

CELEBRATING DANA SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Founded in 1869



CELEBRATING

 150 
Years

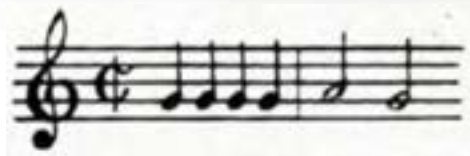
DANA SCHOOL OF MUSIC



*Of all the tooters who tutor to toot,
On any old horn, or reed, or a flute;
There's none who can tutor to toot to suit,
Like the tooters who tutor in Dana's Institute.*

Printed in Dana's Musical Institute Historical Sketch, 1912.

The Institute Call



"Where is PAPA DANA?" was a popular question posed among students.

Junius Dana would sometimes arrive late to rehearsal, coming directly from a board meeting at the bank. The motive, allegedly drawn from Haydn's Second Symphony, was developed by Gustav Pirgnitz, the celebrated violinist, and soon became the method of calling out to check for other Dana students in the vicinity.

The story is told of an "operatic leader" who whistled the tune at the conclusion of the opera season in Chicago, only to hear six former Institute students respond in kind. As a matter of curiosity, another whistled the tune in a mining camp in Colorado, to be answered by an assayer, who had once been a member of Dana's Musical Institute.

Dana's Musical Institute Historical Sketch, 1912.

DANA'S VISION FOR THE "COMPLETE MUSICIAN"

In the fall of 1867, William Henry Dana left Warren, Ohio to study the science of music at Baxter's Institute of Music in Friendship, NY. He completed the program in just two years on July 14, 1869. Influenced by the success of James Baxter, Dana would develop his musical talents and formulate his philosophy of music education, adopting many of Baxter's musical training disciplines as his own. Under Baxter's tutelage, Dana's Musical Institute became a reality on October 9, 1869 located on High Street in Warren, Ohio.



This story of the founding of Dana's Musical Society is a testament to timeless myths commenting on the power of music. William Henry Dana courted disownment when he proposed to open a music school in Warren, OH. His father Junius, an important civic engineer, was not pleased and told him "I don't want you to ever speak to me again!" William opened Dana's Musical Institute against his father's wishes, but their quarrel did not last. Upon hearing the Institute's choir rehearse a chorus by Haydn through an open window one day, Junius not only dropped other pressing matters to join in the rehearsal but also provided money to move the school into a new building. It was Junius Dana's financial support throughout his lifetime that kept Dana's Musical Institute's doors open.

Dana's Musical Institute offered a unique education to aspiring musicians. Whereas many conservatories of the time sacrificed applied music for academics, the DMI curriculum required students to take a one-hour lesson each week in masterclass format and practice a daily minimum of four hours. He articulated his vision in the Institute's first catalogs: "The study of music is not

the mere accumulation of ideas and facts which may be obtained from books, or which may be taught or learned in another way. Neither is it the acquiring of the ability to thump off the notes on the piano, or to place the throat and mouth in certain positions and scream out a piece of vocal music 'according to the rules.'"

To facilitate the development of a new, specialized training in music, Dana published many treatises on practical music, including *Dana's Practical and Thorough Bass* (1875) and *Dana's Practical Harmony* (1888), which are compendia of music theory as it had been handed down by European scholars, and a *History of Music*, all of which served as the basis of the DMI's instruction. These texts prepared students for the proper execution of church music, band literature, and the classics.

Dana encouraged DMI graduates to fill "places of trust," and that broad goal has served alumni to this day. In the early years of the institute, Dana graduates could be found in the best bands, including those led by John Philip Sousa, Arthur Pryor, and "Patsy" Conway. The Dana mission continued in the twentieth century, when Dana alums performed in the top jazz orchestras (Buddy Rich, Tommy Dorsey, Glenn Miller), prestigious classical institutions (Metropolitan Opera, New World Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony), and rock and pop ensembles (Ohio Players, Van Morrison, Alabama, Psychedelic Furs, Blood Sweat & Tears, and The Vindys).

A Master of Music is offered to allow candidates to focus on several diverse career opportunities. There are six different degrees available, allowing candidates to personalize their degree, including: Music Theory and Composition, Music History and Literature, Music Education, Jazz Studies, Music Performance, and Music Performance-Conducting. Each degree requires a thesis project. Faculty are committed to the musical growth of each student, providing tailored, truly immersive music master's programs in the Dana School of Music. Graduate assistantships are presented to qualified candidates.

Dana's Musical Institute offered a unique education to aspiring musicians.

THE PROGRESS OF DANA'S MUSICAL INSTITUTE

William Henry Dana and his Musical Institute evolved and grew as the United States developed a national musical identity in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Dana aided in Theodore Presser's founding of the Music Teachers National Association in 1876, and the DMI extended its course of study to a four-year program at a time in which there was an absence of a national standard dictating the length of time required to achieve a degree in the study of music. In 1903 the State of Ohio authorized Dana's Musical Institute to confer the degrees of Fellow and Master in the Art of Music, placing the Institute on a higher plane than any other music school in the country.



As the MTNA grew, the Dana family was active in affiliate organizations, supporting the growth of music studies in secondary education. The Trumbull County Music Teacher Association formed in 1910 and naming Lynn Dana (son of William Henry) as president. Lynn promoted a standardized curriculum across the state with his appointment as President of the Ohio State Teachers of Music Association in 1914. A representative from the Ohio Department of Education reviewed the curriculum and commended the school on its superlative offerings, which far surpassed any taught in the country.

Over the years, despite financial struggles, lack of dormitory facilities, and occasional problems with faculty and student retention, the Dana's persevered. In fact, the Dana School of Music is one of six music schools formed shortly after the end of the civil war to remain in existence today. Dana shares this distinction with Oberlin

Conservatory, Peabody Institute (at Johns Hopkins University), Boston Conservatory (now the Boston Conservatory at

Berklee), New England Conservatory, and the Chicago Musical College (now The Music Conservatory of the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University).

Throughout its early history, the Dana's administered their programs based upon their foundational beliefs, placing an emphasis on curriculum and hiring practices which aligned with their unique vision for training the "complete musician." In 1929, however, the Ohio Department of Education required one year of graduate training for collegiate teachers and a minimum of 3-5 full-time collegiate teachers at each level of study for prospective educators. These new standards led Dana's Musical Institute to search for a college affiliation that would support the faculty requirements. Given that by 1930 the majority of the school's students identified themselves as future teachers, rather than performers, the future of the Dana's Musical Institute was at risk.

Throughout the 1920s Dana's Musical Institute experienced growth and success. Impacted by the Great Depression, the 1930s saw a reversal of their fortunes, historical lows in enrollment, and loss of financial support as businesses struggled to remain solvent. Lynn Dana sought aid from the highest strata of corporate wealth, and even plead his case to Nelson Rockefeller at the latter's club atop Rockefeller Center in 1937. Furthermore, an attempt to engage the Warren community to support Dana's Musical Institute in 1939 was met with disinterest. Requests made to the school's alumni with the hope of a grand 75th reunion in 1944 fell flat as there simply was not money available to lend support. A solution to Dana's crisis would come from another educational institution just south of Warren.



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MERGER WITH YOUNGSTOWN COLLEGE

In 1941, the Board of Governors of Youngstown College approved a merger with Dana's Musical Institute, placing the school within the College's Department of Music under the administration of its president, Dr. Henry Stearns. Although a bittersweet experience, Lynn Dana Jr. was grateful to find a home for the Institute's students and pave a path for DMI's future. This merger immediately brought the students under the accreditation umbrella in place at Youngstown College allowing graduates to secure employment in Ohio's schools.

The YMCA purchased and remodeled the former Charles Thomas mansion, located at 616 Wick Avenue in Youngstown, donating the facility to become the new home to Dana's Musical Institute. The school boasted 100 students with 7 full time faculty, meeting the state's accreditation standards, with the onset of the fall term in 1941.

YSU is currently distinguished as a "Veteran Friendly" campus, and its relations with US Armed Forces can be traced back to World War II.



The invasion of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 would interrupt Dana's inaugural year at Youngstown College. On December 8, all liberal arts courses, including those offered by the DMI, were placed on hiatus as the army occupied class space, precipitating the departure of Lynn Dana, Jr., who relocated to San Francisco. Had Dana stayed, he would have seen the musical ensemble and training continue under the tenacious leadership of the newly formed faculty of the Dana School.

Several innovative programs were formed in the years following the onset of the war, producing a refined Bachelor of Science in Music Education. The post-war boost in enrollment revitalized Dana's orchestra and other ensembles. The vocal choirs and bands achieved a new stability including the quickly-growing College Band and rebirth of the Marching Band, the school's largest musical group. To this

day, the *Marching Pride* remains one of YSU's most visible organizations in the region.

Dana's Musical Institute flourished at Youngstown College throughout the 1940s. In 1950, the School was awarded full accreditation from the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM), which it continues to enjoy. This designation mandated a new name transitioning DMI into the Dana School of Music and precipitated the introduction of the School's iconic campus sign, which now hangs proudly in the Dana School of Music office in Bliss Hall.

Dana's Musical Institute flourished at Youngstown College throughout the 1940s.



THE EBB AND FLOW OF THE DANA SCHOOL OF MUSIC

The 1950s presented obstacles to the growth of the Dana School of Music. Met by a number of new initiatives continuing into the 1960s, Dana reached its "Third Golden Age," as named by former Professor John Turk. In 1956, the Dana Scholarship program was born with the arrival of a large endowment. It was not long before more endowed gifts were donated to produce additional student scholarships. The Dana School of Music was able to maintain its strong reputation for musical training across the country which continually brought in new students, preparing the school for the baby boomers' arrival.

The mid 1960s ushered in tremendous growth necessitating the hire of 30 new full-time faculty. All but seven of these hires would complete a 30-year tenure in the Dana School of Music creating an incredible legacy of stability that still guides many of the Schools programs. The early 1960s saw the emergence of jazz bands at Dana, though Tony Leonardi initially refused leadership requested by the students, the jazz program would become his legacy as he laid the groundwork for the creation of the BM in Jazz Studies in 1978.



Dana continues to offer the opportunity to study with world-class applied faculty, which is complemented by talented academics who teach courses in music education, music history, and music theory. The research agendas for the current academic faculty include pedagogy, historical musicology, film and video game music, and music advocacy. The breadth of scholarship pursued by all Dana faculty helps to train twentieth-century musicians.

The mid 1960s ushered in tremendous growth.

DANA SCHOOL

Our journey and past



1869 First Location *
Main & Market Street
in Warren

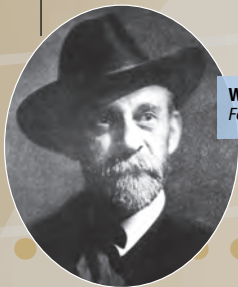


1870 Relocation
American House*
Park Avenue & High Street in Warren



1941 Thomas House *
Dana's Musical Institute merges
with Youngstown College

NINETEEN
41



William H. Dana *
Founder & Director



1925 BM Music Education



1940 BA Applied Music
Youngstown College



1942 BM Instrumental,
Voice, Theory

1947 NASM
Accreditation
Begins

1916

1942

1952

19

1869

October 4, 1869

Dana's Musical
Institute opens



Lynn B. Dana *
President

1936



Youngstown College
Dr. Henry Stearns
Director
1936-1941



Arnold Hoffman
Dean

1947



William Miller
Dean



Nellie Dehnbostel
Assistant/Acting Dean

1954



Kenneth Kitchen
Dean



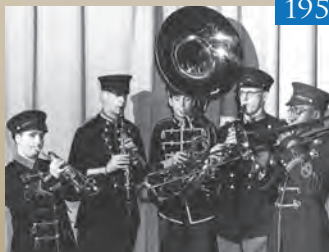
Charles
Dean

1900*

1908*



1951



1952



1957



* Courtesy of the Local History & Genealogy Center
of the Warren-Trumbull County Public Library

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

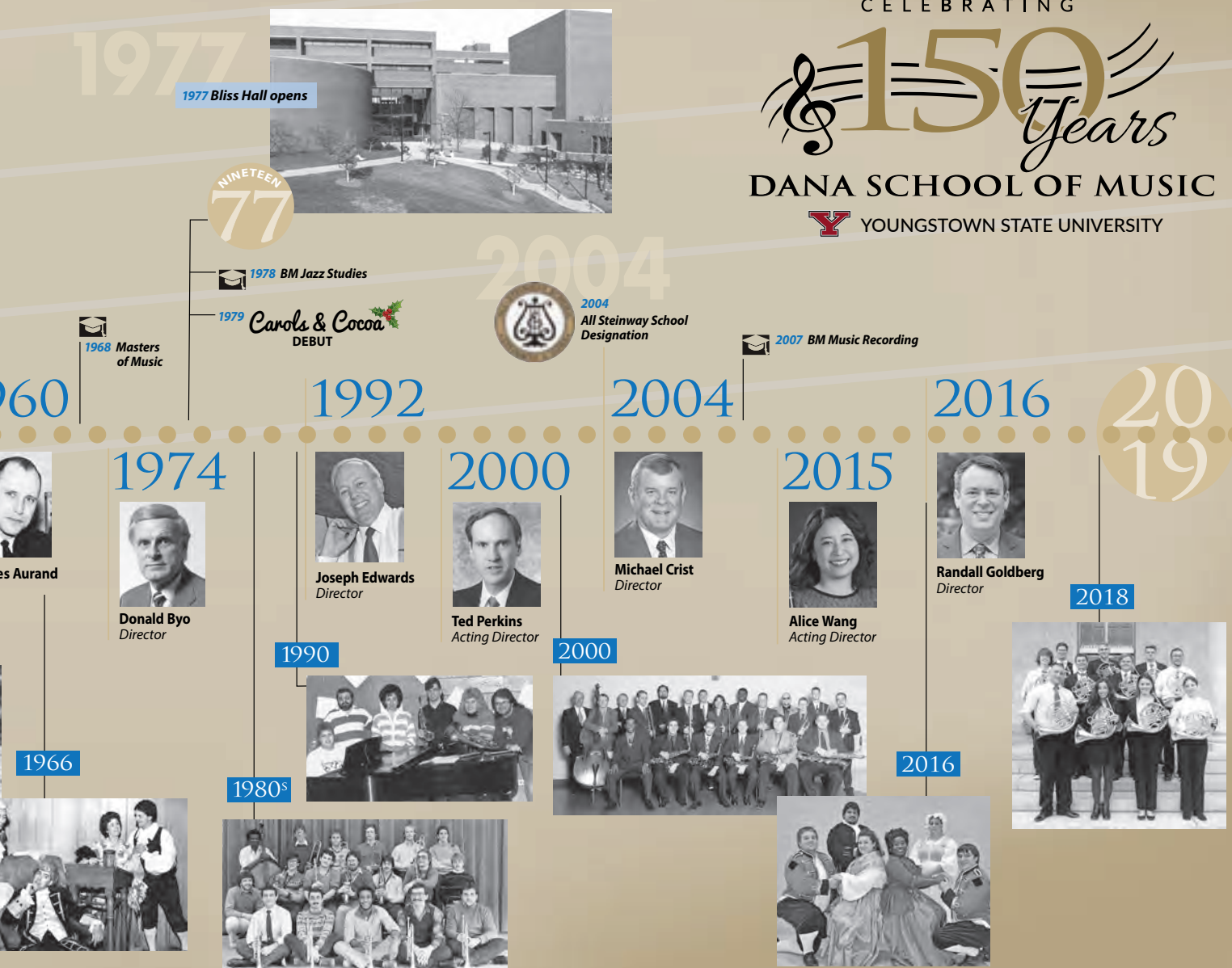
mission for excellence

CELEBRATING

150 Years

DANA SCHOOL OF MUSIC

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Dana School of Music thrives through its relationship with Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley Region. Faculty and students interact with multiple arts organizations in the area, and continually seek out new opportunities for collaboration, audience enrichment, and engagement. In the 2018-19 Academic Year, for example, ensembles have collaborated with Ballet Western Reserve, YSU's Departments of Theater & Dance and Art, and the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation, to name just a few. Dana musicians have performed in Carnegie Hall, Stambaugh Auditorium, DeYor Performing Arts Center, St. Columba Cathedral, St. John's Episcopal Church, Kilcawley Center, The Butler Institute for American Art, the McDonough Museum, Steinway Gallery, and many other venues. The rigorous performing schedule stems from the original Dana vision, which emphasized the practical application of music.

The DMI offered weekly concerts on Wednesday evenings in the 1800s. The music of Dana's orchestras, bands, choirs, chamber ensembles, and jazz combo groups have been an essential component of the cultural life of the region. The Follies and Opera were greeted by sell-out crowds and were among the most lucrative musical endeavors. The DMI began its own radio station in 1925 with a reach of 25 miles, resulting in Dana's students occasionally featured on WKBN as early as 1928.

In the early 1920s each concert series ended with a 7-10 day tour from western Ohio to New York frequently joining forces with local school and church choirs. Today, regularly meeting in the historic Stambaugh Auditorium and the DeYor Performing Arts Center, the community enjoys a wide variety of musical offerings each year. Throughout the school's history, the public questioned the classical repertoire selected by the school and requested vaudeville, pop, and theater style music. A mixture of sacred and secular music would be offered to appease the public.



The city of Warren stood behind Dana's Musical Institute acknowledging the importance of hosting this school. In 1896, in response to a designated performance auditorium request, the City of Warren took out a \$10,000 mortgage to construct the Dana Auditorium. Again, in 1908, after the forced sale of all Dana's Musical Institute buildings and facing possible relocation of the school, the City of Warren incorporated the Dana Institute of Music providing the needed capital to rebuild the DMI home in 1911.

Dana advertised its concert schedule for the first time in 1953. The extra musical opportunities for student performance continued to grow. Some of the ensembles that developed over time include: the Monday Musical Club, the Madrigal Singers, the Dana Ragtime Ensemble, Musical Penguins, and the Dana Chorale which toured Europe in 1982 and South Korea in 2017. Dana's talented faculty ensembles have continually provided excellent performances throughout the region and beyond.

The rigorous performing schedule stems from the original Dana vision, which emphasized the practical application of music.



Community favorites include the annual holiday concert, Carols & Cocoa held at Stambaugh Auditorium, which began in 1979 and the free “Music at Noon” performances at the Butler Institute of American Art. YSU’s Wind Ensemble, featured at Carnegie Hall, is also a frequent performer at the Ohio Music Education Association conference. The Percussion Collective tours each year to nearby high schools and was featured at the 2018 OMEA conference in Columbus. YSU’s Jazz Ensembles regularly tours each spring and fall at area jazz clubs and schools, as does the Dana Chorale and Opera Workshop.

Today’s ensembles include: Symphony Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Concert Band, Chamber Orchestra, Jazz Ensemble, Opera Workshop, Marching Pride, Youngstown Percussion Collective, Dana Chorale, Voices, and much, much more. Many ensembles have produced award-winning recordings of classical, jazz, and original compositions. The Marching Band regularly hosts area high school bands at YSU and offers a Mass Band Day in the fall and Jam the Gym Pep Band Day in the spring. Dana students, faculty, and alums may also be found performing at Suzies Dogs and Drafts, Barrel 33, Magic Tree, Vintage Estate, and many other live music venues in the area.

Each fall, the Dana Young Artist Competition provides its winners an opportunity to perform a concerto movement with the Dana Symphony or Wind Ensemble. Special events for the community include the Flute Festival, Clarinet Day, Horn Day Strings Festival, Northeast Ohio Keyboard Festival, and applied area studio recitals as well as Opera performances, Opera Western Reserve collaborations, and Theater collaborations, all which allow the community to enjoy the talents of Dana’s students.

Community favorites include the annual holiday concert, Carols & Cocoa, which began in 1979 and free “Music at Noon” performances at the Butler Institute of American Art.

THE MISSION OF

The Dana School of Music

is to provide access to rigorous and innovative training in music, empowering our graduates to achieve their potential as performers, creators, educators, and citizens. Music in all its forms is a transcendent expression of our humanity, thus we tirelessly advocate for its central place in our society.

Adopted November 28, 2018

From Dana's Musical Institute in Warren to the Dana School of Music in Youngstown, many factors have led the school to change its degree programs and curriculum while it prioritized the training and education of the "complete musician." The school continues to prepare students through immersion in the study and performance of music, producing successful graduates who eagerly enter the workforce and find fulfillment in their career in the twenty-first century. Dana's current Mission Statement acknowledges the many paths alumni will follow while expressing music's critical importance among the humanities.



The Dana School of Music is constantly working to improve the balance between music educator preparation, applied study, ensemble performance, and academic achievement to equip Dana's students to be successful. Education of the "complete musician" remains central to the focus of the school, although students may choose a variety of career paths. A majority of recent alumni currently teach in public K-12 schools, while others have formed technology companies, play in military bands, record popular music, teach and research at public universities, and work in arts administration.

Dana is committed to building a sustainable future. To this end it has strengthened its ties with other arts organizations in the area. For example, programs during the 2018-19 Academic Year include collaborations with Ballet Western Reserve, YSU's Departments of Theater & Dance and Art, WYSU, and the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation. Through increased connectivity, Dana will continue to help advocate for the centrality of the arts in the Mahoning Valley.

Dana continuously updates its curriculum and course offerings to prepare students for twentieth-century careers. Customized minors in business-related fields, reduced credit hours, new ensemble offerings, and additional courses in the Music Industry area, are just a few of the curricular changes enacted to serve Dana's students.



In 2004, the Dana School of Music was designated an All-Steinway School, the first public university in Ohio with this distinction.



Author's Note

Co-Authored by Randall E. Goldberg and Cindy J. Sarnowski

With much gratitude to John Turk and his book, The Musical Danas of Warren, Ohio - The History of the Dana School of Music and to Cassie Nespor, Curator at MAAG Library



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