Final Report
ATU Faculty Development Grant
for Philip Parker (fall semester 2009)

Native American Flute
Goes Classical
James J. Pellerite
and
Friends
Restatement of proposal:

My grant proposal was to have the internationally renowned flutist Mr. James Pellerite present a lecture/recital on the Native American flute. Since retiring from Indiana University, Mr. Pellerite has taken up this instrument and commissioned numerous works for it. The recital would include a performance of a composition of mine commissioned by Mr. Pellerite and performed by the two of us.

Review of the recital

Mr. Pellerite was on campus September 20-21, 2009. He spent Sunday evening and Monday rehearsing with ATU faculty members Philip Parker, Timothy Smith and Karen Futterer along with flutist Kim Parker. The first half of the recital included pieces performed just by Mr. Pellerite and the second half consisted of music which included Dr. Smith on piano, Mrs. Futterer and Kim Parker on flute and me on percussion. The main composition of the second half was my piece Rainmaker for native flute and percussion.

Summary:

The grant gave me the opportunity to have my composition Rainmaker performed on campus by one of the premier flutists in the world and introduced an instrument to the audience that many had never experienced. In his lecture, Mr. Pellerite commented on the history of the Native American Lakota-style cedar flute which was used primarily by the Sioux and other tribes of the north central plains. The lecture was very informative with demonstrations of various techniques that Mr. Pellerite has developed allowing him to perform the more complex music written for him. The recital was well attended (ca. 120) and was a requirement for music majors. It was publicized in the Courier-Democrat as well as to Arkansas public school band directors via the ASBOA website/email. A reception for Mr. Pellerite was held afterward where folks could meet and talk with him.

Conclusions:

It was a unique opportunity for our students and community to hear an instrument that many had rarely heard before and to experience a true virtuoso playing it. Mr. Pellerite has performed Rainmaker on other recitals but it was a special treat to be able to bring him here to perform it with me at ATU. Included is a program and copy of the newspaper article from the Courier.
Pellerite brings Native American flute sounds to Arkansas Tech University

By Sam Strain

James Pellerite, a performer and publisher of contemporary works for the Native American flute, will give a concert at 7:30 p.m. Monday in Witherspoon Auditorium at Arkansas Tech University. Admission is free.

Pellerite is the founder of JP Publications, which publishes contemporary Native American flute works for solo, chamber and orchestral settings. He is a former professor of flute at Indiana University and solo flute with the Philadelphia Orchestra.

"The instrument is very inspiring when you pick it up," said Pellerite in a 2003 interview with Flautist Quarterly about the Native American flute. "You can feel the vibrations in the fingers and the air rushing. This flute possesses a natural beauty, an innate quality of sound that is emotionally driven. It captures the musical senses in a spiritual manner, thereby allowing for techniques to do nothing but enhance the musical experience."

Pellerite, who was first exposed to the Native American flute in 1993, has performed with symphony orchestras in Detroit, Indianapolis, San Francisco, Dallas and Minnesota. He has taken his knowledge and skill on tour in such foreign lands as Australia, Japan, Taiwan, Singapore and China.

For more information about Pellerite's performance at Arkansas Tech University, call 968-0368.

“The Outhouse” Submit

Reynaldo Hahn (1875-1947) was a Venezuelan who composed his first musical piece at the age of eight. He later moved to France, where he continued to compose works for opera, orchestra, ballet, choir and eventually film.

Hahn became a naturalized French citizen, representing his adopted country in World War I and later served as director of the Paris Opéra.

Now, more than six decades after Hahn's death, Spivey brings him back to life in a show that, according to Spivey's Web site, "resides between fact, music and poetry to evoke not only a singular composer, but also in a time when cultures were defined by their artists."

Spivey is a member of the voice faculty at Penn State University. He was the 2003 recipient of the Van L. Lawrence Fellowship from the Voice Foundation and the National Association of Teachers of Singing. Spivey holds degrees from Southeastern Louisiana State University, the University of North Texas and the University of Michigan.

"ECOUTE: Pieces of Reynaldo Hahn" was written by Susan Russell, a theater faculty member at Penn State University. The show will be part of an upcoming Off-Broadway reading series in New York and it will be presented at the 2010 National Association of Teachers of Singing Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah.

For more information, call 968-0368.

Just Desserts activity coming soon to UACCM

Attention all chocoholics: There are only seven days left until the UACCM Community College's "Just Desserts" fund-raiser will be a reality. The event takes place at 5 p.m. Thursday in the UACCM Plaza and pavilion.

"Just Desserts" features a variety of baked goods, donated by area bakers, a UACCM faculty, staff, and students. There will also be a live auction and occasional baking demonstrations. Admission is free, and a cash bar will be provided.

The event is sponsored by the UACCM Foundation and is open to the public. Tickets are $5 at the door or in advance. For more information, call 968-0368.
James Pellerite

Since leaving academia, James J. Pellerite has pursued a new career: performing contemporary music on the Native American flute. His publishing company, JP-PUBLICATIONS, well established as a leader in the field of contemporary flute literature, has commissioned works by American composers for the Native American flute. Beautiful compositions have been created by an impressive roster of outstanding musicians. They feature the Native flute in solo, chamber, and orchestral settings.

As a performer on the modern flute, Mr. Pellerite is well-known as an orchestral musician. He succeeded his renowned teacher, William Kincaid, as solo flutist of the Philadelphia Orchestra. He has held the position of principal flute also with the symphony orchestras of Detroit and Indianapolis and performed with orchestras of Chautauqua (NY), Radio City Music Hall (NYC), L'Orchestre Sinfonica de Puerto Rico, as well as the San Francisco Symphony, Dallas Symphony, and the Minnesota Orchestra. His performances have included those under such eminent conductors as Leonard Bernstein, Pablo Casals, Neville Mariner, Dimitri Mitropoulos, Eugene Ormandy, Leopold Stokowski, and Igor Stravinski.

For many years he served as Professor of Flute at Indiana University, and many of his students now hold prominent university and symphony positions. During much of his career as a classical flutist and artist teacher he has appeared throughout the U.S., Canada, Mexico and abroad. Numerous residencies have included tours of Australia, Japan, Taiwan, Singapore and People’s Republic of China. For a return invitation by the National Youth Orchestra of Hong Kong he offered classes and woodwind seminars.

Recital Attendance Record

Name: __________________________________________________________

Signature: _______________________________________________________

Pellerite Concert  •  September 21, 2009

Arkansas Tech University
College of Arts and Humanities
Department of Music

PRESENTS

Native American Flute
Goes Classical
James J. Pellerite
and
Friends
Karen Futterer
Kim Parker
Philip Parker
Dr. Timothy Smith

in

CONCERT

7:30 p.m.
Monday, September 21, 2009
Witherspoon Auditorium
PROGRAM

Night Chants for solo flute
Night Prayer
Night Dance
Benediction

Santa Fe Galloway

Theme and Variance for solo flute
Ayame for solo flute (first performance)
Awakenings for solo flute
Spirits' Dance

James J. Pellerite
Kazuo Tokito
David Yeagley

Colors Fall for two flutes
Blue Pop for flute and piano (first performance)
Winter Sky for flute and piano

James DeMars
David Patterson
Joseph Turin

INTERMISSION

Mystic Visions for solo flute
Two Fantasias for flute and percussion
Andante tranquillo
Allegro

Raindance for flute and percussion

William Hill
Kazuo Tokito
Philip Parker

Rainmaker for Native American flute and percussion by Philip Parker was written in 2006 at the request of James Pellerite. Although in one movement, the four sections of the piece contain the following subtitles:

Moonrise...a duet for flute and slide whistle.

Night sounds...the percussion imitates crickets, frogs, locusts and even a woodpecker at dusk while the flute imitates a bird.

Gathering at the Ninnescah river...a call for the community to gather for the ceremony.

Around the ceremonial fire...everyone makes preparations for the dance.

Rain dance...the Rainmaker performs.

~ Please disable all electronic devices during the performance ~

This program was made possible by a Professional Development Grant from Arkansas Tech University.