



# Percussion News



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Happy New Year and Welcome Back!!

Our spring semester is going to be filled with exciting guest artists and performances for all percussion students!

Dr. Lisa Rogers (Texas Tech) will be visiting for three days in April, culminating with a performance on our annual percussion concert (April 13<sup>th</sup>, 6pm). This concert will be in the quad, and everyone is encouraged to bring a lawn chair or blanket! Sage will provide appetizers and snacks. We will feature traditional percussion ensemble music, along with steel pans, ragtime marimba band, and West African drumming and dance. It should be a wonderful outdoor concert for all our students. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone there!

--Erick Saoud



# Important Dates for 2022-2023



## Special Events

**April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9:20am**

In chapel—Steve Reich's *Mallet Quartet*, with guests Dr. Rick Dimond, Dr. Ryan Lewis, and Maddi Shake

## Chapel Performances

**February 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>**

**February 27<sup>th</sup>**

**March 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**April 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>**

With special guest, Dr. Lisa Rogers

## Annual Percussion

### Concert

Our annual percussion concert will take place on April 13<sup>th</sup>, at 6pm, in the quad at Episcopal Collegiate.

This is the first year the concert will be featured outdoors. Food options and outdoor seating will be available for everyone. It's going to be a wonderful setting to feature all of our percussion students!

## Guest Artist Dates

**Dr. Lisa Rogers**

April 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Mr. Neil Grover**

May 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## Percussion Camp

**Southern Illinois University @  
Edwardsville**

**...just outside of St. Louis**

June 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

All students grades 6-12!!!





## 2022-23 Residency Artists

Dr. Lisa Rogers, April 11-13  
Texas Tech University

Mr. Neil Grover, May 3-5  
Boston Pops, Grover Pro Percussion



**Dr. LISA ROGERS** is Professor of Percussion Studies at Texas Tech University, where she teaches applied studies as well as directs ensembles such as the Texas Tech Steel Drum Band “Apocalypso Now.” She attended Texas State University and Texas Tech University for her undergraduate and graduate studies. Rogers received a DMA degree in percussion performance from the University of Oklahoma. She is a Past President of the Percussive Arts Society and currently Executive Director of the National Conference on Percussion Pedagogy. Rogers also serves as Associate Research Editor for the Percussive Arts Society's journal Percussive Notes and is Principal Timpanist of the Lubbock Symphony Orchestra.

**Neil W. Grover** holds the distinction of performing with one of the world's foremost orchestras (Boston Symphony) on the soundtrack for one of the most successful blockbuster movies of all time (Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom) and with the iconic rock band, Aerosmith.

Neil is a renowned percussionist, accomplished music educator, imaginative product innovator, and successful entrepreneur. He is the founder and president of Grover Pro Percussion Inc., a market leader in the design, manufacture, and distribution of world-class percussion instruments.

Neil has written/co-authored five publications: Four Mallet Primer, Four Mallet Fundamentals, Art of Triangle & Tambourine Playing, Percussionist's Cookbook, and The Art of Percussion Playing, all published by Meredith Music.



During his residency at Episcopal Collegiate, Mr. Grover will be performing with the Arkansas Symphony!

Students will be allowed to request tickets for themselves and their families to attend the concert. More information to come...

Visits from guest artists and teachers are not only beneficial for our students, but they also serve as professional development for me, allowing me to expand on what is taught in the classroom and improve the quality of my teaching.

# Fall Semester in Review



Students in performance at a football game (left) and at the grand opening press conference for the Museum of Fine Arts.



Miles, Riley, and Joshua have fun learning steel drums. Guest artist Maddi Shake works with Percussion I students!



PASIC attendees meet-up with Dr. Mike Vercelli and Dan Smithiger in Indy!







The trip to St. Louis allows us to experience local sights, such as the St. Louis Arch!



The kids enjoy bowling, laser tag, and arcade games at Einstein's!

## Summer Camp at SIUE: June 5-8, 2023

Each year a group of students attend percussion camp at Southern Illinois University, in Edwardsville. 2021 will mark my eleventh year on the faculty of the camp. Located just outside of St. Louis, the camp is four full days of all thing's percussion, including steel band, drum set, African dance and drumming, and marching percussion. There are faculty and camp concerts on Thursday afternoon. Episcopal students stay in a local hotel and experience local attractions each evening after camp, including the St. Louis arch, Cardinals' baseball games, and eating BBQ at Pappy's Smokehouse in downtown St. Louis. More details will be shared in the spring but mark your calendars now!!!

## Pulitzer-Prize Winning Composer Visits

On Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022, composer Tania Leon visited Episcopal Collegiate to discuss her life and career as a Cuban-born composer. Her chapel talk was uplifting and inspiring, and her music was sublime! She has played important roles at Dance Theater of Harlem, Brooklyn Philharmonic, American Composers Orchestra, and the New York Philharmonic (as New Music Advisor).

After her talk she visited our advanced percussion class and listened to the students perform on steel pans. She shared her childhood memories of growing up in Havana, being inspired by the music that surrounded her, and turning that music into her life's work. A truly inspirational day!



## Have you heard about Dance Friday?

On select Friday's, students in all levels of percussion will learn a dance from Ghana. Our youngest students learn the dance, while older classes learn the drum and gyil (Ghanaian xylophone) parts. This culminates in all students performing together, reinforcing the concept of culture and community coming together.



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