

Outstanding Faculty Recipients
2014-2015 Academic Year

COLLEGE OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS
Dean: Dr. Timothy Blair

Applied Music: Dr. Christopher Hanning, Chair
Dr. Elizabeth Pfaffle, Department of Applied Music

-I always find myself looking forward to my music performance class because it is fun and interactive. Dr. Pfaffle truly cares about her students, and makes sure that we all thoroughly understand the concepts being taught. Her teaching style exhibits her passion for music and teaching, and her feedback has helped me to become a much better musician.

Dr. Patricia Powell, Department of Applied Music

-Dr. Powell is truly the best piano teacher and adviser I could ever ask for. Dr. Powell is a big reason why I came to West Chester University to study music education. I remember meeting her on my audition day. I was very nervous to audition and I remember pacing back and forth trying to deal with the suspense. She came out and introduced herself to me. Almost immediately I felt a little bit less nervous. I know I can go to her for anything. Whenever I have a problem she is willing to listen and help me the best she can. She is very encouraging, even when I do not deserve it. She goes above and beyond for her students. She is the best!

Dr. Andrew Yozviak, Department of Applied Music

- Dr. Yozviak deserves this award for his amazing attitude and awesome presence that he brings to the marching band. He excels at recognizing the talents and potentials of his students and is not afraid to push each and every student to succeed. At the same time he requires those in the band to be held accountable for their own actions. Dr. Yozviak clearly demonstrates outstanding faculty behavior and is the most deserving of this award through his efforts in improving me as a musician and as a person.

-I've gotten to know Dr. Yozviak from marching band. I really respect that he treats the members as equals rather than students. He rarely yells and he is always very clear with his expectations of the group. I like that he always pushes us to do our best and that he does his best to learn everyone's name despite there being so many people.

Music Education: Dr. Bryan Burton, Chair

Dr. M. Gregory Martin, Department of Music Education (all one nomination)

-I have known Dr. Martin for four years. From the first day of marching band my freshman year (and the first heard use of "sparkle"), I knew that his passion for his students was among the greatest I'd ever see.

Dr. Martin does an excellent job of leading his band rehearsals in a way that he'd expect music educators to lead, giving students incomparable opportunities to learn how to

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effectively teach. His office is always open for students to get advice, school related or not; there are not many other professors in Swope who have that same policy (he has helped me in particular countless times, and I always leave his office feeling better than I did going in).

Dr. Martin inspires me to want to be such an impactful music educator. His genuine love for his students and his job make him the definition of an “outstanding faculty” member.

Music Theory, History, and Composition: Dr. Robert Maggio, Chair

Dr. Jacob Cooper, Department of Music Theory, History and Composition

-In his first semester at West Chester University, Dr. Cooper has impressed many with how quickly he adjusted to and succeeded in his new environment. As a student, I learn something new every day. Dr. Cooper has a clear and efficient approach to every topic. It is obvious that Dr. Cooper cares for his students' success and growth.

Dr. Robert Maggio, Department of Music Theory, History and Composition

-Dr. Maggio teaches a subject I have a really difficult time with – aurals. In the past, I have had professors that have only destroyed my self-confidence and made me feel like a failure. I was so scared for this semester because my previous professors made me feel like I would fail in the upper levels. Dr. Maggio is always willing to help me during his office hours. He makes me feel like I can ask anything without judgment. He is one of the most supportive professors I have ever had. Even if I am struggling, he does not make me feel bad about it. I suffer from test anxiety, and during a sight singing test if I start getting anxious or messing up (on sight singing) he encourages me to keep going. He is the only professor that has not made me feel like an aurals test determines the rest of my life. I wish there were more professors that encourage students rather than scare or discourage. Dr. Maggio makes aurals fun and NOT scary. I don't even like aurals!

-Dr. Maggio is always willing to help his students. He is fantastic aurals professor, even if you are terrible at singing, he won't make you feel uncomfortable like some of the other teachers. I feel like I can ask questions and do my best in class. He explains concepts, really well, and makes my least favorite class fun! He is very encouraging and makes you feel like you can do it!

Dr. Julian Onderdonk, Department of Music Theory, History and Composition

-Dr. Onderdonk is down-to-earth and passionate about his subject. He makes himself very able to the students and keeps us in the loop about our grades. He offers to look over rough drafts on his own time and helps students who are struggling. Dr. Onderdonk is truly outstanding.

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Dr. Mark Rimple, Department of Music Theory, History and Composition

Dr. Rimple teaches and grades us truthfully, but would never set us up for failure. I can tell that he truly wants each of us to succeed. Dr. Rimple is also really awesome because he is teaching his own curriculum at the CUPA. Dr. Rimple explains concepts in ways that can be easily understood by many. He also teaches ways to approach musical concepts and aural skills, which is unique and different from many other music professors.