

LETTER FROM THE DEAN

BY GWYN RICHARDS

While in Chicago recently I had the pleasure of meeting Bob Swan, a graduate of Indiana University School of Music and a violist in the Chicago Symphony for more than 20 years. We had the opportunity to discuss his highly successful career in the Windy City and how years of study at IU made it possible. His expression of appreciation for his education, his teachers, his student colleagues, and the musical environment of Bloomington was touching.

As a school, we derive great pride from the accomplishments of our graduates and are always pleased to receive news. We are also committed to sharing your successes with your classmates and friends and ask that you keep us informed of the developments in your lives.

Each issue of *IUMusic* includes class notes, student and faculty news, and profiles of selected members of our alumni population. In this issue, we highlight IU breakthrough opera star Angela Brown and the IU African American Arts Institute faculty members, including its director Charles Sykes.

Performance, pedagogy, and research constitute the main three areas of activity in the school. This issue contains the first of three articles that focus

on research, its importance to our school, and its role in shaping the cultural life of our nation. The series begins with a look at musicology, is followed by music education, and concludes next spring with music theory. We hope you will enjoy a close-up look at each area.

Late in the fall semester, the School of Music unveiled a new Web site, the result of eight months' work by a combined group from the IU Office of Communications and Marketing and the School of Music. If you haven't yet had a chance to visit it (music.indiana.edu), *IUMusic* provides a tour of the home page with a guide of its many features.

The efforts of our many supporters make so many of our goals achievable. Their belief in our school, our faculty, and our students allows us to imagine a future that will last for generations. The Hamlins, Jack and Dora, are such people. Take a moment to meet them in this issue, and ask yourself if others you know would welcome similar opportunities in the School of Music. Such support makes all the difference!

All our best from
Bloomington.



Charles Sykes, director of the African American Arts Institute, with Dean Gwyn Richards