

Duke Chapel Names Winners in Hymn Competition

Lisa Schubert, a student at Duke Divinity School, recently took top honors in the 2003 hymn writing competition sponsored by Duke Chapel for her hymn "Whence Comes This Voice?" Kathleen Ryan Clute, a 1975 graduate of Trinity College, won the competition for best musical setting of Schubert's text.

Schubert was selected from a field of 30 authors, who based their hymns on the theme of Christian vocation using Isaiah 6:8. Clute's hymn tune was one of 10 submitted from Duke University alumni from throughout the United States. The new hymn will be premiered at the morning worship service on Sunday, October 19, in Duke Chapel.

The competitions coincide with the first year of the newly-organized Pathways program, designed for students contemplating ministry. The cash award of \$500 each is made possible by an endowment named after the late Waldo Beach, who was Professor of Christian Ethics at Duke Divinity School and was himself an avid author of hymns and composer.

"New hymns indicate a vibrant, living faith that seeks fresh ways of expressing itself," says Dr. David Arcus, Duke Chapel Organist and organizer of the competitions. "The Waldo Beach Hymnody Endowment at Duke Chapel encourages both established and

aspiring hymn writers in this important endeavor through its commissions and competitions."

"Lisa's hymn text fits in perfectly with Duke Chapel's emphasis on vocation and servant leadership," says the Rev. Dr. William H. Willimon, Dean of Duke Chapel. "It is a beautiful statement from a young person about God's summoning love."

Born and raised in Indianapolis, Schubert is currently a second-year student pursuing a Master of Divinity degree as a University Scholar at Duke. Lisa has always had a passion for writing and received a B.A. in journalism and French from Indiana University in 2002. "As a child, I frequently created short stories and poems for friends and family members, and as a teenager, I continued writing for my high school newspaper, the local newspaper, and a news organization for youth," said Lisa.

While in college, Schubert shifted away from journalism. "I began responding to a call to vocational ministry that had been stirring in my heart since middle school," she said. Lisa is currently a certified candidate on track for becoming an elder in full connection with the South Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church. In the future, she hopes to combine her interests in writing, international missions, and youth work as she pastors a local church in southern Indiana.

In "Whence Comes This Voice," Lisa drew on both experiences - her love of writing and her struggle to



Lisa Schubert



Kathleen Ryan Clute

follow God's call. This call is portrayed as a voice in the first stanza, then as "power," "love," and "grace" in each of the subsequent stanzas. Each stanza includes a refrain affirming the writer's response to God's call.

“Responding to the call of God can take so many forms,” says the Rev. Regina Henderson, Director of the Duke Chapel Pathways Program. “Lisa’s response in writing this hymn draws a community of faith together beautifully through song.”

Kathleen Ryan Clute teaches piano and composes in Concord, California, where she is also the music director at St. Anthony & All Angels Liberal Catholic Church. She holds a BA in music from Duke University (Phi Beta Kappa, summa cum laude) and an MA in music from The Claremont Graduate University. She has published two recordings of her piano compositions, *a handfull of quietness* (1993) and *The Rebirth of Light* (1997). Selections from *a handfull of quietness* were featured in the Emmy-winning Iowa Public Television special *The Four Seasons*.

“To compose this hymn tune,” says Kathleen, “I read the text several times—silently and aloud—and asked the Holy Spirit for inspiration. Then I began playing piano and listened for what I would like to sing if I were singing the hymn, or what I would like to hear if I were listening to it. I wanted to capture the inner feeling the words conveyed for me.”

“Kathleen’s new hymn tune,” says Dr. Rodney Wynkoop, Chapel Music Director, “is a graceful and singable melody with harmony that enlivens the text.”



Whence comes this voice?

A hymn based on Isaiah 6:8

1. Whence comes this voice that calls my name,
Pursues my heart of stone?
Although I long to do my will
And leave God’s work alone.

Refrain:

Almighty God, All-knowing One,
The voice, it comes from Thee.
For when Thou ask, “Whom shall I send?”
I answer, “Lord, send me.”
I answer, “Lord, send me.”

2. Whence comes this pow’r that grabs my soul
And bids me to release
My sins and burdens of the past
To minister in peace?
R

3. Whence comes this love that drives my heart
To reach out far and wide?
A sister’s pain, a brother’s wound
Are healed at Jesus’ side.
R

4. Whence comes this grace that takes my hands
Into a place unknown?
If I would trust, then I would see
Beneath God’s wings I’ve flown. *R*

– Lisa Schubert

Advent at Duke Chapel

Chorale Christmas Concert

Tuesday, Dec. 2, 7:00 p.m.

Advent Worship in the Duke Museum of Art

Wednesday, Dec. 3, 5:15 p.m.

Handel’s MESSIAH

Friday, Dec. 5, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 6, 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 7, 3:00 p.m.

Choral Society of Durham

Christmas Concert

Saturday, Dec. 13, 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 14, 4:00 p.m.

Duke Chapel by Candlelight

Thursday, Dec. 18, 12:00–2:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve at Duke Chapel

Wednesday, Dec. 24

Service for Children–3:00 p.m.

Services of Carols and Holy

Communion–5:30 p.m.

Service of Lessons and Carols–11:00 p.m.

Sing with the Christmas Eve Choir at the 11:00 p.m. service. Rehearsals on Wednesday, Dec. 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Christmas at Duke Chapel

Wednesday, Dec. 3 at 10:00 p.m. &

Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 8:00 p.m.

Each year during December, WUNC-TV broadcasts the one hour program, Christmas at Duke Chapel, that features interviews by Dean Willimon and seasonal music from the Chapel.