2015–2016 season

September 18 & 21, 2015
Birth of an Answer
Michael Morgan, conductor, with
The I. Sherman Greene Chorale, and the Norfolk Chamber Consort
performing a new score by Adolf Hailstork for
Oscar Micheaux’s silent film “Within Our Gates” (1920)
commissioned by the ODU Humanities Program

October 19, 2015
Glen Velez and Lori Cotler, drum and vocal

November 16, 2015
Measha Brueggergosman, soprano

January 25, 2016
Jim Walker, flute,
with Oksana Lutsyshyn and the John Toomey Trio

February 29, 2016
Harlem String Quartet with violinist Ida Kavafian

March 21, 2016
Penelope Crawford, fortepiano, with Martha Guth, soprano
In conjunction with the 29th Annual
Harold Protsman Classical Period Piano Competition

April 18, 2016
Kenny Washington, jazz vocalist,
with the John Toomey Trio

An endowment established at the Hampton Roads Community Foundation,
made possible by a generous gift from F. Ludwig Diehn, funds this program.
This year marks Tony Martucci’s 50th year in music. During that time Tony has performed and recorded on stages at home and abroad with some of the greatest names in music. A short list of those collaborations includes John Abercrombie, Mose Allison, Paul Bley, Michael and Randy Brecker, Rusty Bryant, Gary Burton and George Coleman.

Martucci continues to cultivate an original and interpretive drum style that is both supportive and interactive, reflecting his deep understanding of the jazz tradition and his vast stylistic influences. He is a skilled accompanist and a soloist of unusual melodic depth.

Martucci’s extensive discography includes four critically acclaimed recordings under his own name: “Earth Tones” (which earned a spot on the Jazz Times critics Best of the Year), “Collage,” “Long Street Charm” (rated four stars in Down Beat magazine), and the most recent, “Life in Hand,” included by the Washington Post among its best recordings of 2011. He also performs with the Jazz Update, the Victor Haskins Group, Glenn Wilson and Virginia Commonwealth University’s Mary Morton Parsons Jazz Masters.

Martucci currently is an adjunct professor of music at Virginia Commonwealth University, where he teaches drum set, Latin percussion and small jazz ensemble. He is also a teaching artist for the Washington Performing Arts, the Capitol Jazz Project, and the Kennedy Center jazz outreach program in Washington, D.C.
the Monterey Festival in California. He composed the original score for “The Boys of H Company,” which was recently aired in Singapore and Japan, and can be seen frequently on TV. Professor Toomey is currently featured on two recordings released in early 2015, “Timely,” with Glenn Wilson and John D’earth, and “Fluidity,” with trombone great John Fedchock. Prior to ODU, Toomey toured the world with jazz trumpet legend Maynard Ferguson, with whom he recorded two CDs, “High Voltage 2,” and “Big Bop Nouveau.”

**Jimmy Masters** has served as first-call bassist in Hampton Roads for the last 25 years. He has taught at the Governor’s Magnet School for the Arts, Hampton University, the College of William & Mary and Tidewater Community College. He has performed with numerous jazz greats from vocalists such as Jon Hendricks, Sheila Jordan, Chris Connor and Kurt Elling; to pianists James Williams, Mulgrew Miller, Kenny Drew Jr. and Fred Hersh; saxophonists Gary Thomas, Steve Wilson, Rich Perry, Ken Peplowski and Glenn Wilson; vibraphonists Joe Locke and Chuck Redd; and brass players Tim Hagans, Clark Terry, Terell Stafford, Ingrid Jensen, John D’earth and John Fedchock. He has produced several well-received recordings for the VSOJAZ label as well as recording for National Public Radio and PBS. While continuing as an active member of the Hampton Roads jazz community, his musical exploits have expanded to include contemporary acoustic music, bluegrass and traditional country music. He has performed in legendary clubs such as the famed Blues Alley and One Step Down in Washington, D.C., Ryles Jazz Club in Boston, and toured in Europe. He regularly performs in Hampton Roads’ Havana Nights jazz club.

For over 30 years, **Glenn Wilson** has been at the forefront of the jazz baritone saxophone world. The All Music Guide recently described him as “an unsung hero in modern jazz.” His music has been described as ‘free-bop,’ rooted in the bebop style with a looseness and spontaneity that always surprises, which makes him unique among purveyors of the big horn.

Glenn Wilson has earned a master’s degree in jazz performance from the University of Illinois and a bachelor’s in music education from Youngstown State University. He is currently a guest lecturer in jazz at the University of Illinois in Urbana where he teaches music business and jazz pedagogy, leads combos and teaches in the jazz saxophone studio as well.

Wilson recorded his first CD as a leader, “Impasse,” in 1984 for Cadence Records. In 1988, he began an association with SunnySide Records with the release of “Elusive,” followed by “Bittersweet,” “Blue Porpoise Avenue” and “One Man’s Blues,” as well as a recording for Timeless Records, “Lee’s Keys Please.” In his years in New York City (1977-91), Wilson toured and recorded with Buddy Rich, Lionel Hampton, Machito, Tito Puente, the Bill Kirchner Nonet, Mel Lewis, Toshiko Akiyoshi, and the Bob Belden Ensemble. Wilson has also recorded and toured with rock pianist Bruce Hornsby. In total, he has appeared on about 21 CDs as a sideman. His latest CDs are “The Devil’s Hopyard (2012) and “Timely” (2015).
Wilson has been awarded a grant by the National Endowment for the Arts and his CDs are featured in the Grammaphone Guide to Good Jazz and the Penguin Guide to Jazz. He has also been featured in the DownBeat Magazine Critics Poll in the baritone saxophone category.

**John D’earth**, jazz trumpeter and composer, was born in Framingham, Mass., in 1950. As a teenager, he studied with saxophonist Boots Mussulli (Stan Kenton, Charlie Ventura, Teddy Wilson), with John Coffey (principal trombonist, Boston Symphony Orchestra) and arranging with Thad Jones. He briefly attended Harvard University before moving to New York City where he studied with Carmine Caruso, Vince Penzarella and Richie Beirach. D’earth has performed and recorded internationally appearing on more than 50 CDs. He has worked with Buddy Rich, Lionel Hampton, Miles Davis/Quincy Jones, Tito Puente and Bruce Hornsby, among many others. D’earth has composed and arranged music for many musical ensembles and artists including the Kronos String Quartet, the Kandinsky Trio, the Charlottesville Chamber Festival, Bruce Hornsby and the Dave Matthews Band. Among his original works are the five-movement “Natural Bridge,” commissioned by the Kandinsky Trio; and “Suite Rakalam,” in four movements, for string septet, trumpet and drum set, commissioned by the Charlottesville Chamber Music Festival. He recently completed a two-hour score for five instruments to be performed live with Murnau’s 1926 silent film masterpiece, “Faustus.” D’earth has recorded as a leader for Vanguard Records, ENJA Records, DoubleTime Jazz and his own Cosmology label.

D’earth has co-founded the Free Bridge Quintet; is the music director for the Thompson D’earth Band with his wife, vocalist and composer Dawn Thompson; and leads the Charlottesville Swing Orchestra, the jazz/poetry project and his own quartet/quintet. Currently residing in Charlottesville, Va., as the director of jazz performance at the University of Virginia, D’earth teaches improvisation, jazz trumpet and directs the UVA Jazz Ensemble. As a jazz musician and composer, he is interested in the nexus of composition and improvisation and in working with musicians who are committed to pushing their own boundaries in both of these areas. John D’earth’s career in music is documented in the recently published Biographical Encyclopedia of Jazz (Oxford Press), by Leonard Feather and Ira Gitler.

Professor **John Toomey** has served as chair of the Department of Music for the past eight years. He has been recognized for excellence in teaching several times, including his designation as University Professor and winner of the Outstanding Faculty Award given by the State Commission of Higher Education for Virginia.

Toomey serves as both director and performer for the Attucks Jazz Series under the umbrella of the Virginia Arts Festival, performs often on the Diehn Concert Series with visiting jazz artists, and served as performer and music director for Havana Nights, a jazz club in Hampton Roads. He has performed in concert with nationally and internationally acclaimed jazz artists, such as Tierney Sutton, John Fedchock, John Abercrombie and Terell Stafford. Toomey has toured with jazz vocalist Rene Marie, including appearances at the JVC Festival in France and