



For Immediate Release

November 22, 2016 - - Now in its second year, Winchester Community Music School (WCMS) has a fund to award professional development grants to its faculty for special projects, purchase of instruments and materials, professional development seminars, and other initiatives that advance their education and training. The grant application process is overseen and reviewed by the Programmatic Council of Department Chairs.

In its first year, the funds supported five faculty members' projects. One of the awardees, piano faculty member Kaeza Fearn, was pleased to announce the release of her new recording [Inner Equinox](#) in September. This project was partially funded through the WCMS professional development fund.

Earlier this fall, the Programmatic Council made awards to the following eight faculty members for this year's awards. We're delighted to help these faculty members further their professional goals and look forward to hearing more about the results of their projects and training. Gifts to the school's [Annual Fund](#) help WCMS provide this funding through its operating budget each year.

Congratulations to the following 2016-2017 recipients:

Heather Bissell (piano faculty): tuition assistance for Dalcroze Certification Teacher Training

Elzbieta Brandys (flute faculty): funding towards a debut CD of works for flute and piano composed by Boston-area composers

Kyoko Hida-Battaglia (oboe faculty): tuition assistance for Dalcroze Certification Teacher Training

Tad Hitchcock (guitar faculty): tuition assistance for Dalcroze Certification Teacher Training

Marina Krickler (French horn faculty): purchase of horn-related reference books

Karen Oosterbaan (violin faculty): tuition assistance for Suzuki violin training

Noralee Walker (viola/violin faculty): tuition assistance for participation in the Virtuoso String Teacher Seminar

Valerie Walton (saxophone faculty): tuition assistance toward additional woodwind and music notation software training

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