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Artist Series to feature celebrated conductor

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2021

Kirsten Oss

STAFF WRITER

Richard Kaufman, a Grammy Award-winning conductor, and Lee Holdridge, an Emmy Award-winning Hollywood composer, bring the magic of Hollywood to the concert stage at the first Concert, Opera & Drama Series of the academic year at Bob Jones University on Oct. 7.

A team composed of Darren Lawson, the dean of the School of Fine Arts and Communication, Michael Moore, the chair of the Division of Music in the School of Fine Arts and Communication, Kaufman and Holdridge worked together to plan the concert.

These plans include the theme, setlist and coordination of rehearsals which involve student performers and faculty facilitators.

Planning a Concert, Opera, & Drama Series, commonly known as an Artist Series, is an involved process.

“Lawson begins planning the [Artist Series] calendar at least two years in advance,” Moore said. “The theme and title take shape as the musical content of the program comes together. Then comes the work of coordinating personnel, music procurement, copyright compliance, orchestra librarians, staging, audio,

See **ARTIST SERIES** p.3 >>



Student musicians polish their craft by rehearsing for the upcoming Artist Series.

Photo: Robert Stuber

Alumni to return for Homecoming

Nathaniel Hendry

STAFF WRITER

Hundreds of alumni will soon return to Bob Jones University for the Homecoming & Family Weekend celebration, held Thursday, Oct. 7 - Saturday, Oct. 9. As in past years, this year's lineup features a concert, reunions, a game show, U.Day community events, picnics and sporting events.

Homecoming guests will be treated to an Artist Series concert conducted by Richard Kaufman, a decorated conductor from Los Angeles who has conducted for over 30 years with orchestras around the world. He will be presenting “Symphonic Hollywood: The Music of Lee Holdridge” in the FMA on Thursday. Holdridge is an Emmy Award-winning composer who has written a new piece specially for

BJU to premiere in the concert.

Following the concert, an affinity reunion will be held in Rodeheaver Auditorium for any graduates or current students who have been involved in music at BJU. Both Kaufman and Holdridge plan to attend the reunion and visit with guests. “It's really, really awesome,” Chelsea Fraser, director of Alumni Relations, said. “That evening is going to be really special for any of our music students and for any of our music grads.”

On Friday, BJU will present its first Alumni Awards Ceremony. While BJU has previously recognized an alumnus of the year, this year is the first time they will have a formal alumni awards presentation at this level. “We're hoping that the students are really en-

gaged and excited by it and also that alumni feel valued and really well served,” Fraser said. The ceremony will take place in the FMA at 11 a.m. on Friday and will be webcast at bju.edu/live.

“The World's Most Unusual Game Show” will return live this year with new elements under the theme

“What's My Line?” Aaron Burk, assistant men's director of Student Life and organizer of the game show, said the night will feature some well-known students, faculty and alumni. It will also be interspersed by commercial breaks featuring audience participation

See **HOMECOMING** p.6 >>



The last time alumni were able to gather for Homecoming was in 2019.

Photo: Chad Ratje



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SPIRIT WEEK

MONDAY

•Movie night: *Kung Fu Panda* at 8 p.m. on the Gazebo Lawn
Concessions proceeds go to Operation Christmas Child.

TUESDAY

•Christmas Carnival: 10-11:30 p.m. in the Activity Center
All proceeds go to Operation Christmas Child.

WEDNESDAY

•Free donuts: 7:30-9 a.m. around campus

THURSDAY

•Symphonic Hollywood—The Music of Lee Holdridge: 7:30 p.m. in FMA

FRIDAY

•Bruins Spirit Day: students may wear jeans with Homecoming or Bruins T-shirts to class



Design: Arianna Rayder

COLUMN



Hannah Bray

STAFF WRITER

Since my first official job three years ago, I have gradually realized just how much of a “mom friend” I am. Yes, I’m that friend who tells you to eat properly, go to sleep on time, do your homework and stop injuring yourself.

Whether or not I do those things myself is a different matter. And I’m learning that just telling people what to do isn’t always the answer.

One of the hardest parts of being a “mom friend” has been realizing how little I can help people.

At my first official job as a clerk at a small law firm, one of my tasks was to set up meetings between clients and the main lawyer. The law firm rented the building from a real estate company. One day, the office administrator from the real estate company came to collect the rent for the law firm’s use of its part of the building.

The main lawyer whom she wanted to see wasn’t there, so I resorted to my

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The Collegian Editorial

The price of silence

It was just one off-color joke, just one mean comment about the weird one in your society. It would have been too much trouble to say anything. And, after all, you didn’t participate in the conversation. You kept quiet and stayed out of it. Isn’t that enough?

It was just one sexist comment, just one short whistle at the girl heading into Gaston. It would have been too hard to keep that smirk off your face. And, after all, you weren’t the one who catcalled her. You just egged them on a little. Is that such a big deal?

It was just one angry shove, just one assertive shout to show who’s in charge. It wouldn’t have happened if your girlfriend had any common sense. And, after all, how were you supposed to know she’d hit the wall that hard. You just wanted her to quit nagging you. It’s her fault, right?

How far will your silence take you? Can you really stay around those kinds of behaviors without tolerating or even adopting them?

It’s part of our fallen nature to assume we can be around evil without being affected. In reality, peer pressure is a powerful force. It’s easier to follow the cultural current than to swim against it. Our flesh craves the path of least resistance.

God’s Word reminds us of this truth. “Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful” (Ps. 1:1).

Interestingly, the chapter illustrates three levels of association with the wicked that have increasing levels of severity:

walking, standing and sitting. Similarly, we often start off merely staying around those who engage in sin, then tolerating evil and eventually sinning ourselves. That’s why God calls us to separate ourselves from the wicked.

How do we do that? Simply, we need to love the truth more than we love our sin. The next verse contrasts those who associate themselves with the wicked with those who associate themselves with truth. “But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night” (Ps. 1:2).

But God doesn’t just call us to stay away and be silent. He tells us to speak up for what’s right. “And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them” (Eph. 5:11).

As God’s children, we should condemn evil in the world. We need to call out those who disrespect the image of God in people through their actions, even when that behavior is socially acceptable. God’s people should be the ones standing for truth when no one else will and creating an environment where His love guides every decision.

It’s not merely enough not to be part of the problem; we have to be part of the solution. When we allow ourselves to be passive bystanders, we perpetuate evil.

Instead of turning a blind eye to wicked acts, we need to actively confront them. Instead of biting our tongues when those around us say vile words, we need to object to them. Instead of being afraid to criticize evil, we need to publicly proclaim what is good. ☺

the Collegian

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TALKBACK

What student or faculty member has had an impact on your life and why?



Anastasia Noonkesser
Sophomore visual studies major

Noonkesser chose Dr. Pettit. “I was actually saved under his preaching. I wouldn’t be here if it hadn’t been for that.” Noonkesser was saved during High School Festival 2015.



Tracee Veenstra
Women's resident mentor

“I met with a student every Tuesday for lunch last year because she was a chaplain in her society. She and I would talk about whatever she was working on and I would give her feedback....Honestly, it was a spiritual encouragement to me as well.”

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video, graphic design and community relations. And that’s all underway well before we pick up our instruments to rehearse the music!”

One thing the men work to bring together is the theme which was decided on at the suggestion of Kaufman who is friends with Lee Holdridge, the composer of the chosen repertoire.

Kaufman proposed using music from Lee Holdridge because Holdridge composed music for concert halls, operas, films and television. This career-spanning repertoire finds its synopsis in the title “Symphonic Hollywood: The Music of Lee Holdridge.”

“[Holdridge] is an award-winning composer with a huge body of work that he’s done,” Lawson said. “I became acquainted with his music when his *Hymns Triumphant* CDs were released a few decades back. His work is gorgeous After spending time with him, I was convinced that featuring him on the program was the right choice.”

“His melodies have a way of wrapping themselves around your heart,” Moore said. “The harmonic surprises transport you to another world when you least expect it. The orchestrations are masterful.”

As the pieces Holdridge composed were created for a variety of projects, they display a wide variety of

his work.

“One of the exciting aspects of this concert is the tremendous variety of musical genres and storytelling that the audience will experience,” Kaufman said. “However, one thing that all the music has in common is the emotional journey that Lee brings to all his music.”

BJU’s student orchestra and Chorale will perform this music as they are conducted by Kaufman.

“Our student orchestra will be playing throughout the evening, and our Chorale will be featured doing some selections from his *Hymns Triumphant* collection,” Lawson said.

Kaufman interacted with BJU students in the past when he conducted an Artist Series event in 2018 for James Thatcher, one of the world’s leading French horn players and first horn for Oscar-winning composer John Williams.

“It’s always an exciting and memorable time whenever I have the opportunity to be on campus and interact with the amazing students,” Kaufman said. “They display a deep desire for learning, a pride in their university, a dedication to making the most of their college experience and they seem to truly care about each other as people. Most of all, the students embrace the fact that their incredible educational opportunity at BJU, studying with the extraordinary faculty, is a gift from God.”

The student musicians

use the Artist Series as an opportunity to learn both music and character growth.

“The greatest thing from my perspective is watching our student musicians serving and growing as image-bearers of God through experiences like this,” Moore said.

“They’re putting in some long hours preparing for this concert, and it will certainly benefit them in terms of their own musical education. But there’s a selflessness to this as well. They’re doing this for each other, for their peers in the student body, and for our broader community. Not all musicians get that bigger picture.”

Featuring the student orchestra and Chorale in the Artist Series allows them the opportunity to meet Holdridge and learn from

both him and his music.

“The students will experience a very high level of excellence in the composition talents of Lee Holdridge,” said Lawson.

“[Holdridge] has a heart for young musicians, and so having the opportunity to perform his music with the composer himself on campus is an extraordinary opportunity for the talented students at BJU,” said Kaufman.

But playing for Kaufman is also an unforgettable opportunity. A musician from the young age of 7, he decided he wanted to be a conductor by age 11 and went on to win a Grammy in 1993.

“I was given the great opportunity to record a CD with the Nuremberg Symphony in Germany in 1993,” Kaufman said. “Their wonderful perfor-

mance was appreciated enough that the Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences voted to award us the Grammy for best pop instrumental performance. I was thrilled to be part of that exciting event.”

His experience gives him insight into what makes a concert successful: preparation. And this insight gives Kaufman the hope that students will leave the concert with a greater appreciation of music that fellow students perform.

Kaufman has one overall goal for the concert. “[My purpose is] to glorify God in the opportunity He has given the student musicians and me to present the inspired music of a superb composer and human being, Lee Holdridge,” Kaufman said. ©



Six Artist Series events are planned for the 2021-2022 academic year.
Photo: Robert Stuber

» » From **COLUMN** p.2

normal clerk strategies of politeness and delay. I offered her coffee, learned her name and asked how her week had been. What I expected to be a short, polite conversation soon turned into a genuine conversation about the woman’s life and her struggles with a young, low-functioning daughter with autism.

Hearing about how the woman had to help her daughter with so many things and how car trips were difficult for them for reasons that never would have affected most people

opened my eyes to just how helpless I was in this situation.

I can’t heal the woman’s daughter. I can’t tell her it will be all right if she just sleeps off her problems or eats more. I can’t guarantee that her situation will ever get any easier.

The main lawyer never arrived, but our conversation ended up lasting half an hour. I ended up praying with her at the end of it, which felt like the most helpful thing I’d done for the whole conversation. Before she left, she thanked me by name. I awkwardly said it wasn’t a problem, but I was left confused by

her gratitude.

I hadn’t done anything to help her, and she was no better off than before. Why was she thanking me? I felt like a fraud accepting her thanks and thought about our conversation a lot over the next couple of years.

Now that I’m at college, I’ve come to the realization that, yes, absolutely nothing about me is capable of healing or helping people in my own strength. I’m not God.

But God has called us to love one another, and sometimes that means taking five minutes out of our busy lives to genuinely listen to someone or sit with

them when they’re hurting.

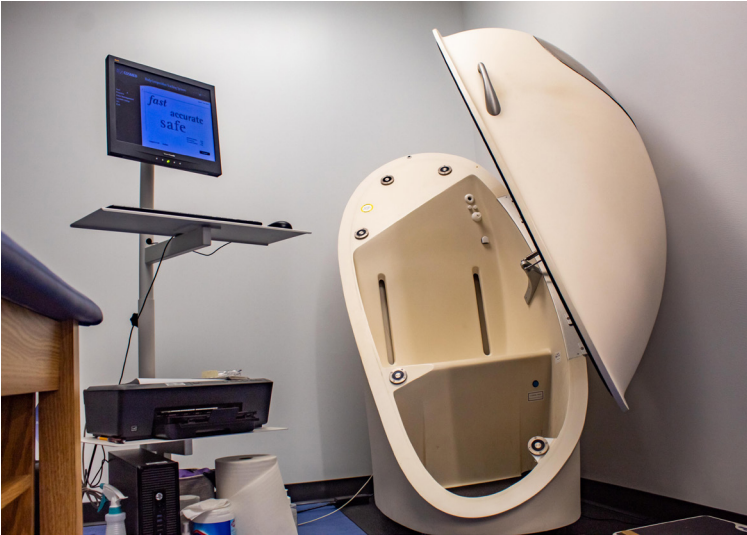
Sometimes it’s the time we spend with people and the way we let them have a moment of our time that matters so much more than the words we say to them.

We are to rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep, according to Romans 12:15. And sometimes the best way to do that is just being there for people. ©

But God has called us to love one another, and sometimes that means taking five minutes out of our busy lives to genuinely listen to someone.

—Hannah Bray

Vocal research study unites BJU schools



The Bod Pod will measure the body composition of each participant.

Photo: Robert Stuber

Vicki Olachea

EDITOR IN CHIEF

A new vocal research study being conducted on campus unites students and faculty in the Division of Exercise and Sport Science and the Division of Health Sciences in investigating the effects of aerobic exercise on the voice.

The 8-week vocal research study, which involves approximately 20 students participating in weekly voice lessons, will investigate the ability of aerobic exercise to increase lung capacity and improve vocal strength and flexibility.

Dr. Hannah Bengé, a faculty member in the Division of Health Sciences who specializes in communication disorders, said that after working with faculty and staff with vocal injuries, she asked a question that became the study's mission: what preventative

measures are there to keep people from damaging their voices?

Seeing a lack of research on the subject, Bengé posed this question to a few of her colleagues, including Dr. Stephen Chen, chair of the Division of Exercise and Sport Science, and Dr. Shellie Beeman, a former faculty member of the Division of Music. The three quickly came up with ideas for their own collaborative research, Bengé said.

Bengé suggested Bob Jones University presents a unique environment for the experiment because through worship activities like chapel and church the voice students sing more often than those in a secular university. "We really want to start here because it's our singers here that gave us the inspiration for [the experiment]," she said.

According to Bengé, existing research supports the idea that having great-

er breath support can increase volume, provide resilience to injury and preserve the voice.

"I feel like singing is a gift from the Lord that really leads us to worship Him and to praise Him more, and so I would love to help people preserve their voice[s]," Bengé said.

The study will involve a group of at least 10 students who will exercise three times a week according to a personalized aerobics plan. An equal number of students will be part of the control group, which involves no intervention.

Both groups will be measured continually to track their progress. Students from the Division of Health Sciences and the Division of Exercise and Sport Science will work with the student participants throughout the study.

At the beginning and end of the eight weeks, Bengé and her student research assistants will measure the participants' voices in the Communication Disorders Lab in the Mack Building to understand how their voices change over the course of the study, she said. Beeman will lend her expertise to the data collected.

Chen will work in the Human Performance Lab with his lab assistants and other students to measure the participants' lung capacity and body composition, which describes the



Jonah Woo, a graduate assistant, measures the lung capacity of Connor Brown, one of the independent study students.

Photo: Robert Stuber

Word from the Wise

A Biblical Perspective



Dr. Adelle Dunn
Dean of Management

A Better Marketing Plan

As a marketing professor, I asked myself where do you find marketing in the Bible? King Solomon's empire was formed throughout the world, and he had no access to channels of marketing that we have today. He is a wonderful example of marketing, right in the middle of the Bible. Looking at this and other examples of marketing in the Bible shifted my thinking. It makes me be much more critical of the theory we read

in textbooks and really think about how the Bible talks about it.

It's a richer experience to have the ability to critique theory you read in textbooks in light of a biblical worldview. If you want to be a good leader, get into the Bible. You will not find any better book on leadership than God's Word. I love books on business, marketing and innovation, but the Bible is the only book that is alive.

amount and relative proportions of fat weight and lean weight in the body. These tests will reveal the characteristics of each participant, Chen said.

From these tests, Chen will create a personalized exercise plan involving running and jogging for each participant to follow for eight weeks. Chen said he and his students working on the study will take feedback from the participants on how the 30-minute aerobic exercises affect them throughout the program.

According to Bengé, the study presents an incredible opportunity for both the School of Health Professions and the students working on the program.

"The therapy ideas and interventions we employ should be based on research, but sometimes it's hard to understand all the research [and] how it applies until you know how to do research," Bengé said. "So, it's actually helping them to be better clinicians down the road, because of the level of analysis and understanding and thought processes they're developing."

Chen said some of the students working with him in the lab are part of an independent study. This program would give them research experience on data collection and analysis as well as class credits.

According to Bengé, the interdisciplinary study presents a unique opportunity to publish findings in the fields of speech language pathology, singing voice and kinesiology.

Their goals are to promote the School of Health Professions and reach the community by publishing research-based science that can have a positive impact on quality of life.

Chen agreed a main goal is to formally publish the study, which they will be able to do with at least 20 participants. "If we have enough subjects to give us results, we'd like to publish the study," Chen said.

He also echoed Bengé's focus on improving quality of life. "It's satisfactory for us to see an individual improve their health status and quality of life," he said.

One of the lab assistants working on the study, senior kinesiology major Jacob Guerra, worked with Chen on a small pilot study over the course of last semester.

The four students who participated, Guerra said, were happy with their improvement. "It was cool to see the improvements just from the short study that we did last semester, so I'm excited at this point to see even greater [improvement]," he said. ©

Student committee provides new opportunities for athletes and fans

Jarred Scott

SPORTS WRITER

The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), established in 2020, has worked to create sports ministries, campus initiatives and projects within the Greenville community to promote Bruins athletics in a way that glorifies God.

The SAAC is a student-led organization that represents all Bruins athletics, with at least one team representative per sports team. Daniel Fuller, Victoria Glaze and Bethany Daulton, the president, vice president and secretary respectively, are the student leadership

of the SAAC, along with team representatives.

SAAC meetings, which occur every other week, are designed to allow the student-athlete representatives to bring forward any suggestions for potential initiatives or general grievances their teams may have. The SAAC also places students and student-athletes in leadership positions for any initiatives they wish to implement.

Fuller, a senior Bible major, said that much of what the SAAC does is build more opportunities for students and athletes to get involved. “We want to set the foundation for future SAAC members with the attitude

and intense focus for giving athletes the opportunity to use their platform ... and form stronger relationships with other student-athletes and student body,” he said.

The SAAC is supported by coaches Burton Uwarow and Vickie Denny, as well as Aaron Burk, who is also the assistant men’s director for Student Life, and Randy Page, who is Dr. Pettit’s chief of staff. The purpose of these individuals is to help approve, coordinate and create the means for the SAAC to make any potential ministries or initiatives a reality.

Some current projects the SAAC is starting are sports clinics, where the Bruins will coordinate with local churches to lead sports and connect with kids to share the Gospel. One of the first clinics, which was led by the men’s and women’s basketball teams, was held on Sept. 25.

Bethany Daulton, a senior kinesiology major on the basketball team, said, “Getting into the community and reaching kids is our goal, but also presenting the Gospel because we don’t want to just be about sports,” she said.

A campus initiative the SAAC is currently implementing is the creation of student sections at Bru-



The Bruins defeated their rivals, the Pensacola Christian College Eagles, in front of an enthusiastic crowd of BJU fans on Sept. 24.

ins games. The committee plans for seating sections at sports games to be filled with a number of students and student-athletes who sign up to sit in certain sections. Once sections gain more people that trickle in, the sections will grow and become more exciting.

Aaron Burk said the student sections are important for furthering a love of sporting events and building a community for the Bruins.

Burk said he and the SAAC want to see a cultural shift in the student body. “We want to make it a fun experience for [the students], but we also want our teams to feel supported and want the other team

to know when they come in that this is our house,” he said. “We don’t want students to act ugly to the other team, but we are interested in standing up for your team ... and cheer for our team in our house.”

Caleb Felber, a senior composite social studies education major on the soccer team, said one of the biggest things the SAAC is trying to accomplish is to have the student body feel a part of what the student-athletes are doing. “We don’t want it to be ‘this is the school’ and ‘this is the team,’” he said. “The whole school is one body.”



The SAAC organized a black-out to show support for the Bruins at the well-attended game. Photo: Lindsay Shaleen

Market showcases alumni, faculty

Erin del Toro

STAFF WRITER

This year marks the Museum & Gallery’s fifth annual Makers Market, which is a craft fair that showcases the work of talented alumni, faculty and student makers during Homecoming weekend on Saturday.

The makers will be featured at the show on the second floor of the Welcome Center and surrounding walkways from 10 to 5 p.m. on Oct. 9.

Erin Jones, the director

of the Bob Jones University Museum & Gallery, said that even though the Museum & Gallery’s main collection contains Old Master paintings, M&G wanted to get involved with the Homecoming events in some way to bridge the gap between classical and contemporary artists.

“We listened to the idea of a good friend in town who was remarking on how many university grads there are that are incredibly creative and talented and how

we should do some kind of a special market,” Jones said. “M&G then decided that we would be the venue that would feature the grads in support of Homecoming and as a way to be a host or sponsor for these contemporary artists.”

Jones also said that she is interested in seeing more student makers get involved in the event. “We really would love to have more students participate in this because it’s just a great event,” she said.

“The whole Homecoming weekend is a lot of fun. And Makers Market has at least 1,000 people coming through, milling around and looking.”

Dr. Brenda Schoolfield, chair of the Division of History, Government and Social Science, participates as a maker in the Makers Market. She primarily sells jewelry made from pendants, patterned papers and glass. “I was kind of nervous about applying because I’m not an artist,”

Schoolfield said.

Schoolfield said she began making themed jewelry for a teacher’s sorority in town she belongs to and found that her jewelry sold very well at events. She started to experiment more with paper and pendants, and when that also sold well, she decided to apply to the Makers Market.

“[I would] see if they’d think it was creative enough, and they did,”

See **MAKERS MARKET** p.7 >>

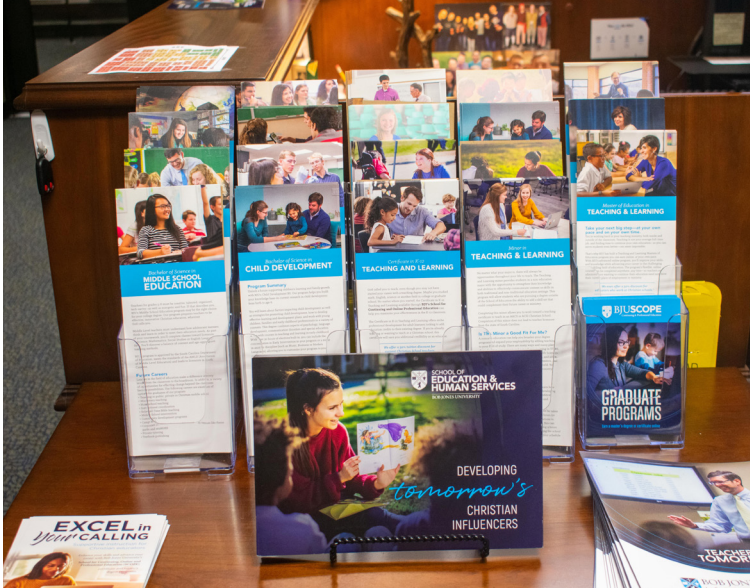
School of Education expands title

Ethan House
STAFF WRITER

The School of Education officially expanded its name to the School of Education and Human Services to better reflect its programs and advertise its offerings to prospective students after a yearlong approval process. The change follows the creation of the Division of Educational, Child and Family Studies and is intended to reflect a broadened focus. According to Dr. Julie Hartman, the chair of the Division of Educational, Child and Family Studies, the new division arose from the addition of new programs and concentrations emphasizing the use of educational tools outside of the typical classroom environment. “What we found is a lot of people wanted to be teachers or

wanted to be educators, but they didn’t want to work in the classroom,” said Hartman. According to Hartman, in 2015 the education faculty started exploring the idea of offering programs that did not require teacher certification. The first of these new programs came in 2017 with the addition of the educational studies major, along with several concentrations including arts integration, social services and teaching English to speakers of other languages. Two years later, the child development program became available, further expanding the school’s scope. While the School of Education and Human Services broadened its offerings, the new programs were not visible to current or prospec-

tive students. “Prospective students don’t call us on the phone and say, ‘Do you have social work?’” Hartman said. “They just go to the internet, ... and we wanted to make it really easy for them to find us.” The decision for the name change was born out of the 2020 Division of Educational, Child and Family Studies review, which found that prospective students had difficulty discovering the available programs, and many of the current students had found them only after beginning college with another major. After examining academic benchmarks and hearing feedback from graduates, the school prepared to make adjustments to its courses and marketing strategy. “We began looking at our mission statement, our vision statement, our core values for the School of Education and our messaging,” Brian Carruthers, dean of the School of Education and Human Services, said. “It was through that process that we began to realize that a name change would benefit us.” Over the next year, the School of Education went through an approval process. First, the change was presented to the curriculum committee before being sent to the Office of Plan-



More than 150 institutions have accepted graduates from the School of Education and Human Services for postgraduate work.
Photo: Melia Covington

ning, Research and Assessment. Then, in March, the proposal was shared with the school’s newly formed advisory board, which is comprised of 18 members with experience or expertise in the field of education. According to Hartman, the board loved the idea and suggested moving ahead with the plans for the change. In the following months, the School of Education and Human Services began producing material to reflect its new name, including a new viewbook and landing page for their website, education.bju.edu, in order to prepare for the

official change. Finally on Sept. 9, Dr. Steve Pettit, president of Bob Jones University, announced the school’s new name in front of the student body during chapel, representing the culmination of over a year of work from the school’s staff. “We’re excited because this is an opportunity for us to communicate exciting and new growth programs ... to a constituency that really didn’t know these existed, and we’re trusting the Lord will use this opportunity to really lead students to the University in the future,” Carruthers said. ☺



Dr. Carruthers has served as dean of the school for 12 years.
Photo: Melia Covington

» » From **HOMECOMING** p.1 and prizes. “It’ll be game show meets variety show,” Burk said. “It’s definitely being made with both students in mind and alumni, so it’s not going to be something that students will want to miss,” Fraser said. The show will take place live in Rodeheaver Auditorium at 8 p.m. on Friday. On Saturday, thousands of guests are expected to attend U.Day, BJU’s educational street fair featuring games, music, food, face painting, science experiments, story presentations and other activities from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. “Their

goal is to build bridges with people in the community,” Pam Cushman, the director of Events Management, said. “It’s just a wonderful chance for the community to come ... and just have a great time.” Nearly 300 volunteers will be needed to oversee the various U.Day events. “I think it’s a wonderful time to see faculty and staff and students interact at a different level than a formal classroom,” Cushman said. “Everybody works together to get the job done, and I have had many visitors comment on the camaraderie and the atmosphere.” Saturday will also feature the M&G Makers Market

on the second floor of the Welcome Center, an event for BJU alumni to share their creations. The market will feature curated items, including handmade cards, pottery, illustrations, watercolor and acrylic paintings, jewelry, fiber art, woodworking, calligraphy and gourmet popcorn. “It’s a great way for us to be able to support both our alumni and our community and our local makers,” Fraser said. Homecoming weekend will conclude with the Bruin BBQ Bash for alumni in the activity center and a picnic for students on the lower athletic fields at 5:30 p.m. followed by a Bruins men’s soccer game.

sudoku

3	8	1			2			
					3		9	
	7	9			6	2	3	
				6			7	2
	4						1	
5	6			7				
	1	8	6			3	5	
	3		5					
			2			8	4	9

Fraser also emphasized that students are free to plan other celebrations during Homecoming. “There are plenty of opportunities to make your own fun during homecoming on

campus as part of the excitement and the energy in the community,” she said. A full schedule of Homecoming events is available at homecoming.bju.edu/schedule. ☺

💡 FACULTY SPOTLIGHT 💡

Huish directs BJU music students to reflect God’s image as artists

Andrew Thompson
STAFF WRITER

“From a Christian worldview, music is about reflecting the image of God in us as creators.” Andrew Huish, Bob Jones University’s new director of choral activities, sees his role as an opportunity to glorify God. Huish began teaching at BJU this fall, following Dr. Warren Cook’s retirement from the position in the spring. Huish has taken up Cook’s legacy of leading BJU’s choral groups. Huish brings his own unique personality to the BJU music program. He is a travel and craft coffee enthusiast who enjoys riding unicycles. “I actually rode a unicycle in one of the Shakespeare plays here on campus on Rodeheaver

stage when I was an undergrad,” he said. Huish and his wife Stephanie met each other at BJU as undergraduate students in freshmen choir. They did not start dating until their junior year and were engaged the summer after their senior year while they were both working on graduate degrees. They got married in 2013 and stayed at BJU together until 2016. Huish and his wife are now preparing for the birth of their first child, expecting him or her this month. “We decided to leave [the gender] as a surprise,” he said. Huish had a busy five years before arriving back at BJU after leaving in 2016. “I taught for three years in Charlotte at a

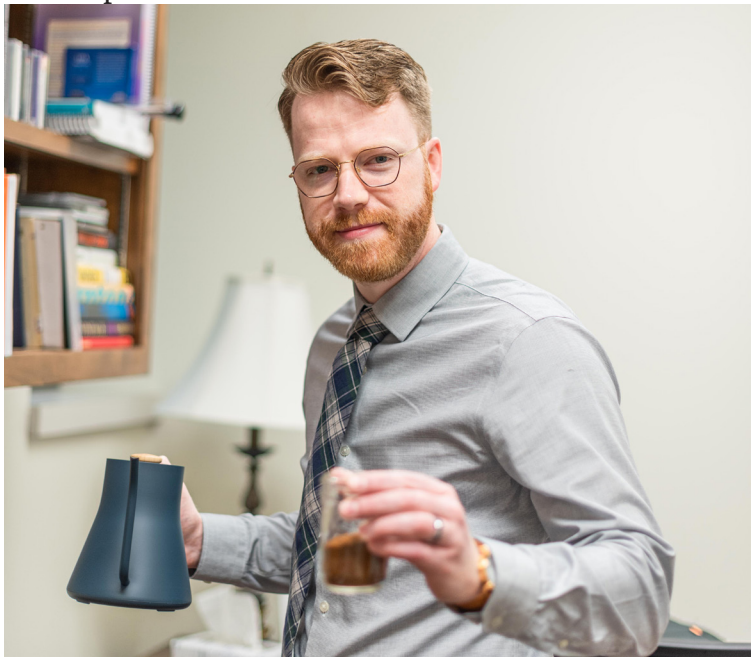
Christian school there,” he said. “And then I knew that I wanted to get back into teaching in higher education, so I applied at doctoral programs all across the country and ended up going to Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas.” Huish is still working on his doctoral degree. “I’m currently in a three-year program called the Doctor of Musical Arts Degree,” he said. “I had two years of coursework where I had to be a resident at the school, so I just completed that. In the middle of last year, Dr. Moore from the Division of Music [at BJU] called me and told me that Dr. Cook was retiring and asked me if I would consider coming on as the director of choral activities.” Huish and his wife were surprised at the speed at which an opportunity to teach in higher education was presented to them. “My wife and I prayed about it, and we weren’t sure at first because it was a bit of a surprise,” he said. After praying and seeking advice, Huish and his wife decided to consider the offer. “We came in March for an official campus visit and worked with the choir and met with faculty members, and everybody was very welcoming to us,” he said. “We know a lot of people from when we were students. It is



Huish directs the Chamber Singers and the BJU Chorale.
Photo: Lindsay Shaleen

kind of a unique situation that I came back to teach with some of my own teachers.” Huish grew up in the suburbs of Chicago in a Christian home but struggled with eternal security. “Both of my parents are professing believers,” he said. “I grew up going to church and made a profession of faith when I was a kid, but I struggled a lot with doubt—as I’m sure a lot of people do—about my relationship with God.” “During my high school senior year, the Lord gave me peace through a program that I attended on the life of Spurgeon, in which Spurgeon’s salvation account was being discussed, and the passage that was quoted was from Isaiah, ‘Look to me and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth, for I am God and there is no other,’” Huish

said. “And it was at that moment that a light bulb went on in my head that my security as a believer is not based on how I feel, but it’s based on who I’m looking to—I’m looking to Christ. And at that moment I realized that’s the simplicity of the Gospel.” Huish said he’s excited about his new role at BJU, especially directing the BJU Chorale. “Music is a very powerful means of communication,” he said. “And its total effect is greater than the sum of its parts. When you add 30 singers in a room and you add music and text, there’s something that seems magical about the effect that it has on people.” “Being able to create beauty and share that beauty with others as a means of giving glory to God, using the gifts that he’s given to us,” Huish said. ☺



Huish won the John Ness Beck Choral Composition Award, a prize given to sacred music composers, in 2017 for his original piece, “The First Noel.”
Photo: Lindsay Shaleen

» » From **MAKERS MARKET** p.5 Schoolfield said. She said that the Makers Market is her busiest and most profitable sales day out of the year, especially because so many people attend the event. Schoolfield talked about her jewelry making process and how she enjoys making meaningful pieces for people. “[For] one lady ... I had copies of her dad’s signature and he said ‘I love you, Dad.’ And so, I put it under

glass, and she can wear it. So, I can do custom things, but I also do others.” Seth Roland, a senior biblical studies major, is currently the only BJU student selling his work at the Makers Market. “I first heard about [the Makers Market] from my older brother who got involved the first year,” he said. “They reached out to us. They knew we’ve made pens and invited us to come.” Roland said he started

making pens as a hobby and eventually turned his passion into a business. He said their materials come from unique places from all over the world. “We’re from Tuscan, Arizona, and so some of the things we get from our backyard, like cactus skeleton and snakeskin. And then ... wood [comes] from different countries like Morocco. [There are] a lot of different African woods that we use.” ☺



This year’s event features 31 makers, the best turnout of any year so far.
Photo: Hal Cook

Missions agency rescues Afghans

For the safety of those involved, all people referenced in this article will remain anonymous.

Johnathon Smith

COPY EDITOR

Since the Taliban took over Afghanistan in early August, Christians living in the country have been in danger. To help some of those endangered believers flee the country, Biblical Ministries Worldwide (BMW), a missions organization based in Atlanta, launched a rescue operation.

Members of the BMW team were concerned about the safety of Afghan Christians immediately after hearing about the Taliban's rapid offensive. "Most Christians who live in Afghanistan are hiding as intensively as they can," one member said. "But when they're found out, the consequences are pretty tragic."

The organization helped some believers avoid that fate. "We've gotten over 1,000 people out [of Afghanistan] who were at severe risk because of their faith," a leader from BMW said.

What began as the small-scale rescue of around 30 Christians with connections to BMW grew into a wider opportunity to evacuate believers in danger in Afghanistan. "It's blown up tremendously," the leader said. "There was a major breakthrough."

BMW was able to fly droves of evacuees out of the country in approximately 10 planes with the permission of several governments. After hearing of their success in rescuing the first 30 Afghans, multiple Christian organizations approached BMW, asking them to help evacuate the Christians they knew of in the country.

The first round of the rescue operation began several weeks ago. Thirty Afghans reached out to BMW representatives through WhatsApp, asking them for help to escape the country. "It was pretty funny," a leader said. "There were days it seemed like the federal government couldn't get communications working actively, but we could talk on WhatsApp freely."

The leader had previously focused on building a network of useful contacts to support his organization's mission. This network proved invaluable when helping the Afghans escape. Forfeiting sleep for three days, the leader estimates he made hundreds of phone calls to try to help the Christians. BMW contacted non-governmental organizations, members of Congress and other groups in their attempts to rescue the believers.

But in the end, help

came from outside their existing network. "We were connected through a really providential encounter with a group of special forces ... with the U.S. military," the leader said. A week before the last American service member evacuated Afghanistan, those soldiers left the Kabul airport to find and bring back the Christians who were hiding in the city.

"We were networked to [the soldiers] and found them in the middle of the night, and within 12 hours our group of people were out of the country."

Some of the believers rescued from Afghanistan have been brought to the United States, while others are awaiting processing in a third country. BMW has begun raising funds to help these refugees start new lives in the United States. Anyone interested in donating to the Afghan Christians can do so at compassionmedical.org or biblicalministries.org.

A leader from BMW feels overwhelmed by the success their rescue efforts have had. "It's really hard to wrap my head around what's happening," he said. "I don't really have words right now."

The leader from BMW warned that Christians in Afghanistan are facing intense persecution un-



BMW supports about 500 representatives in over 40 countries.

Credit: Biblical Ministries Worldwide

der the Taliban, especially converts from Islam. "The situation in Afghanistan for those who are not following the faith and practices of the Taliban is severe," he warned. "For those who have converted from Islam to another religion ... it is an ongoing, consistent danger every hour of every day."

He told the story of an elderly man who was martyred for his faith after converting to Christianity. While living as a refugee in another country, the man was saved and began to witness to his community. Later, he returned to Afghanistan, and someone tipped off the Taliban that he had converted to Christianity. "They came to his house and killed him at the door," the leader said. "And there's plenty of other stories."

The leader believes Christians in the West should pay more attention to the persecution facing the church around the world.

"There are things happening all around us that are affecting fellow believers in ways that are very difficult for us to imagine," he said. "It's very jarring to be on the phone ... to Kabul, Afghanistan, hearing gunshots, and then a few moments later walk out the door to a junior high school soccer game in the United States. And yet, that's the world we live in in missions."

"I would urge American Christians to do a better job of not so much just engaging in popular news but [of] taking the time

to do a little more serious reading ... about culture, society [and] history to understand how different the experiences in the world of people outside the United States actually is," he said.

That knowledge helps Christians witness more effectively to those with different cultural contexts.

The leader stressed that Christians can make a difference at home too. "If you'll look around you, there are hurting, broken people constantly around you," he said, urging American Christians to engage intentionally with the people near them who need the Gospel.

The leader encouraged Christians to pray that believers in persecuted areas would overcome their fear and share the Gospel despite the challenges they face.

For now, BMW will continue their efforts to rescue Afghan Christians. "There will come a point where we can't do any more good, but I guess we haven't reached it yet," the leader said.

A representative from BMW was on campus for BJU's Global Opportunities Week in September, recruiting for the organization.

The organization's mission is to help healthy churches thrive and to plant churches across the globe. "[The goal is] to equip churches to do all the things wrapped up in the Great Commission," the leader said. "Ultimately, it is the love of God that is behind all this work." ©



The BMW leader encourages Christians to pray for persecuted believers around the globe.

Photo: Melia Covington