and studies in social work at the Case Western Reserve University where he received a Master's degree in Social Work Administration in 1990.

Professor Davis has served as Choirmaster and accompanist for several churches through the years and has composed many original compositions and arrangements in the traditional gospel and contemporary gospel genre. In 2009, his original African-American spiritual, "Done Set My Mind On Jesus," was performed in concert by the Tuskegee University Golden Voices Choir. Recently completed songs, "Make Me Shake," and "The Heart of Christmas," are scheduled for release in 2018. Mr. Davis has also composed numerous pop, R&B, and dance songs, including "Strive," recorded by internationally known R&B/Disco artist, GLORIA GAYNOR, reaching the Billboard Top 100 Singles Chart in 1984.

At Florida SouthWestern State College, Professor Davis teaches Applied Jazz Piano, Applied Voice, Music Appreciation, and Fundamentals of Music. He also serves as the Choral Music Director at St. Andrew Catholic School in Cape Coral, Florida, as well as the Minister of Music at First United Methodist Church in Bonita Springs, Florida.



Cindy Scaruffi-Klispie, Professor of Music

Cindy Scaruffi-Klispie, trumpeter and native Chicagoan, received a BM from Illinois State University and an MM from Northwestern University. Cindy has played with the Chicago Symphony; Lyric Opera of Chicago; Boston Symphony; St. Louis Symphony; Elgin Symphony; the Southwest Florida Symphony; the Sarasota Orchestra; the Monarch Brass Ensemble; the Rome Opera Orchestra; the Orchestra of the Teatro San Carlo in Napoli; the RAI Orchestras in Napoli and Torino; as well as the Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia in Rome. She has studied with Adolph Herseth, Vincent Cichowicz, William Scarlett, George Vosburgh, Tom Crown, Luther Didrickson, and Arnold Jacobs. While at Tanglewood, Ms. Klispie studied with Charlie Schlueter and Roger Voisin. She has also studied with Leon Rapiet, Susan Slaughter, Herbert L. Koerselman, and Thomas Wohlwender. Currently, Ms. Klispie plays Principal Trumpet for the Charlotte Symphony and with the Venice Symphony. In addition to teaching at FSW, Charlotte campus, Ms. Klispie has also taught at Illinois Benedictine College and Florida Gulf Coast University.



Elena Bock, Professor of Music, Collier

Beginning her formal music education while growing up in Russia, Professor Hall attended the Ryazan School of Music and the Moscow State Pedagogical University, receiving her Bachelor of Science degree in piano performance and a Master of Science degree in piano pedagogy. In 2000, she moved to the United States and became a citizen. In addition to her regular piano performances at various venues in Naples, Ms. Bock runs a respected and successful piano studio in Naples. Each year her students place in every significant piano competition in Southwest Florida, including those sponsored by the Naples Music Club, the Bach Ensemble, Steinway Music Society and Southwest Florida Music Teacher's Association. As a professor at FSW she teaches Music Appreciation.



Rodolfo Antonio Castillo, Director of Concert Band and Pep Band

A Chilean native, Mr. Castillo holds a Bachelor's degree in Music Performance from the University of Chile and a Masters in Trumpet Performance and Music Education Certification from Carnegie Mellon University. Mr. Castillo is a candidate for a Ph. D. in Music Education at the University of South Florida in Tampa. Mr. Castillo has performed with ensembles that include the Chilean National Symphony Orchestra, Chilean Chamber Orchestra, Cuyo Symphony Orchestra (Mendoza, Argentina), Carnegie Mellon Philharmonic, Duquesne University Orchestra, Pittsburgh Opera Theatre, Westmoreland Symphony, Wheeling Symphony, Gulf Coast Symphony, The Naples Players Pit Orchestra, Bonita Springs Concert Band, and Florida Southwestern College Concert Band. Mr. Castillo has taught instrumental music at the middle school, high school, and college level in Pennsylvania and Florida; he is currently the Director of Bands at Canterbury School, and acts as University Supervisor for music education majors at USF.

AUDIO TECHNOLOGY



Mike Molloy, Professor of Audio Technology, Recording Arts, Jazz Guitar

Mike Molloy received the Bachelor of Music, Film Scoring, *Cum Laude* from the Berklee College of Music (August, 1994). Before joining the faculty at FSW, Mike was Head of the Audio Department, Crew Supervisor, team leader and live audio engineer at FSW's Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall where he gained extensive front of house audio engineer (mixing) experience for many national and international touring acts including (partial list) BB King, The Temptations, The Four Tops, Arlo Guthrie, Jay and the Americans, Nader's Do Wop review, Love Letters (Broadway), Motown

All Stars, Boston Brass, Hungarian National Symphony, Minnesota Symphony, New York Tenors, Royal Philharmonic, Russian National Orchestra, Salute to Vienna, St. Petersburg Tchaikovsky Symphony, The Tenors Christmas, Vienna Boys Choir, 50 Shades of Grey, Alton Brown, Deadliest Catch, Frank Abignale Jr., Golden Dragon Acrobats, Ira Glass, So You Think You Can Dance, and many more. In addition, Mr. Molloy is a professional musician with over 20+ years of guitar performance and teaching experience. Professor Molloy teaches the audio technology certificate courses at FSW and teaches jazz guitar.



Alex Glamyan, Professor of Audio/Visual Technology

Alex Glamyan is an MFA Graduate of the Theatre Design and Tech program at the University of Missouri - Kansas City. While working at UMKC, he collaborated closely the Conservatory of Music, working as a studio engineer and studied live concert recording techniques. He also worked within the cities independent film scene and heavily in professional theatre in Kansas City Area and within the Universities theatre program. He has always had a passion for the technical elements of both music and theatre and a fascination for the future of Music Technology in an ever growing industry.