



# Final Report

ATU Faculty Development Grant  
for Philip Parker (spring semester 2006)

**Restatement of proposal:**

My grant proposal was to have a guest composer, Dr. Walter Mays, on campus for 2 days. This mini-residency would entail lectures, a joint recital featuring compositions by Dr. Mays and myself and a band concert featuring Dr. Mays work *Dreamcatcher*.

**Review of the 2-day mini-residency:**

Dr. Mays was on campus April 9-11 of 2006. He spent the evening of the 9<sup>th</sup> with ATU faculty members Kelly Johnson and Tim Smith in rehearsal of two of his pieces to be performed on the recital of Monday evening the 10<sup>th</sup>. Monday morning Dr. Mays spoke to Mr. Parker's classes in arranging and music theory. Monday evening was the joint recital with Mr. Parker (program attached). The program featured ATU faculty members Kelly Johnson and Tim Smith as well as Richard Ramey and Clare Detels, faculty at the University of Arkansas and Glenda Secrest, Cindy Fuller and Caroline Taylor, faculty members at Ouachita Baptist University.

On Tuesday the 11<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Mays gave a lecture titled *Why Stone-age People Sing* which was open to the public. He attended rehearsals of the ATU Symphonic Band that afternoon and the band performed *Dreamcatcher* that evening to a full house and standing ovation (program attached).

**Summary:**

The grant gave me the opportunity to have my compositions *Bug Dances* for bassoon and piano and *Story Hour* for soprano, alto saxophone and piano performed for the first time on campus by the faculty members from UofA and Ouachita. The joint recital was well attended. At the reception following the recital many students conveyed their enjoyment of an opportunity to hear "Avant Garde" music performed at ATU as well as the off-campus performers. The band concert went very well and student response to the entire 2 day event was extremely positive. Dr. Mays was quite impressed with the ATU band and faculty!

**Conclusions:**

The opportunity for our music students to have a Pulitzer Prize-nominated composer on campus was a unique treat and to be involved in performing one of his award-winning compositions with the composer's input was particularly rewarding. The joint composition recital gave me an opportunity to have two of my pieces premiered on campus.

ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
School of Liberal and Fine Arts  
Department of Music

PRESENTS

# COMPOSITION RECITAL

Dr. Walter Mays  
Mr. Philip Parker



Funding provided by ATU Faculty Development Grant

7:30 pm  
Monday, April 10, 2006  
Witherspoon Auditorium

Recital Attendance Record

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: Monday, April 10,  
2006

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Recital: Composition  
Recital

## PROGRAM

*Eight Pieces for Clarinet and Piano* (1991)

Kelly Johnson-Clarinet  
Timothy Smith-Piano

Walter Mays

*Bug Dances: An Entomological Delight  
for Bassoon and Piano* (2005)

- I. Grasshopper
- II. Caterpillar
- III. Cockroach
- IV. Butterfly
- V. Mosquito
- VI. Luna Moth
- VII. Army Ants

Richard Ramey-Bassoon  
Claire Detels-Piano  
**World Premier**

Philip Parker

*Story Hour* for Soprano, Alto Saxophone and Piano

Philip Parker  
Poems by Sara Henderson Hay

Prologue

- I. The Memory
- II. Juvenile Court
- III. The Builders
- IV. The Grievance
- V. Dr. S----Advises a Worried Mother
- VI. Death of H.D., a Prominent Citizen
- VII. One of the Seven Has Somewhat to Say

Glenda Secrest-Soprano  
Cindy Fuller-Piano  
Caroline Taylor-Alto Saxophone

Poems used by permission of the University of Arkansas Press

*A reception will follow the recital in Witherspoon lobby*

*Repetitions* (1967)

- I. Drammatico, quasi cadenza
- II. Misterioso
- III. Quasi aleatorio

Timothy Smith-Piano

Walter Mays

*Rhapsody for Bassoon and Piano* (1996)

Richard Ramey-Bassoon  
Claire Detels-Piano

Walter Mays

☞ Thank you for disabling cell phones and pagers during the performance ☞

**Walter Mays** attended the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music where he studied composition with Felix Labunski, Jenő Takács and John Cage, and chamber music with Walter Levin and the LaSalle Quartet.

Various composition awards include the 1998 CBS Goddard Lieberman award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the 1996 NBA/Revelli Band Composition Award for *Dreamcatcher*, MTNA-Shepherd Distinguished Composer (1997) for *Rhapsody* for bassoon and piano, a Naumburg Recording Award, a Composers Award of the Martha Baird Rockefeller Fund for Music, and a Tanglewood Commission from the Fromm Musical Foundation at Harvard. His *Six Invocations* for percussion ensemble was the winner in the first Percussive Arts Society National Composition Contest and has been performed by many percussion groups throughout the United States. His oratorio, *Voices from the Fiery Wind*, commissioned by the Omaha Symphony (1981), and his *String Quartet in G Minor*, commissioned by the Pro Arte Quartet (1997), were nominated for Pulitzer prizes.

*Dreamcatcher* has been recorded by Eugene Corporon and the North Texas Symphonic Winds on the Klavier label. *Dialogues for Horn and Piano* has been released on the Summit label and *Six Invocations* and *Concerto for Alto Saxophone* appear on CRI recordings. Music of Mays is published by C. Alan Publication, Moseler Verlag, and EMI-Schirmer. He is currently "Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of Music" at Wichita State University. *First Light*, for wind ensemble was commissioned in 2000 by the CAC Conference Band Director's Association, a consortium of twelve colleges in Ohio and Michigan.

**Philip Parker** holds the M.M. from Indiana University and the B.M. from Wichita State University where he studied composition with Walter Mays. Mr. Parker has numerous publications for a variety of media to his credit. Major performance venues include conventions of the National Flute Association, the International Clarinet Society, Percussive Arts Society, International Trumpet Guild, International Double Reed Society and College Band Directors Association. He is a recipient of an Arkansas Arts Council Fellowship for outstanding achievement in composition and was awarded Arkansas Tech University's prestigious "Excellence in Scholarship Award" in 2001. Two of his compositions, *Games* and *Beneath the Canopy* were declared winners in the National Flute Association's New Music Competition in 1996 making him the first composer to have two winning compositions in the same year. He is currently Composer-in-Residence with the Fort Smith Symphony where he plays timpani.

**Kelly Johnson** holds the D.M.A. in Clarinet Performance and the M.M. in Clarinet Performance from Arizona State University where she was selected as Outstanding Graduate Performance Student in 1994. She teaches applied clarinet and woodwind methods at Arkansas Tech. Professor Johnson is principal clarinetist with the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra and has performed as recitalist at the 1998, 1999 and 2005 International Clarinet Association conventions. Her CD, titled *Clarinet Unlimited*, features the clarinet works of Belgian composer Norbert Goddaer. A 1995 member of the National Orchestra Institute, Professor Johnson was a national finalist for the 1993 and 1995 MTNA-Wurlitzer Collegiate Artist Competitions.

**Timothy Smith** holds the D.M. in Music Literature and Performance from Indiana University, the M.M. degree from Indiana University and the B.M. from St. Olaf College. Professor Smith's duties include applied piano, music theory, ear training and piano accompanying seminar. In addition to his responsibilities at Arkansas Tech, Professor Smith is an active member of the Arkansas State Music Teachers Association and the National Association of Music Clubs. Dr. Smith is the official piano accompanist for the D'Angelo Competition for Strings at Mercyhurst College and has recorded the Suzuki cello repertoire with renowned cellist Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi.

**Richard Ramey**, a musician versed in classical, jazz and Latin American music, draws upon his varied musical background in his work as a performer and educator. He is Professor of Bassoon at the University of Arkansas and principal bassoon with the Fort Smith Symphony.

As a recitalist and clinician, Mr. Ramey has been invited to perform at many International Double Reed Society conferences and universities across the country as well as schools in Canada, Germany and Thailand.

Mr. Ramey is involved in many facets of research concerning bassoon performance as well as arranging music for bassoon quartet. He recently completed a one-hour version for bassoon ensemble, piano and percussion of the music from Khachaturian's ballet *Spartacus*.

Richard Ramey holds degrees in Bassoon Performance and Musicology from the University of Southern California, a masters degree in Bassoon Performance from Arizona State University, and is a DMA candidate at Michigan State University.

Mr. Ramey does have musical interests outside of the bassoon. He is also a performer of the theremin, the oldest commercially-produced electronic instrument.

**Claire Detels** is a musicologist and keyboardist at the University of Arkansas. She received her B.A. from Colorado College, and her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Washington in Seattle. She has studied harpsichord from Margaret Gries and Larry Palmer, organ with Carole Terry and piano and accompanying from Alan Chow and Neal O'Doan. She has performed throughout the South Central region as a soloist and as a chamber and continuo player with the Early Music Consort of Kansas City, the Duo Courante (with Leonard Garrison), the North Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, and is director of the University of Arkansas Collegium Musicum, as well as being a published author in the areas of aesthetics and opera.

**Glenda Secrest** serves Ouachita Baptist University by teaching applied voice and vocal diction. Dr. Secrest holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Vocal Performance from the University of Memphis, and the B.M. and M.M. degrees in Vocal Performance from Arizona State University. Prior to her appointment at Ouachita, Secrest held positions at Cameron University, Chandler /Gilbert Community College, and Manhattan Christian College.

Dr. Secrest has studied with Peggy Castle, Darleen Kliever-Britton, Pamela Gaston, and Rico Serbo. She has had the privilege of working with the renowned Sherill Milnes, Natalie Limonick, and Elly Ameling. Her opera credits include the leading roles in Rossini's *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, Puccini's *La Boheme*, Offenbach's *Les contes d'Hoffmann*, Humperdinck's *Hansel und Gretel*, *The Turn of the Screw* by Benjamin Britten, Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* and *LeNozze di Figaro*. Dr. Secrest's performances in *Die Zauberflöte* and *LeNozze di Figaro* were televised nationally on Public Broadcasting stations.

She has appeared with the Phoenix Symphony, Scottsdale Symphony, Nouviau West Orchestra, Lawton Philharmonic Orchestra, lyric Opera Theatre of Arizona State University, and as special guest with Steve Allen in the "*Premiere of a New Century*".

Her doctoral dissertation entitled *Songs from Letters, and Cowboy Songs by Libby Larsen: Two Different Approaches to Western Mythology and Western Mythological Figures* earned her a spot in "Contemporary Authors", the world's primary directory for author information. She was selected through a blind competitive process to present her lecture recital at the 2004 National Convention of the National Association of Teachers of Singing in New Orleans, LA.

**Cindy Fuller** is Instructor of Voice and Music Education at Ouachita. She holds the B.M. and B.M.E. from Baylor University, and the M.M. from Sam Houston State University. She is in frequent demand as a clinician for both public school and church music conferences and workshops.

She has also served on the faculty of Arkansas Baptist State Convention music camps. Mrs. Fuller enjoys accompanying for vocal ensembles, guest artists and faculty recitals at Ouachita. She serves as church organist and children's choir director at First Baptist Church in Arkadelphia.

**Caroline Taylor** is a Professor of Music at Ouachita Baptist University. Active as both a performer and clinician, Dr. Taylor has premiered works for saxophone at the 11<sup>th</sup> World Saxophone Congress held in Valencia, Spain, the 12<sup>th</sup> World Saxophone Congress held in Montreal, Canada, the 13<sup>th</sup> World Saxophone Congress held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and numerous Biennial Conferences of the NASA.

Additionally, she has performed or given presentations at the 2001 and 2004 International Conferences of the College Music Society, the 1998 Annual Meeting of the College Music Society, the 2000 Music Educators National Conference, the National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors Symposium, several regional conferences, and the Texas Music Educators Association Conference. She earned a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Saxophone Performance and a Master of Music degree in Woodwinds Performance from the University of Georgia. Dr. Caroline Taylor is a Performing Artist for the Yamaha Corporation of America.

**ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY**

School of Liberal and Fine Arts

Department of Music

7:30 pm

Tuesday, April 11, 2006

Witherspoon Auditorium

Presents

**SPRING CONCERT**

*Program*

**The Concert Band**

“Hail to the Fleet” ..... Richard Maltby

“Symphony #1 for Band” ..... Claude T. Smith

I - Flourish

II - March

III - Lyric Song

IV - Toccata

“Leichte Kavallerie” overture ..... Franz von Suppe’  
Arr. William van der Beck

**The Symphonic Band**

Whirr, Whirr, Whirr..... Ralph Hultgren

Dreamcatcher ..... Walter Mays

El Camino Real (a Latin fantasy) ..... Alfred Reed

“ . . . nite ridin’ on da riva” ..... Tom O’Conner

~ Please disable all electronic devices during the performance ~

**Recital Attendance Record**

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: Tuesday, April 11, 2006

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Recital: Concert/Symphonic Bands

# Parker, Mays to present joint composition recital

## Tech News Bureau

Dr. Walter Mays, distinguished professor at Wichita State University and Philip Parker, associate professor of music at Arkansas Tech University, will present a joint composition recital at 7:30 p.m. Monday in Witherspoon Auditorium.

Mays, residency is made possible by a Faculty Professional Development Grant and will include the Monday evening recital, a lecture "Why Stone Age People Sing" at 11 a.m. Tuesday, and a performance of his "Dreamcatcher" for symphonic band during the Tech band concert at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday night.

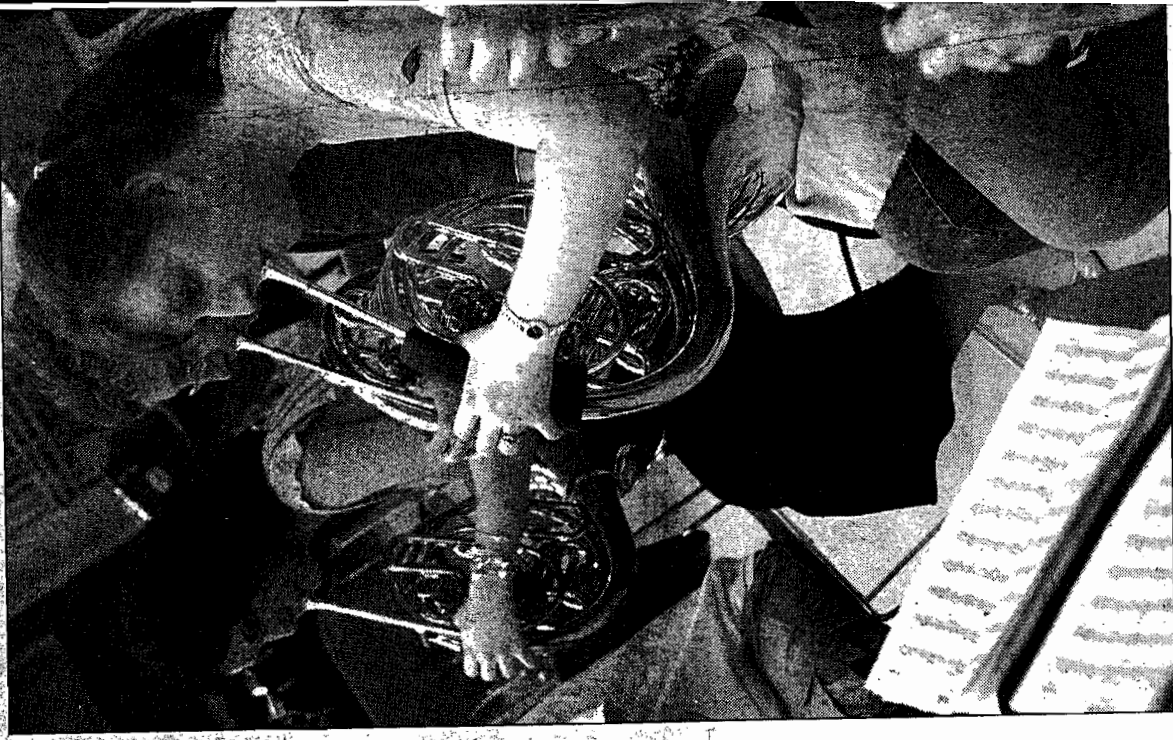
Mays is the recipient of numerous awards including the CBS Goddard Lieberston Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Revelli Band Composition Award, the MTNA-Shepherd Distinguished Composer

award, a Tanglewood Commission from the Fromm Musical Foundation at Harvard, a Naumburg Recording award and two Pulitzer Prize nominations.

Parker is the recipient of an Arkansas Arts Council Fellowship for outstanding work in composition, Arkansas Tech's Excellence in Scholarly Activity Award and numerous commissions from across the United States. Two of his compositions have been declared winners in the National Flute Association's international competition for new music. Parker is currently composer-in-residence with the Fort Smith Symphony and a former student of Mays.

Monday night's recital will include faculty from the University of Arkansas, Ouachita Baptist University and Arkansas Tech University. All events will be held in Witherspoon Auditorium.

## Thursday is Horn Night



THE COURIER / Fred Glad

Judy Tenney (from left), Denise Tenney and Bonnie Engle hoven rehearse Sunday in the Witherspoon band room of the Department of Music's celebration of "Horn Night