



Photo coverage of last Wednesday's classical concert.

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"WE ARE ONLY AS STRONG AS WE ARE UNITED, AS WEAK AS WE ARE DIVIDED.." - J.K. Rowling

Greeks face scheduling hurdle

Carly Dean
STAFF WRITER

This year's Greek Week, one of Greek organizations' most important events, is restricted due to conflicting scheduling with Spring Fling.

"We may be a little limited on Greek Week events..." Council Advisor Lauren Wood said at the Greek Council meeting on Jan. 17. The major event is planned for April 4-6, the same week as Spring Fling, as well as a Freshman Orientation the same Friday that the Greek societies use for recruiting.

The Council decided upon Olympus as the theme for this year in honor of the culture that gave them their name. Events will include Greek trivia, a scavenger hunt, and a small-scale Olympics.

Greek trivia will be a combination of Greek mythology and Greek letter trivia in a Jeopardy-style format. The teams will be divided by organization.

The Olympics will be held at the UC Mall for the viewing pleasure of LSU Shreveport students and faculty. Several ideas for games were discussed, but none were decided upon.

Elections were also held at this meeting. The delegates of each organization unanimously chose Jonathan Ratliff of Kappa Sigma for president, Marianne Stevens of Sigma Phi Iota for vice president, and Tim Jenkins of Alpha Phi Alpha for secretary.

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Photo by Jessica Ingram

Paul Christopher, associate professor of music theory at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, and Dr. LaWanda Blakeney, professor of music at LSU Shreveport, performed a classical concert last Wednesday in the UC theater.

LSUS concert strikes chord

Malva Chintakindi
STAFF WRITER

Paul Christopher positioned his cello against his shoulder, the University Center stage lights focused on him while Dr. LaWanda Blakeney proceeded to the grand piano.

The concert, sponsored by the department of arts and media, took place last Wednesday during Common Hour and featured Paul Christopher on cello and Dr. LaWanda Blakeney on the piano.

Christopher is an associate professor of music theory and low strings at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches. He also plays in different music festivals including the Peter Britt Festival Orchestra in Jacksonville, Ore. Blakeney is the professor of music at LSU Shreveport.

The program comprised of three pieces of music: Ballade by Jacques Offenbach, Four Interludes for Cello Alone by Dinos Constantinides, and Sonata in G Major by Giovanni Sammartini. With the grace of a dancer, Chris-

topher played the cello.

"I like music and this was extremely beautiful. He played with a lot of emotion," said Elizabeth Kemp, junior, political science.

The audience had the opportunity to ask questions after the concert. One query regarded Christopher's beginnings with the cello.

"I started playing when I was in my fifth grade, but it was my mother who played an important role more than any other teacher. She took me to concerts though she did not understand music," Christopher said. "I listened

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NASO reaches out to LSUS students, community



Photo by Jessica Ingram

(From left to right) Brandy Ollhoff (NASO Secretary), Gina Williams (NASO member), and Raelynn Brown (NASO President).

Emily Wright
STAFF WRITER

LSU Shreveport's Nonprofit Administration Student Organization (NASO) is reaching out to the community while strengthening students' work skills at the same time.

LSUS's nonprofit sector welcomes students to get involved with their organization and be prepared to learn, grow, and have fun.

The Campus Executive Director, Helen Wise, explains that the nonprofit organization offers students many environments in which they can attain wisdom and skills for jobs, a network of contacts, and experience working for a nonprofit organization.

"The organization is part of a larger nonprofit certification. We're members of the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance. LSUS is the only school in Louisiana that is actually a member. It is a network of about 70 schools, colleges, and universities from around the country. We've been a member since the

mid-1990s and we're one of the first campuses to sign up," Wise said.

The national certification program Nonprofit Leadership Alliance (NLA) is structured to prepare nonprofit leaders for management and administration positions. Participation in the NLA program enhances degrees by providing skills and knowledge necessary to achieve success as an entry-level nonprofit professional.

"The certification is designed to give students a minor in nonprofit administration, because there are a lot of unique elements to nonprofits that are different from for-profits and the government," Wise said.

NASO is open to any student, regardless of his or her area of study.

"Because we don't have a major [in nonprofit], we have students from all different kinds of majors. So we might have people from business, who are very interested in nonprofit, but we also have people in community health, psychology, sociology, or general studies," Wise said. "And so it's a

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CHORD cont.

to a lot of opera and different styles of music and that helped me more than anything.”

Hollie Fields asked if he played any other instruments.

“I used to play and teach bass but not anymore,” Christopher said.

When asked about his opinion on bands like Metallica, Christopher said “I don’t mind them, but the cello sounds like guitar. What is the point of digitally processing it? Play cello and that is real music.”

He was asked next about the similarities between a violin and a cello.

“Some of the technical considerations are similar but the cello is easier because of its position,” Christopher said, before joking “Cello is

like the Republican and violin is like the liberal Democrat.”

Among the audience, the concert was a success.

“It was very entertaining, I admire the ornamentation. The pianist could have used a good piano,” said James Tryer, a retired music teacher.

Blakeney had many admirers in the audience. One of them, Bill, said, “She is the best accompanist in the town. She can accompany any person and compliment very well.”

Overall, the concert seemed to strike a chord with the audience.

“It was really good. The interaction with music audience was great,” said Thomas DuBose, associate professor of English.

Christopher gave a piece of advice to aspiring musicians, “You have to be diverse and persistent because most of the time you would be disappointed because for every one good performance there may be twenty other bad things. You should be versatile or else you cannot make a living and you should be able to find your niche by exploring all different kinds of music.”

Blakeney said she felt that there should be more classical concerts organized during a semester.

“That is what college is – to introduce everything possible to students,” she said.

As the show drew to a close, the UC theater echoed with the applause of the audience’s standing ovation.



Above, Paul Christopher performed Dinos Constantinides “Four Interludes for Cello Alone.” Left, Paul Christopher uses a contemporary bow and plays a cello made by Wendy and Peter Moes based out of Germany. Lower left, after the concert, Christopher answered questions from the audience.

Photos by Jessica Ingram



Blakeney, professor of music at LSUS, accompanied Paul Christopher on her Piano. She played in the ‘Ballade’ composed by Jacques Offenbach and ‘Sonata in G Major’ composed by Giovanni Sammartini.

NASO cont.

way for them to all connect. But more importantly, it’s a professionalizing experience. The student organization exists to provide those networking opportunities for students of diverse majors to work together towards that professionalization.”

Students involved in NASO can strengthen their degree by participating in the student organization, earning a minor in nonprofit, or becoming nationally certified. Activities include volunteer work, service projects, on-campus events, fundraising, and more.

Potential careers in Nonprofit include human resources, public relations and marketing, accountant, events coordinator, counselor, office management and administration, and more.

The NASO Secretary, Brandy Ollhoff, and a NASO member, Gina Williams, expressed their thoughts about the assistance and help NASO gives to the community by saying that they feel they are helping those in need and making a difference in everyday lives. Ollhoff stated that she believes serving others is its own reward.

The President of NASO, Raelynn Brown, invites newcomers to join and share in the service and professionalism. She said that an extra hand is extra help.

Nonprofit Administration Student Organization meetings are held every first and third Wednesday during Common Hour in BH 117.

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The Greek Council is composed of the President of every Greek society and one other chosen delegate. They plan events between the 10 organizations to improve the college experience at LSUS.



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