

USD program receives reaccreditation to '20

Rawlins Trio releases 5th CD

The University of South Dakota Master of Public Administration program was awarded full accreditation through August 2020 by the Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation of the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs and Administration (NASPAA).

The accreditation followed a review of the USD program's self-study report, submitted in 2012, and a Commission review team that visited campus last spring.

The Commission commended the program on its efforts to promote diversity and the site visit team report observed that "the M.P.A. working group faculty have been exemplary in their efforts to promote diversity." Founded in 1970, NASPAA is the global standard in public service education and was established to ensure excellence in education and training for public service and to promote the ideal of public service. USD's Master of Public Administration degree is the only NASPAA accredited program in the state.

"Achieving reaccreditation is evidence that USD's program is

among the best in the nation," said William Richardson, Ph.D., Odeen-Swanson Distinguished Professor of Political Science and chair of the USD Department of Political Science. "It's a program that we're proud to offer as it's the only accredited M.P.A. program in the state, so it's no accident that many of our graduates go on to become leaders at the local, state and national levels."

The reaccreditation of seven years for USD's M.P.A. is the maximum period allowable by NASPAA. The Master of Public Administration, which includes seven full-time faculty, is a professional degree program that prepares students to serve as leaders in the public and nonprofit sector. Graduates of USD's public administration program serve at all levels of government and nonprofit organizations in the United States and abroad.

For more information about the M.P.A. program at USD, visit www.usd.edu/arts-and-sciences/political-science/mpa.cfm or contact polsci@usd.edu.

"Attracting Opposites: New Music for Piano Trio" is the latest CD released by the internationally-acclaimed University of South Dakota Rawlins Piano Trio. Featuring five works commissioned by the Trio, the CD was recorded in June 2012 for the Azica label and is distributed by Naxos (www.amazon.com/Attracting-Opposites-Music-Piano-Trio/dp/B00DI67YHU).

The fifth CD recorded by the Rawlins Piano Trio, which is comprised of Eunho Kim, Susan Keith Gray and Marie-Elaine Gagnon – all faculty members in the USD Department of Music, "Attracting Opposites" is available in hard copy or mp3 from online distributors globally. The five award-winning composers of the works on the new CD are Emma Lou Diemer, James Lentini, Timothy Hoekman, Miguel Roig-Francoli and Stephen Yarbrough. Yarbrough served on the faculty at USD until his retirement in 2011 while "Yeats Songs" by Timothy Hoekman features USD alumna and soprano Carla Connors. More information about the composers and the works is available at



The South Dakota Rawlins Piano Trio is comprised of Marie-Elaine Gagnon, Susan Keith Gray and Eunho Kim.

(Courtesy photo)

www.rawlinstrio.com/news. All five Trio discs present music of 19th through 21st century American composers, including the Trio's fourth disc, "American Discoveries," which was released in July 2009 on the Albany Records label and features the Trio's first commissioned composition, "Volvic Maritim," by New York-based composer Daniel Bernard Roumain. The Trio

is named for benefactors the late Robert and Marjorie Rawlins.

Since its founding in 1987, the Rawlins Piano Trio has distinguished itself as a dynamic group of performers, teachers and scholars. The ensemble performs regularly

throughout the United States and abroad, including recent concert and teaching tours throughout Taiwan and Panama and South Korea. For more information, visit www.rawlinstrio.com, go to Facebook or call the USD College of Fine Arts at (605) 677-5481.

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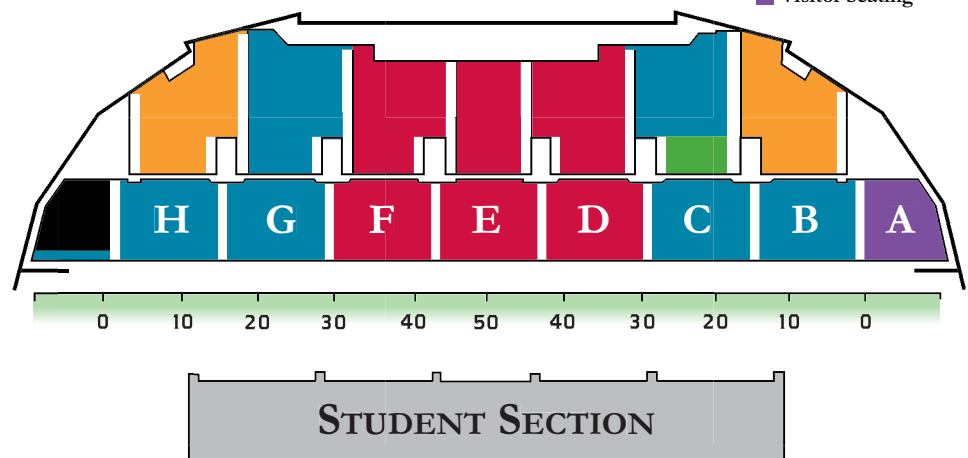
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