

Voces Novae: Chapman University Historical Review, Vol 2, No 2 (2011)

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Conservatory of Music

Music has been a mainstay at Chapman University, which first offered a Bachelor of Arts in Music degree in 1930. It became the Conservatory of Music in 2007 when administrators combined its Music, Theater, and Dance programs into the College of Performing Arts. It has exceeded the expectations of its national accreditors--the National Association of Schools of Music--especially in its growing Composition program. The Conservatory attracts many talented student and professional musicians and has a popular Music Education program as well.

William Hall, Dean of the College of Performing Arts and previous Dean of the School of Music, came to Chapman in 1963 to fulfill his Ph.D. requirements. He has been here ever since, advertising the talent of Chapman's musicians and performers through choir tours and American Celebration. He wanted the School of Music to make the transition to a Conservatory because, he says, "we have the faculty that are of that caliber and it would be really nice to have a conservatory here on the West Coast." One such faculty member is **Sean Heim**, who is world-renowned for his compositions. He came to Chapman in 2002 as a part-time Professor of Music Theory and Composition and, along with his colleagues, attracted more attention to Chapman's Music program.

Interview with Dean of the College of Performing Arts William Hall



Interview with Professor of Music Theory and Composition Sean Heim

