

Letter from the Director



As the 2009 issue of the *Journal of Texas Music History* goes to press, the Center for Texas Music History is preparing to celebrate its tenth anniversary. In less than a decade, the Center has launched an impressive number of programs designed to promote the preservation and study of our state's rich and unique musical heritage. The Center has been recognized for its innovative work

by such prestigious organizations as The Smithsonian Institution, PBS, National Public Radio, The Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, The National Endowment for the Humanities, *Billboard* magazine, *The Los Angeles Times*, and others.

Through Texas State University's History Department and School of Music, the Center offers a variety of graduate and undergraduate courses on Texas music history. In collaboration with Texas A&M University Press, the Center also produces the acclaimed book series, the *John and Robin Dickson Series in Texas Music*. The Center is currently developing the *Texas Music History Online* web site, which will serve as a classroom teaching tool, a research database, and an information resource designed to promote Texas music heritage tourism.

The Center co-produces the very popular NPR series, *This Week in Texas Music History*, which can now be heard on radio stations throughout the Southwest. In addition, the Center launched a new PBS television series, *Texas Music Café*, in January 2009. The Center is once again collaborating with the Texas State Historical Association to produce a revised and updated edition of the highly successful *Handbook of Texas Music*. These are only a few of the many educational initiatives undertaken by the Center for Texas Music History over the past ten years.

We would like to thank everyone who has helped make the Center such a success, especially the following: Gregg Andrews & Vikki Bynum, Dee Lannon, Kevin Mooney, Vincent Messina, Lori Lopez, the Center's Advisory Board, Frank de la Teja, the Texas State University History Department, Denise Trauth & John Huffman, Perry & Marianne Moore, Gene Bourgeois, Ann Marie Ellis, Diana Harrell, César Limón, Vicki Clarke, John & Robin Dickson, Kent Finlay, Rod Kennedy, Paul Paynter, Kim & Robert Richey, Patti Harrison, Teresa Ward, Richard Cheatham, Liz McDonald, Lanita Hanson, Francine Hartman, Jim & Cathy Moore, Rick & Laurie Baish, Nell Hesson, Lucky & Becky Tomblin, Denise Boudreaux, Jo & Paul Snider, Darrell & Barbara Piersol, Phil & Cecilia Collins, Ralph & Patti Dowling, Dennis & Margaret Dunn, Ron & Judy Brown, Grant Mazak, Cathy Supple, Sharon Sandomirsky & Chris Ellison, Byron & Rebecca Augustin, John Kunz, Bill Musser, Lee & Judy Keller, Ronda Reagan, Glenn & Donna Joy, Billy Seidel, and all of our other friends and supporters.

To learn more about the Center and its unique and exciting programs, please contact us or visit our web site.

Thanks, and best wishes.

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