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**WILLIAM
PATERSON
UNIVERSITY**

PROFILE OF AN HONORS PROJECT:**Getting into Focus with Alex Chilowicz**

The awesome power of a string orchestra coupled with the cool strains of the jazz tenor saxophone — a fusion of sounds even the most avid music enthusiast rarely encounters. However, students of William Paterson University and audience members will get the chance to hear just that on December 9th at 8:00 p.m. in The Shea Center For The Performing Arts when saxophonist Alex Chilowicz,



Alex Chilowicz and Professor/Conductor Richard DeRosa analyzing the Focus Suite

a senior in the Music Honors Track, will perform the unique masterpiece, the *Focus Suite*, with a string orchestra conducted by Professor Richard DeRosa.

The concert will be the result of four years of hard work, research, and investigation on the part of Mr. Chilowicz, who has been interested in the *Focus Suite* long before college. "I fell in love with *Focus* when I first started playing saxophone, almost nine years ago," Alex recalled. "My first saxophone instructor, Sam Sadigursky (a William Paterson Music Honors alum) introduced me to the piece, and I listened to it night after night for the next few months. There was something so unique about the musical color of the saxophone combined with the strings."

In his first year of college, Mr. Chilowicz, a graduate of Wayne Hills High School and a Presidential Scholar at William Paterson, entered the Music Honors Track, under the direction of Dr. Jeffrey Kresky. When Alex first learned of the thesis project required of all students in the Honors tracks, he realized that a performance of the *Focus Suite* would be an appropriate endeavor.

The *Focus Suite* is a seven-movement piece that composer Eddie Sauter wrote for the legendary saxophonist, Stan Getz, in 1961. The

Suite has a fully-composed score for the strings and percussion, but the lyrical saxophone playing heard on the original album is entirely improvised. At the end of his career, Mr. Getz claimed that *Focus* was his personal favorite of all his recordings. *Focus* is considered by many jazz historians to be one of the rare instances in recorded history (along with other classics such as George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* and Miles Davis' *Miles Ahead*) of classical and jazz elements being combined successfully to create an unusual style termed "Third-Stream" music, a phrase coined by composer and jazz historian Gunther Schuller.

Mr. Chilowicz began the process of preparing for his thesis project in his freshman year. He sought out the original score and found that it was housed at the Eddie Sauter Archive at the Yale University Library. The original sheet music was very difficult to read, so the young saxophonist spent several dozen hours during the summer of 2009 listening to the original recording in order to accurately restore the handwritten music with the use of the Finale Music Notation Software. The Manhattan School of Music Jazz Philharmonic Orchestra then used the parts created by Mr. Chilowicz for a performance with world-renowned saxophonist and former William Paterson faculty member, Joe Lovano, at a concert in October. The concert was a smashing success and several members of the orchestra from that performance will be performing in Alex Chilowicz's December 9th recital, including the critically acclaimed concertmistress, Ms. Katie Thomas.



Alex Chilowicz



Alex Chilowicz with world-renowned saxophonist, Joe Lovano

In an interview, Alex Chilowicz explained the difficulties that he encountered trying to get this concert off the ground. "Since William Paterson no longer has a full orchestra, I realized that I would have to hire string players to assist me with this concert. Fortunately, a fellow Music Honors Track student, Theo Metz ('09), informed me of a program on campus that assisted him with funding for his Honors thesis presentation." That program, the Student Undergraduate Research Program (S.U.R.P.) "is designed to foster and reward outstanding intellectual inquiry and creative works by students who are enrolled in full-time study." (S.U.R.P. Mission Statement). Mr. Chilowicz applied for the grant in the Spring of '09 and received the maximum amount that can be awarded to an individual student (\$2000).

Having restored the sheet music and acquired the funding to hire an orchestra, the William Paterson senior's next challenge will be to determine how to approach the performance of *Focus*. "It is going to be such a unique experience to improvise in front of a string orchestra as a jazz saxophonist," Mr. Chilowicz remarked. "The trick is going to be to find the 'holes' in the composition where I will be able to contribute original melodic material. Having spent so much time staring at the score, I have a good idea of where those spots will be."

Another element that Chilowicz will have to take into account is how to create his own interpretation of *Focus*, having spent so much time listening to Stan Getz's rendition of the work. "When I get up on stage, I'm not only going to be hearing the strings, but I will also be hearing Stan's improvisations in my head. The musical ideas Getz created spontaneously on the recording of *Focus* are as magical as the fully-composed piece itself. It's going to be difficult to try and do something completely different when Stan's solos are so ingrained in my ear; all I can do is try to be myself and allow Getz's tasteful musical decisions to influence my own."

In addition to his saxophone abilities, Alex Chilowicz will display his capacity for composition on the Shea Center's stage at the culminating event in December. As Chilowicz recounted,

"After spending so much time studying Eddie Sauter's composition, I decided to take it upon myself to arrange some music for the performance. It was a complete rush when the orchestra used the parts I restored for the Joe Lovano performance of *Focus*, and I think it will be even more exhilarating when I get to hear them play music that I have composed on my own."

Dr. David Demsey, Coordinator of Jazz Studies at William Paterson University and Mr. Chilowicz's Thesis Project Advisor, noted how many different aspects of the music industry that the project has allowed the 21 year-old to explore. "Not only is Alex getting to perform with an orchestra, but he also has gained valuable skills in key areas: research, copyist-work, hiring musicians, grant-writing, and composition."



Dr. David Demsey, Coordinator of Jazz Studies at William Paterson assists Alex Chilowicz and another student.

The *Focus* project has opened the young musician up to new career possibilities following graduation. Alex says, "Writing parts for strings has been really rewarding, and as a result of my studies in composition and arranging with Professor Rich DeRosa, I have gained an interest in writing music for film and commercial purposes. I will be taking the new 'Composition for Media' course in the spring semester, and I intend to explore possible careers working with music and film after college."

Alex Chilowicz's performance of the Focus Suite will take place on December 9th at 8 PM in the Shea Center for the Performing Arts free of charge. Mr. Chilowicz will give a lecture about topics including: the history of Focus, Eddie Sauter's compositional technique, and Stan Getz's improvisational methods on (DATE TBA!) in Room 101 in the Shea Music Building. For further information about the concert or for a list of upcoming performances, contact Alex Chilowicz at beebopalex@aol.com. To hear clips of his past performances, visit www.myspace.com/alexchilowicz.



Faculty Spotlight:
Dr. Makarec and the Cognitive Science Track

Dr. Katherine Makarec, a professor of Psychology at William Paterson University, currently serves as the Director of the Honors Cognitive Science Track and as Chairperson of the Department of Psychology.

Prior to joining the William Paterson community in 1997, Dr. Makarec earned a Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology from York University. In 1998, she was appointed to serve on the Honors Steering Committee that was charged with developing an Honors Program at William Paterson. When the Honors Program was implemented in 2000, it was comprised of seven tracks, including the Cognitive Science Track that was co-developed by Dr. Makarec and Bill Hirstein.

“Cognitive Science is a very broad field that explores how the mind works,” said Dr. Makarec, whose specific interests include how emotion impacts memory as well as spatial cognition. For example, she is interested in factors that influence memory about where things are in our environment, such as how someone remembers where they parked their car, or how students remember where their I.D. is located.

“Although scientists have some idea about how the mind operates, there is still much to explore, and many ways of exploring it, said Dr. Makarec. “The Cognitive Science Track was specifically designed to afford students an opportunity to explore the mind through an interdisciplinary lens.”

While the track incorporates many fields like computer science, anthropology, neuroscience, psychology, linguistics, and philosophy, it is open to students of all majors who are interested in learning how the mind works. For example, there are currently two math and education majors who are exploring mathematical problem solving. Other majors such as music, communication, and speech and language pathology are able to explore their interests through this field, and students with interests in computer programming tend to be interested in the track. For computer science students, understanding how the mind works can lead to the ability to develop computer games. It can also allow them to use artificial intelligence to test

theories and acquire more knowledge about the human mind, even if it demonstrates how it *doesn't* work.

In order to successfully complete the track, students are required to take 15 credits, including three courses and a semester each of thesis research and thesis writing. Although one of the required classes, *Cognitive Psychology*, is a 300 level course, Dr. Makarec recommends that students take it first. “Not only does this course help students develop a good foundation of knowledge, but it introduces them to a new way of looking at things and thinking about things,” said Makarec.

The second course, CGSI 200 *The Interdisciplinary Study of the Mind*, looks at the various theoretical perspectives and the methodological approaches of several disciplines. The third course, CGSI 300 *Selected Topics in Cognitive Science*, is more like a seminar in which the content varies based on the interests of who is teaching it and the students who are taking it. Students enrolled in this course focus on various research (i.e. primary source research), and the course serves as a springboard into thesis research and writing.

The thesis project gives students an opportunity to focus on the specific area of Cognitive Science that interests them the most. Students select a thesis topic that is based upon their individual interests and career goals, yet within the boundary of how the mind works.

“It’s important not to get overwhelmed at the thought of writing a thesis or doing a significant research project,” said Makarec, who encourages students to seek guidance on their thesis project from a faculty member who shares their interests.

The one-on-one interaction with faculty members is one of the hallmarks of the Honors College. “Having this level of research at the undergraduate level looks great on resumes and graduate school admission applications,” said Makarec, “it’s also a great way to stand out in your major.”

For more information about the Honors Cognitive Science Track, please contact Dr. Makarec at makareck@wpunj.edu.

New and Improved Honors College Website

The new and improved Honors College website is now up and running. Students can learn more about the Honors College, current honors courses, faculty and staff, service projects, tracks, news and events. The Honors College would like to thank office assistant, John Fromholtz, for developing the new website and his continued efforts to improve it. Please check it out at www.wpunj.edu/icip/honors.

Honors Club Raises Money for Childhood Cancer Research

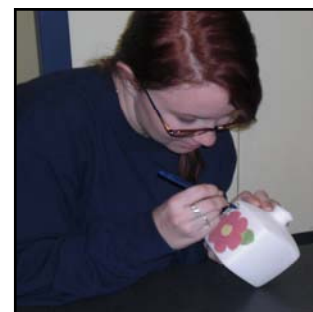
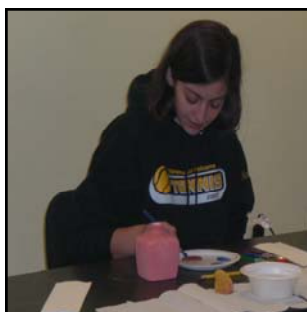
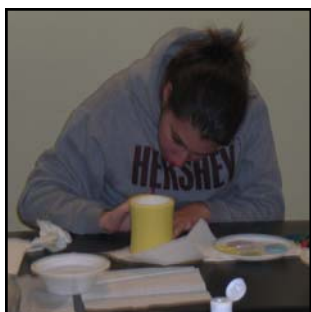
The Honors Club sponsored Alex's Lemonade stand on Monday, October 19 and Tuesday, November 3 on Main Street in the Student Center. The events were organized by Honors student Jessica Pepe, along with Marisol Garcia, the Community Service Officer of the Honors Club. The club raised over \$100.00 and the proceeds are being donated online to Alex's Lemonade Stand through the AU for Alex Team, Arcadia University's Knight Star Annual Fundraiser.

Alex's Lemonade Stand was founded by an inspiring young girl who was diagnosed with neuroblastoma, a type of childhood cancer. In the year 2000, at just four years of age, Alex decided while battling her own cancer that she wanted to have a lemonade stand and donate the money to doctors to help them find a cure. Although Alex passed away, her idea has lived on. Today, the money you donate to this foundation goes toward over one hundred research projects at about fifty institutions dedicated to finding better treatments and hopefully a cure. It also funds nursing grants and helps families with children who have been diagnosed with cancer. Thanks to everyone who helped work the tables and to those who donated to this very worthy cause.



Students' Stress Relieved Through Painting

On Tuesday, October 13, Honors student Rachael Mierzwa hosted a *Color Me Mine* Ceramics Night. Rachael taught the students special techniques to use to create different color effects and patterns on their mugs, bowls, and vases. Everyone who attended had a lot of fun and are enjoying their finished products. Please watch for details about another ceramic painting event that is being planned for the spring!



Honors Club Hosts Halloween Party

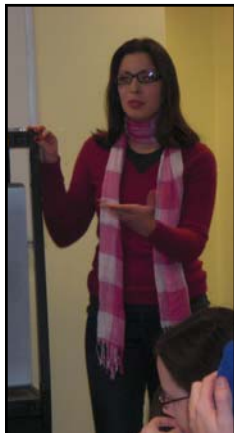
Halloween-A-Palooza was held on Tuesday, October 27 in the student center. The night included pumpkin painting, raffles, Rock Band, Trivia, a costume contest, doughnut eating contests, and lots of candy and prizes! We thank everyone for their canned goods and monetary donations, as well as for coming out and having a good time. We raised \$44, which will be donated to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and collected canned goods that were brought to Star of Hope Ministries in Paterson. A special thanks goes to the planning committee whose hard work made the night a huge success. We would also like to thank everyone who helped set-up!



Honors College to Host Annual Holiday Party

All Honors students and faculty members are invited to attend the annual Honors Holiday Party in Hobart Manor. The event will take place from 3:00-4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 2. Please join us for a festive afternoon of refreshments and music before the semester ends.





Kristen Pettet

The second Lunch in the Lounge was held Tuesday, November 13 at High Mountain East. Kristen Pettet, a sophomore Honors student, showed her film, "Misery to Miracles." Many students attended the event and were impressed by Kristen's dedication to the project that focused on a life changing story.



Another Lunch in the Lounge was held on Tuesday, November 27. During this event, "seasoned" Honors students shared their experience and knowledge about registration with first year Honors students. The first year students appreciated the chance to get information about the process and classes. (Please see page 8 for a list of the Honors courses being offered next semester.)



The final Lunch in the Lounge for the fall semester was held on Thursday, November 19. Ms. Cinzia Richardson, Director of the Office of International Students and Scholars and the National Student Exchange Program, gave an interesting presentation on studying abroad.

Honors students meet

There are now 335 students enrolled in the Honors College! In October and November, all first year Honors students had opportunities to meet together to discuss Honors general education, hear about registration procedures for spring, and get information about the various Honors tracks. All Track students gathered together in October to discuss track requirements and get information about plans that are underway for Honors Week in April 2010.



Honors Coat Drive Underway

There is still time to donate coats to the 4th Annual Honors Coat Drive. Collection boxes are located in the Student Center (1st floor), High Mountain East, Pioneer Hall, and in the Honors College office on the first floor of Raubinger Hall. The final collection will take place on Tuesday, December 1 during common hour on Main Street. Please ask your families and friends to check their closets to help make this event a success once again. Also, this year new hats, gloves, and scarves will be accepted. The donations will go to two very appreciative organizations: Eva'a Village and the Passaic County Head Start. In previous years, we have gone to the Passaic County Head Start together to drop off the children's coats, and we usually do an activity with the children. We plan to do this again, and will announce the details soon.

Hot Chocolate Sale at Final Coat Drive Collection

The Honors Club will be selling hot chocolate on Tuesday, December 1 from 12:30 to 1:45 on Main Street of the Student Center. Proceeds will be donated to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The event will take place at the table for the final collection of the coat drive. Club President Kristina Kosztyo needs volunteers to help sell the hot chocolate and collect coats, so if you can help, please e-mail her at kosztyok@student.wpunj.edu.



Final Knitting Night held

The final Knitting Night was held on Tuesday, November 17 from 5:00-6:00 p.m. on the fourth floor of High Mountain East. In conjunction with the coat drive, Rachael Mierzwa has been hosting knitting nights and teaching people how to knit scarves to donate to local charities. So far, there are over 30 finished scarves. If you are in the process of knitting a scarf, please keep knitting and donate the finished product to next year's coat drive! If you have any questions, contact Rachael Mierzwa at mierzwar@student.wpunj.edu.



Student Utilize On-Campus Transportation to Visit Central Park

On Sunday, October 11, Dr. Dinan escorted students into New York City via the 198 bus to the Port Authority bus terminal in NYC. The goal was for students to learn to navigate the buses available on campus. The group then walked to Central Park, and were able to see Strawberry Fields, the castle, Sheep's Meadow, and the reservoir, among other things.

Upcoming Events

12 November	Thursday	12:30-1:45	MANDATORY Meeting for all First Year Students Atrium Auditorium
14 November	Saturday	TBA	Honors Club Trip to Washington DC Tickets sold at Campus Activities
17 November	Tuesday	12:30-1:45	Honors Coat Drive Collection Main Street, Student Center (Out side campus bookstore)
17 November	Tuesday	12:30-1:45	Honors Club General Meeting Raubinger 303
19 November	Thursday	12:30 - 1:45	Lunch in the Lounge High Mountain East, 4th floor lounge
1 December	Tuesday	12:30—1:45	Final Coat Drive Collection/ Hot Chocolate Sale Main Street, Student Center (Outside campus bookstore)
2 December	Wednesday	3:00-4:30	Honors College Annual Holiday Party Hobart Manor
2 December	Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Honors Club General Meeting High Mountain East Classroom
9 December	Wednesday	8:00 p.m.	Getting Into Focus (Alex Chilowicz's Project-see page 1) The Shea Center for Performing Arts

Remember to check your university e-mail for important information from the Honors College and Honors Club about changes to the above calendar and additional events!

Spring 2010 Honors Sections of General Education Courses

Please read carefully...

The following Honors courses are being offered during the spring 2010 semester. Enrollment is by permit only. To obtain a permit for an Honors course, please send an email to honors@wpunj.edu, and include your name, 855 number, and the name of the Honors class(es) you would like to enroll in for the spring. If you have questions or concerns, please call Jan at 973.720.3657.

Arts and Communication	HIST 102 The West and the World: The Age of Discovery to Decolonization S. Dinan TR, 8:00 – 9:15	ENV 110 Environmental Foundations K. Swanson MW, 9:30 – 10:45, Lab: W, 2:00 – 4:45	PEGE 200 Active Lifestyles for Health J. Vickers WF, 11:00 – 12:15
COMM 101 (FULL) Introduction to Theatre J. Beal F, 11:00 - 1:40	SPAN 106 Basic Intensive Spanish I and II O. DelaSuaree MTWR, 2:00 – 3:15	ENV 115 General Geology K. Swanson TR 11:00 – 12:15 Lab: R 2:00 – 4:45	Social Sciences
ARTH 101 Approaches to Western Art M. Williams TR, 3:30-4:45	Math and Science	Race and Gender	ANTH 202 Anthropology of Education: Foundations for Teaching M. Villar W, 9:30am-12:10pm
Humanities	CHEM 161 General Chemistry II Lecture STAFF MR, 9:30-10:45	WS 150 (FULL) Racism and Sexism S. Bedell TR, 2:00 – 3:15	PSY 110 General Psychology J. Austin (ONLINE)
ENG 150 (FULL) Introduction to Literature S. Fisher MW, 3:30 – 4:45	CHEM 061 General Chemistry II Lab STAFF M 11-1:45	GE Health and Movement Sciences	PSY 210 Developmental Psychology N. Pakizegi TR, 2:00 – 3:15
ENG 150 (FULL) Introduction to Literature B. O'Broin MW, 11:00 – 12:15			