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MENU 



Chamber Music Guests Enhance Student Learning

When Duo Sonidos, the acclaimed guitar and violin duo, play in Varner Recital Hall on Sunday, March 16, the first season of the Chamber Music Society of Detroit at Oakland University series will be successfully completed. In addition to bringing the finest in chamber music performances to the Varner audience, our guests have provided our music students with some unique educational opportunities.

In October, **Kaitlin O'Connell**, a music performance major who plays flute and studies with **Sharon Sparrow**, attended the workshop on improvisational techniques offered by our first guest performers, **Classical Jam**. Kaitlin said she doesn't have much experience in jazz, but she knows improvisation is at least as old as Baroque fugues. The workshop was open to anyone playing any instrument. Classical Jam would play a rhythm or melody call and invite the participants to respond with a version of what they had heard. Kaitlin said, "I think improvisation is a great skill to cultivate because it works your knowledge and concepts of rhythm and key."

Read more. (<http://www.oakland.edu/News/Default.aspx?sid=383&nid=11063&showBack=true&PageIndex=0>)



Kaitlin O'Connell

Upcoming Events

Music, Theatre and Dance Alumni Win MaTiDa Awards

Every year we recognize three distinguished alumni with a MaTiDa award. This year's music recipient is **Kerstin Allvin** who has a busy career as a harpist. When a second harp is needed, she performs with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and also plays with the Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings. She freelances as a performer and as a recording artist while maintaining a successful private teaching studio and teaching harp students at OU, as an adjunct and in Music Prep.

We would have to look very hard to find someone who spent more years under the influence of the OU music faculty. Kerstin's father, **Raynold Allvin**, was chair of the department for a time, and Kerstin said, "I was always running around the corridors and going to the concerts." She began taking university music classes before she left high school, and she also played with and sang in Meadow Brook Estate, the show choir her father directed. From the age of 14 or 15, she played in what was then the Pontiac Oakland Symphony, under the direction of now Professor Emeritus David Daniels. Kerstin said, "He's just so wonderful. He has been such a mentor. I regard him very highly."

Read more. (<http://www.oakland.edu/News/Default.aspx?sid=383&nid=11071&showBack=true&PageIndex=0>).



Kerstin Allvin

March News

[Printer Friendly Version \(Newsletter/ViewNewsletter.aspx?x=YTn6r2ViapPGE4DvgwP0nw%3d%3d&print=1\)](#)



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