

Greetings from Westminster,

Spring break began yesterday – and, although the official first day of spring is more than a week away - here in New Jersey we're enjoying record-breaking temperatures and absolutely gorgeous weather. While many students have headed for home, the members of Westminster Schola Cantorum and Westminster Choir are still in Princeton for some very exciting activities.

Westminster Schola Cantorum

Led by Sue Ellen Page '71, Westminster Schola Cantorum is participating in a new "Hearts and Hands and Voices" initiative that includes several service projects and performances in Princeton and Trenton today and in Boston tomorrow and Monday. [More information](#) and a [performance schedule](#) are on our Web site.

Westminster Choir

Westminster Choir, led by interim conductor Timothy Brown, will depart on Tuesday for a one-week concert tour of the United Kingdom. [Details](#) and a [performance schedule](#) are on our Web site.

New Associate Director of Alumni Relations

Joseph Capone MM '04 will begin this Monday as associate director of alumni relations for Westminster. Joe earned his Bachelor of Science degree in music education with vocal/choral concentration from West Chester University of Pennsylvania and his Master of Music degree in voice pedagogy and performance from Westminster. Before receiving his master's degree from Westminster, Joe was a music teacher at Hand Middle School in Lancaster, Pa. for five years.

While he was a student at Westminster, he served as the residence hall director and lived in Seabrook Hall. For the past two years, he has been the assistant director of admissions at Westminster. Additionally, he has sung with the chorus of the Opera Company of Philadelphia, and before moving to Princeton, performed as soloist with various churches and musical organizations in the Berks County area. While continuing his voice studies with Marvin Keenze, Joe continues to teach private voice and piano.

You can reach Joe at jcapone@rider.edu or 609-921-7100 ext. 8234 or 8299.

Westminster Reception at MTNA Conference

Please join fellow Westminster alumni attending the MTNA conference and those who live in the Austin, TX area

Sunday, March 26

Hilton Austin

500 East 4th Street

Room 415

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Cost per person \$15 plus cash bar

Piano faculty members Ingrid Clarfield and Lillian Livingston look forward to seeing you

there

Please RSVP to the Rider Office of Alumni Relations, 609-896-5340 by March 21st. You can send your check made payable to Rider University, 2083 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648. If you have any questions, please contact Joe Capone at 609-921-7100 x. 8234 or 8299.

Upcoming Conferences

Thank you to the alumni who've let us know about the music-related conferences they'll attend this year. Patrick Schmidt MM '00, a member of the music education faculty, will be a presenter at the MENC conference in Salt Lake City April 19 – 23. If you plan to attend, please let us know by e-mailing wccalumdev@rider.edu.

Summer Session

Information about Westminster's 2006 Summer Session is now on the [Web site](#). Don't forget – Westminster alumni receive a 20 percent discount!

Upcoming Performances

Please check our [Web site](#) for information about performances both on and off campus this winter and spring. A number of events have been added as choir tours and runouts have been finalized. Thank you to the Westminster alumni who've submitted [performance information](#) to us for the alumni portal on the Web site. One recent addition has been performances that pianist Tom Purviance, Westminster alumnus and former alumni director, will present in Hawaii. For the past 10 years Tom's been building a very successful orchid business (Parkside Orchids) in Bucks County, Pa., and he's pleased to once again be performing. If you'd like to submit a performance for the Web site, please send your information to wccalumdev@rider.edu.

Westminster at the Grammys

Congratulations to William Hammer '03, who won Grammy Awards for the Best Classical Album and the Best Choral Performance for the recording of William Bolcom's Songs of Innocence and of Experience. William, who majored in music education at Westminster, is a graduate student at the University of Michigan, where he was one of the choir directors preparing the choruses for the recording.

Additionally, Dean Robert Annis received a Grammy nomination for the Best Small Ensemble Performance as a member of Collage New Music in its recording John Harbison's Mottetti di Montale. Both men attended the Grammy Awards ceremony in Los Angeles and completely by chance sat next to each other in the audience!

Alumni Reunion

You will soon receive the new Symphonic, which includes information about Westminster's Alumni Reunion May 10 – 12. A preliminary schedule is on the [Web site](#) – including information about a special fare that Amtrak is offering to travelers in the Northeast corridor.

Please keep in touch – e-mail us at wccalumdev@rider.edu. We look forward to seeing

you on campus in May.

Best regards,
Anne Sears
Director of External Affairs
sears@rider.edu
609-921-7100 ext. 8307
<http://westminster.rider.edu>