

# Strengthened and Honored



News from the Delta Omicron Foundation, Inc.

Spring 2019

## Brandon Pieces Performed at 2018 Conference

Musical works by composer Dr. Sy Brandon were featured at the 2018 Delta Omicron Triennial Conference at the traditional premiere concert.

The Delta Omicron Foundation's 2018 Thor Johnson Commission Composer, Brandon is professor emeritus of music at Millersville University in Millersville, Pennsylvania, where he taught low brass, composition, orchestration, music history, electronic music and music industry for 24 years. He holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in music education from Ithaca College and a D.M.A. in composition from the University of Arizona. More about his current work can be found at <http://cooppress.com>.

Brandon's 2018 Thor Johnson Commission, *Emoticons II* for

*Flute, Clarinet, and Piano*, is a five-movement, aural representation of contrasting emotions: Exhilaration, Melancholy, Trepidation, Anger and Gratitude. The composition is a musical work accessible to both talented high school and college performers, as directed by the Foundation commission guidelines. The commission was performed by flutist Michelle Worthing, clarinetist Denise O'Malley and pianist Sharon Alberson.

At the Premiere Concert, Brandon's composition *Intermezzi* for Euphonium and Piano also was performed as the 2018 Triennial Competition Composition. Daniel Taylor of Saint Petersburg, Florida was the guest euphonium performer with Brenda Dannewitz, Delta Omicron National Music Adviser, as pianist.



Composer Dr. Sy Brandon (left) posed with, from second left, flutist Michelle Worthing, clarinetist Denise O'Malley and pianist Sharon Alberson. The photo was taken right after the premiere of Brandon's new work commissioned by the Delta Omicron Foundation, which took place at the 2018 Delta Omicron Triennial Conference July 20.

## Future Music Educators receive grants through the Reba A. Will Foundation

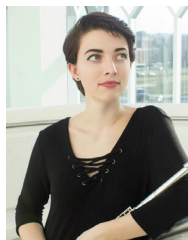
In 2018, the Delta Omicron Foundation received a \$5,000 contribution from the Reba A. Will Foundation. It was presented in Ms. Will's memory and directed toward Foundation educational grants for students pursuing music education at either the undergraduate or graduate level.

Reba A. Will was initiated into Delta Alpha Chapter in 1933 at the Peabody Conservatory of Music. The first recipients of the Will Memorial Grants in 2018-19 were Cameron Richards and Melanie Valone (Western Kentucky University), April Roberts (Central Michigan University), and Haley Blevins (Virginia Tech University). Further grants will be funded from this memorial donation in the 2019-20 academic year.

## Meet the 2019-2020 Foundation Grant Recipients

Here are the students who received grants for the academic year 2018-2019. The Foundation currently is accepting applications for educational grants for 2019-20. Application forms and a list of the grants may be downloaded from the Foundation website at [www.dofoundation.org](http://www.dofoundation.org).

**Would you like to help?** Please use the form on page 3 to donate to the Foundation's Principal Fund.



Haley Blevins  
Virginia Tech  
University



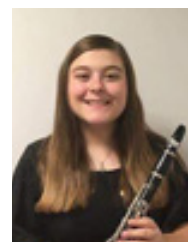
Emily Brink  
U. of Massachusetts -  
Amherst



Cameron Richards  
Western Kentucky  
University



April Roberts  
Central Michigan  
University



Melanie Valone  
Western Kentucky  
University

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# *Delta Omicron's Legacy:* Important Names in the History of the Fraternity and the Foundation

## *Jane Wiley Kuckuk, 1929-2018*

Delta Omicron, both the fraternity and the foundation, lost one of its



most cherished members on June 30, 2018, when Jane Wiley Kuckuk joined the Chapter Eternal.

Jane was the executive secretary for

the fraternity from 1962 to 1993, and during that time also served as a member of the foundation's board of directors. Prior to becoming executive secretary, she was editor of the Wheel of Delta Omicron from 1956 to 1962.

The daughter of Allen and Janette Mount Wiley of Middletown, Ohio, she was a "DO daughter," following her mother into the fraternity. Jane attended Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, and joined Mu Chapter there in 1948. After her graduation in 1951, she became active in Zeta Alpha

alumni chapter in Detroit, Michigan, and later in Zeta Beta chapter in Columbus, Ohio.

While she was executive secretary of the fraternity, the entire international office was located in her home. In fact, she and her husband, John, chose their Columbus house in part because of its suitability for the office.

Many past international officers and foundation board members, past and present, recalled Jane's memory for names and other details, willingness to give advice when asked and her gracious hosting of board of directors and foundation trustee meetings.

"My first memory of Jane Kuckuk was at the Delta Omicron Triennial Conference in 1962 as a collegiate delegate," said Dr. Kay Calfee Wideman, past international president of the fraternity and president emeritus of the foundation. "...Jane was an

*(continued on page 4)*

## *Contributors to Delta Omicron Foundation's Campaigns*

The following persons and groups have contributed to the Foundation campaign since June of 2017. Monies raised will support scholarships to worthy Delta Omicrons. Thanks, everyone!

Lani Beuerman  
Sandra Carnahan  
Mary Chisholm  
Brenda Dannewitz  
Tina Davis  
Delta Omicron Fraternity  
Linda Eason  
Anne Egger  
Gloria Engstrom  
Nancy Forestieri  
Adele Fussner  
Janet T. Gross  
Paula Hays  
James R. Houston  
Ann Jones  
Claire Keel  
Judith Kirby

Jennifer Klafeta  
Carol Anne Koehl  
Doug Kotula  
Teresa Motz  
Doris Piatt  
Past National Officers Club  
Jonny Ramsey  
Meredith Schoenfeld  
Carroll Strickland  
Susan Tams  
Lois Toeppner  
Kay C. Wideman  
Marcia Wood  
Michelle Worthing  
Zeta Eta Chapter  
Zeta Sigma Chapter  
Zeta Zeta Chapter

## Foundation works toward increasing scholarship funds

For the DO Foundation, attention has been turned to building its principal fund for the purpose of giving educational grants to deserving DO members. The fund, which is the primary source of monies to be used for scholarships, will provide even more worthy students with financial assistance and perhaps allow the Foundation to make larger individual grants.

Sound good? There are two major ways that you can help.

First, you can donate annually to the Foundation, designating your contributions specifically toward the Educational Grant Program and encourage friends and family to do likewise. Because the Foundation

is a non-profit 501c3 organization, some employers may even match your contributions.

Secondly, you may think about including the Foundation in your estate planning by remembering the Delta Omicron Foundation in a bequest through your will or a living trust. The Foundation has a brochure that may be helpful in getting started. Contact the Foundation president by e-mail at [jramsey18@verizon.net](mailto:jramsey18@verizon.net) for a free copy.

We encourage you to join in this effort to increase funding for educational grants and provide support for music study among our collegiate and alumni members.

### Credit card gifts possible through PayPal

For those who would like to make gifts to the Foundation and its projects through the convenience of a credit card account, a link to PayPal is now available on the Delta Omicron Foundation website at [www.dofoundation.org](http://www.dofoundation.org).

Visit the site's home page and click on "Make a Gift" on the links at the left. You may use a PayPal account that you already have or one of several credit card types that are accepted.

Regardless of the form of your donation, your gift will help other musicians and support other educational activities of the Foundation. Please consider a gift today.

## Today's Gifts are Tomorrow's Philanthropies

For more than fifty years, the Delta Omicron Foundation, Inc. has served the philanthropic purposes of the Delta Omicron International Music Fraternity. As a member or friend of the Fraternity, you can help the Foundation increase its giving potential.

Consider your gift today! Contributions--cash or pledge, unrestricted or assigned to specific projects--assure the continuity and expansion of the Foundation's philanthropic program. Other means of assistance are:

- Giving memorial or recognition gifts (one acknowledgment will be sent for each gift of \$10.00 or more)
- Assigning the Foundation as beneficiary of an insurance policy (policy should identify the Delta Omicron Foundation, Inc.)
- Perpetuating the name of a donor by establishing a special fund bearing the donor's name within the Foundation
- Making a bequest to the Foundation (bequests should identify the Delta Omicron Foundation, Inc.)

Gifts to the Foundation are **tax deductible** as permitted by law. Consult your tax advisor for information on your own situation. Please make your checks payable to the DELTA OMICRON FOUNDATION, INC. (please do not send currency), and mail to Susan Tams, Treasurer, Delta Omicron Foundation, Inc., 2 Wynfield Trace, Winfield, WV 25213.

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## Yes, I want to contribute to the future of music and musicians.

Here is my contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_, designated as follows:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grants and Awards (Principal Fund) | <input type="checkbox"/> Named fund (specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Petzold-Collyer Piano Maintenance  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                |

This is a  memorial or  gift honoring \_\_\_\_\_

Please send an acknowledgment to (name and address): \_\_\_\_\_

Name (as it should appear in donor listings) \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to remain anonymous in lists of donors.

My check is enclosed.  PayPal or Credit Card (Please visit [www.dofoundation.org](http://www.dofoundation.org) online and click on Make a Gift.)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Delta Omicron Chapter (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

## Jane Wiley Kuckuk

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institution within the institution of Delta Omicron, even after her retirement.”

“Jane was a joy to be with,” said Phyllis Iseringhausen Conrad, past international president and trustee emeritus of the foundation. “She was devoted to her husband, John, dedicated to Delta Omicron, and a very good cook...Because of her knowledge of DO, the board was able to accomplish a lot for the fraternity.”

“Jane was an encyclopedia of things Delta Omicron,” said Frances Collyer Gage, past international treasurer and trustee of the foundation. Remembering the board meetings at Jane’s home, Gage said, “It was special to be welcomed by such warm hospitality as well as experiencing the bond of friendship in Delta Omicron. Many thanks to Jane and John Kuckuk!”

“Jane was so welcoming and

always the most efficient, organized person,” said Meredith Dugan Schoenfeld, past editor of the Wheel and trustee emeritus of the foundation. “She seemed to know everyone in Delta Omicron, their chapter, office, home town, etc. Plus, the DO history was at her fingertips.”

“Delta Omicron was Jane Kuckuk!” said Ann Anthony Jones, past international president and foundation trustee. “Jane...taught me everything I needed to know about Delta Omicron. Her knowledge of the fraternity guided me as I was chapter adviser, province president, national music adviser, director of international chapters and international president...Jane never knew a stranger and made sure any question asked was completely answered. She was kind and a friend to any DO.”

“When I was president, [Jane] was one of my ‘guidance counselors’—whenever I had a significant fraternity problem and

needed an experienced DO’s opinion and historical background on a situation, I turned to her,” said Dr. Jonny Ramsey, past international president and current president of the foundation. “I always knew I could count on Jane for sound advice. She always gave that advice most humbly. She, of course, was much more to John and her family. But, be assured, we loved her for who she was—a DO friend, a confidant, a counselor, and a guiding example to so many young people that she touched.”

Plans are being made for a foundation scholarship to be endowed in Jane’s memory and honor. Those who would like to contribute may use the form on page 3.

This article was compiled based on a tribute in the Fall 2018 issue of the Wheel of Delta Omicron. Missing the Wheel? Check the fraternity website at [www.delta-omicron.org](http://www.delta-omicron.org).

