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## Currents, Vol.5, No.1 (Sep.15, 1986)

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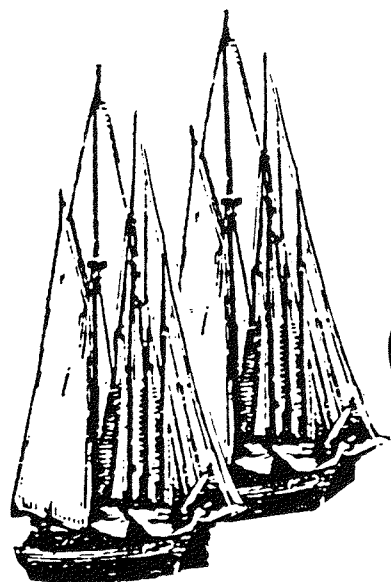
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# University of Southern Maine CURRENTS

Volume 5, Number 1

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## Woodbury Named Chancellor

Following a unanimous vote confirming his appointment as the state university's fourth chancellor, President Woodbury told reporters that "...a public university of quality is not a luxury for Maine."

A quality university system, he added, "is essential to our prospects as a people for productive lives of work, citizenship and personal growth." And the citizens of Maine, he said, "are committed to a university system of excellence that is uniquely appropriate to Maine. This means creating a university that is decisively involved in the social, economic, cultural and intellectual life of this state in a time of rapid global change."

The University of Maine Board of Trustees came out of a two-hour executive session to record the vote, selecting Woodbury over State Planning Director Richard E. Barringer. The special meeting was held Monday, August 25, in the Augusta Civic Center.

In nominating Woodbury, Trustee Harrison L. Richardson Jr. said he, "has a vision for Maine and the integrity and intellectual capacity necessary to effectuate that vision." That didn't appear to be an uncommon sentiment.

Thomas Ingram, vice president of the Association of Governing Boards in Washington, D.C. told Currents, "I would place him among the top 10 presidents in the public sector. He brings an important national and regional perspective to his new responsibilities, and it's my opinion that Maine is very fortunate to have him." Governor Joseph E. Brennan, legislators and others contacted by the state's news organizations said they were pleased with the Trustees' choice.

Closer to home, Andrew L. Anderson, USM faculty representative to the Board of Trustees said, "It's both an unfortunate and a fortunate time for USM. We're losing an effective president, but gaining a chancellor committed to the good of the system." Anderson noted Woodbury's ability to work with many different constituencies as USM President, his leadership role among the seven campus presidents at Board meetings and his ability to balance USM needs with those of the entire system. "I see no reason why these characteristics will not translate to the chancellorship of Bob Wood-



Chancellor-designate Woodbury meets the media moments after his appointment by University Trustees.  
(Caswell photo)

bury," Anderson said.

The new chancellor also picked up editorial support from most of the state's major newspapers.

The Bangor Daily News, in an editorial published the day after

Woodbury's selection, said, "A strong candidate from day one, Woodbury is one of the most impressive men to rise on the state's higher education scene in a long time." The Lewiston Daily Sun, in a Tuesday, August 26 editorial said



Since being named Chancellor on Monday, August 25, President Woodbury has received more than 300 congratulatory letters (one from as far away as the West Bank), and phone calls that sometimes came in at the rate of 20 per hour. Here, he and Anne Woodbury receive a standing ovation at the recent faculty/staff breakfast. Provost Greenwood, seated between them, looks on. (See related story on p.2)

(Caswell photo)

Woodbury, "...seems to possess the right temperament to reconcile competing factions in the seven-campus system." Other favorable editorials ran in The Times-Record, Brunswick, and the Journal Tribune, Biddeford, among others.

Woodbury talked with more than a dozen reporters at the August 25 meeting, many of whom questioned him about the so-called north/south split in the state, especially as it relates to USM and the University of Maine campus at Orono.

"We often talk about our differences rather than our common strengths (as a state and as a university system)," said Woodbury. We need, he said, to identify our common needs and the gains to be derived from serving people in many different parts of Maine. People throughout the university system and the state," he concluded, "have to recognize the special visions and ambitions of each campus."

The new chancellor began his duties on Monday, September 15. The Woodburys will continue living on the Gorham campus until Trustees decide whether the system should buy a home or provide a housing allowance. A special board committee is studying that issue along with the question of whether to move the Chancellor's office from Bangor to Augusta.

## ARA Celebrates 20 Years

ARA Services will celebrate its 20-year relationship with USM by hosting a reception for the University community. The event, open to students, faculty and staff, will take place from 2 to 4 p.m., Thursday, September 18 in the Campus Center, Portland.

# ARA services

There will be a festive meal for resident students later that afternoon in the Gorham Dining Center.

## President Cites Future at Final Breakfast

Hosting his eighth and final faculty/staff breakfast, President Robert L. Woodbury thanked the more than 330 in attendance for "the critical role you have played in building this institution."

The breakfast was held Thursday, August 28, in Gorham, three days after Trustees unanimously selected Woodbury as chancellor of the University System.

But rather than look back on his seven-year tenure as president, Woodbury sketched some future directions for USM.

This university, he said, will not be

exempt from changes brought about by a changing economy, shifting demographics, the knowledge explosion, or the continuing debate on what public education ought to be. Nevertheless, USM faculty and staff have the "flexibility and creativity" not only to adapt to changes, but to "evoke the essence of what a quality university is..."

That ability, he said, was one factor in the successful passage of the \$15 million appropriation for the University of Maine System, \$4.1 million of which comes to USM. To put the \$4.1 million in new monies in perspective, Woodbury noted that the entire state appropriation for USM in 1978-1979 was \$6.4 million. Among other things, the \$4.1 million will soon allow us to target 45 new faculty searches, a move that will "define directions for this university for decades to come." The new appropriation, concluded Woodbury, is an "unparalleled, rare and singular event in the history of this institution."

There is no question, concluded Woodbury, that USM has to continue to strive ahead as an institution with a unique mission in the state of Maine. The people here, he said, have the ingenuity and commitment to do just that.

### Correction

A photograph which appeared in the July 28 issue of *Currents* was incorrectly captioned. The Brazilian visitors and Juris Ubans were correctly identified, but the woman was Catherine Lee of Portland, a former USM exchange student in Brazil, not Frances Abbott of the Maine Commission of the Arts.

### With a Little Help



University administrators got some help from their little friends last month at groundbreaking ceremonies for the new Child Care Services building. The facility will be located next to the Portland Gym. Pictured from left to right are Beth I. Warren, executive director, Human Resources; Randy Reynolds, director, Facilities Management; Samuel G. Andrews, executive director, Financial Resources; Helen L. Greenwood, provost; and Stephen P. Lehane, director, University Child Care Services. (Kramer photo)

## History Honor Society Initiates USM Chapter

A year of research, travel, voluminous paperwork, and long hours of often tedious legwork will come to fruition for the History Department later this week as eight faculty and 12 students become members of an international history honor society.

The charter chapter of Phi Alpha Theta will induct its first 20 members at ceremonies and a banquet beginning at 7 p.m., Friday, September 19, in the Campus Center, Portland.

Dr. Fredrick Harling, professor of American colonial history at Westfield College in Massachusetts, will conduct initiation ceremonies. He will be assisted by Phillip A. Cole, professor, Diane Barnes, assistant professor and Fiorello B. Ventresco, associate professor, all longtime members of the honor society.

Phi Alpha Theta, organized in 1921, is the most highly rated departmental honor society in the U.S., and the nation's largest accredited honor society. USM's chapter is the first in southern Maine.

The organization is active, not only in the interchange of ideas and perspectives among the nation's noted historians, but in the promotion of student research and the presentation of student papers before distinguished, critical audiences. This student access

to scholarly criticism on a national level makes Phi Alpha Theta unique among honor societies. The group also provides assistance in funding publication of articles, essays and manuscripts of faculty and students, making special efforts to locate promising works for first publication.

USM faculty being inducted are: Eugene P.A. Schleh, professor; Joyce K. Bibber, associate professor; Joel W. Eastman, professor; Craig Dietrich, professor; Allan R. Whitmore, associate professor; Christine Holden, assistant professor; Parker E. Albee, associate professor; and H. Draper Hunt III, professor.

Student inductees include seniors: Robert Stanhope; Loraine Lowell; Catherine Fleming; Daniel Dailey; Ed-dita Felt-Ross; Mary Bridge; Norma Buchanan and Anthony Limanni.

Juniors being initiated are John Berube and Jacquelyn Knight.

Two recent alumni are also being initiated. They are Michael Profenno and Lisa Schnake-Wylie, both class of 1986.

### Campus Notes

- The Interfraternity Council here was named winner of the 1985-86 Lunsford Award for excellence. The award is presented each year by the Northeast Interfraternity Conference (NEIC). The IFC was cited for "excellence of service to...its school and the community through promotion of high standards of scholarship, leadership and individual development."

- The Classified Staff Senate will hold its annual craft fair from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, October 11, Gorham campus. Flea tables are also available. For more information, call Robin Day at 780-5376 or Jill Kendall at 780-4100.

- Child Care Services has extended its hours to include care for children ages 3-10 from 4 to 10 p.m., Monday through Thursday. The charge is \$2 per hour. Student Senate scholarships are available, as well as discounts for additional children in a family. Child Care Services is open to USM students, faculty and staff, alumni and the general public. For more information, call 780-4125.



University of Southern Maine  
**CURRENTS**

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Materials should be submitted no later than Thursday noon, 11 days prior to publication to: 209 Deering Ave., Portland. Distribution is free. Third class postage is paid at Portland, ME 04103.

## RSP Announces New Season

A new psychological thriller, a classic French farce, a comedic look at America's love affair with the movies and a cynical look at mankind's self-destructive tendency make up the bill for the Theatre Department's Russell Square Players this year.

"Baby Grand" by David Cohen, screenwriter for the movie "Halloween," will open the 1986-87 season on Friday, October 17, through Saturday, October 25. This psychological suspense, directed by William Steele, associate professor of theatre, is laced with both light and dark humor. "Baby Grand" is a play about brothers who struggle not only with each other, but also with their heritage, their hopes and their fears.

Next is a comedy directed by Theatre Professor Minor Rootes. "History of the American Film" serves up a humorous tribute to Americans' fondness for film. This wacky romp, written by Christopher Durang, pokes fun everywhere from the crazy comedies of the 1930s to the on- and off-screen battles of Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton in the 1960s. It will run from Friday, December 5, through Saturday, December 13.

Moliere's "Tartuffe" takes the stage next at Russell Hall from Friday, February 27 through Saturday, March 7. This classic French spoof of the venomous, acquisitive clergyman Tartuffe has delighted audiences since 1664.

"Firebugs" by Max Frisch closes the season with a cold-blooded look at the common man's indifference to the destructive forces that threaten the very existence of the human race. This black comedy will be staged from Friday, April 17 through Sunday, April 26.

All performances are at Russell Hall on the Gorham campus at 8 p.m. with a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday. Season tickets are now on sale at \$20 for the general public and \$12 for faculty, students and staff. Individual ticket prices are \$6 and \$4 respectively.

For more information and to make reservations, call the Box Office at 780-5483.



# Putting "The Arts In Our Lives"

an opinion by Stephen Kecskemethy

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** For nearly two years now, Stephen Kecskemethy and Currents have been discussing the possibility of publishing an opinion piece on the value of the arts in education. In keeping with this year's Convocation theme, "The Arts in Our Lives," we approached Stephen about submitting his thoughts on the subject. Herewith his remarks. We invite other members of the campus community to submit their ideas for opinion pieces.

Human evolution has shown itself to be as frightening as it is remarkable. We've come a long way from the ocean depths to put together a string of successes which have made us the intellectually and materially dominant species of the planet — all in all a rather impressive feat! While revelling in the abstruse entity we've become, we've also lost sight of the innate wisdom in our grasp and helped to create a precarious imbalance in our fragile world. The remarkable extent of human evolution, the embodiment of our self-acknowledged position above the apes, has humored us while, at the same time, making us ill at ease with ourselves and our surroundings, creating an environment of disillusionment and confusion in its wake.

Worldly needs and desires have kept pace with our development, comforts being sought and acquired with relative ease. We've even been to the moon and back. Circumstances brought about by

spiritual stability. Additionally, they epitomize discipline and commitment. The challenges and dreams of the past, present and future are all part of the unlimited scope of reality and imagination inherent in art, there being no restraints, only endless possibilities. In short, the arts offer a kind of freedom which can provide one of the greatest pleasures of all: being able to live life totally on our own terms, if only for a few brief but glorious moments at a time.

The arts represent the embodiment of discipline. All freedoms are founded on discipline and absolute commitment. For that reason alone formal, serious, well-conceived knowledge of the arts must be a priority item in the curriculum of any valid educational system. They must not be seen or taught as an extra-curricular diversion, an entertainment or a mere source of pleasure but rather as the discipline they are. It's time to give our young people an intelligent, substantive knowledge of the arts instead of a cursory, simplistic appreciation.

If the arts are to become a real part of the fabric of our society instead of a fringe luxury whose survival depends on the whims of political fancy and the fickle tastes of the moment, they must be taught and accepted as they are —



Stephen Kecskemethy

cheapen the image of the arts in the public eye. The general public is a lot more "sophisticated" than many in the arts care to acknowledge. Division in the ranks, as it were, deafens the ears of those very people whom we must reach. The entire system of higher education, state and private, must look beyond the painfully limited scope of individual bureaucracies to the real

world of real people within whose hands the ultimate success or failure of the arts lie.

The arts are not a mystical entity reserved for a elite few. They are, or so we say, for everyone. If they are to be accepted and respected they must be presented and taught in a way that warrants acceptance and respect.

The state university and public school systems must, in light of hard economic competition, reassess their priorities in relation to the arts. They must relinquish rivalries, promote a unified support structure and cooperate thoroughly for what is a profoundly worthy cause. The realization of the challenge begins with us if the arts are, in fact, "in our lives."

*Stephen Kecskemethy is first violinist with the world renowned Portland String Quartet, faculty-in-residence in our Music Department. In addition to receiving awards for their albums, the quartet was awarded an honorary doctorate degree from Colby College last spring. Other members include violist Julia Adams, cellist Paul Ross and violinist Ronald Lanz.*

## "We cannot equivocate when it comes to teaching or keeping the arts in the public consciousness."

the ever-accelerating pace of our spurious existence demand more and more from us. We're drunk with delusions of grandeur, technological strengths and obscene powers of annihilation, abilities far outweighing understanding.

The other side of the ledger of human experience shows us a simpler, less complicated, more pastoral scene. It's a softer side, one that is in tune with the "wonders of nature" of which we like to consider ourselves a part. Sound familiar? We strive to be renaissance persons, enlightened beings if you will, though basically of good nature, we're not unfortunately, the altruistic gems of creation we would like or, more often than not, pretend to be.

Vacillating between the angry confusion of progress and the tranquil simplicity of stability seems to be our fate. In its own perverse way it provides our lives with a continuous challenge making the whole exercise of living that much more interesting.

Something is needed to moderate the climate of icy practicality, temporal concerns and orphaned ideals of our chaotic, furtively simple lives — something to keep things in perspective. I like to believe that something is art!

The arts provide perspective and, to a certain extent, an escape from hard reality. They are a precious legacy — a great source of mental, physical and

enjoyable but demanding.

This year's convocation, "The Arts in Our Lives," can either represent passive, tacit support or be a true gesture of genuinely renewed commitment to excellence in a vital area of our lives. We cannot equivocate when it comes to teaching or keeping the arts in the public consciousness. The university must serve notice to all citizens, educators and, perhaps foremost, legislators of its unconditional support for uncompromising quality arts education.

Artists themselves must support their own cause by joining forces in arts advocacy regardless of geographic considerations or petty provincial politics. There will always be subjective, well-conceived arguments on behalf of what many may well consider to be more "practical" matters in education or in society in general. If we care about the arts, as so many of us say, we must work for them together, promoting them actively, or commit them to survival on the "fringe."

As humankind's repository of values, feelings and unlimited imagination, the arts offer a source from the past, a sense of the present and a guide to the future. They represent the zenith of our potential while they chronicle our finest moments. Our traditions, hopes and grandest dreams depend on their presence and influence.

Interneine campus and professional rivalries do nothing but tarnish and

## Secretarial Mentors



A program designed to aid new secretaries in learning the USM ropes was implemented on September 1.

An orientation specialist, selected from among those pictured above, will be assigned to each new secretary to help during the six-month probationary period. The duties of the specialist or mentor, according to Mary I. Collins, staff development director for Human Resources, is to spend two to three hours with the neophyte during the first two weeks of employment, to familiarize her or him with University procedures and services: how to fill out a purchase order or IDT form, for instance, or how to get materials printed. The mentor makes sure the new secretary knows about the manuals and directories which aid in campus survival. The orientation specialist is also "on-call" to answer questions as they arise in the early months of employment.

Pictured above in the front row from left to right are: Lena Weiner-Sorgman, secretary, Advising and Academic Information; Karyn J. Swiger, research aide, Exceptionality Program; Althea Jordan, secretary, School of Nursing; Patricia Sherman, executive secretary, Public Policy and Management; Shirley B. Carswell, administrative assistant, University Library.

In the back row from left to right are: Gracetta Harris, administrative assistant, College of Education; Martha Mann, research aide, Human Resources Development Institute; Theresa Overlock, administrative secretary, Student Health Center; Patricia Friedman, administrative secretary, Human Resources; Andrea Frechette, administrative assistant, Continuing Education for Business and Industry; Marie Rackley, administrative secretary, Summer Session; Bernadette Curtis, administrative secretary, Human Resources; Bette FitzGerald, administrative secretary, GeoScience; and Mary Collins. Missing from photo is Robin Day, administrative assistant, College of Arts and Sciences.

(Kuntz photo)

# What We're Doing

**THOMAS CARPER**, associate professor of English, had four sonnets published in the August issue of "Poetry." Four new poems, "The Abductors," "The Attraction," "Burning Her Past," and "Play on a French Beach," will appear in a future issue.

**LOREN COLEMAN**, project director for HSDI's Runaway Suicide Prevention Project, recently hosted two sociologists from Japan and discussed the recent wave of youth suicides in that country. He also had his article, "Portland: Casco Bay's Sea Serpent," published in the May issue of Portland Monthly magazine.

**MICHAEL S. HAMILTON**, assistant professor of political science, published an article entitled "Environmental Regulation and Energy Project Characteristics" in July's "SNREA Newsletter," a publication of the Section on Natural Resources and Environmental Administration of the American Society for Public Administration.

**HELAINE HORNBY**, research associate, CRAS, made a presentation last month at the national conference of the North American Council on Adoption Disruption in Toronto.

**THOMAS A. MARTIN**, assistant professor of physical education and recreation, and his sons, Rob and Jim, have been bicycling from Key West, Fla. to Rockport, Me. to raise money and

public awareness on behalf of the Philadelphia-based National Adoption Center, which finds homes for children with special needs.

**GEORGE R. PARKS**, university librarian, recently attended the American Library Association's annual conference in New York City where he was a discussion leader at the ACRL President's Program and continued his service on the executive board of the Building and Equipment Section of the Library Administration and Management Association.

**WILLIAM H. SLAVICK**, professor of English, chaired a goals forum at the National Pax Christi USA Assembly in Boston, last month. His statement on the immorality of Contra aid at the general assembly was overwhelmingly approved.

**WILLIAM STURNER**, professor of management and organizational psychology, presented a session on "Self-Concept and the Methods of Self-Change" at the Northwest Regional meeting of the Creative Problem-Solving Institute held at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, in August.

**ROBERT L. WOODBURY**, president, was the recipient of the Greater Portland Chamber of Commerce's Neal W. Allen Award which recognizes greater Portland's outstanding public sector leaders.

## Convocation Keynote Set

Convocation 1986-87: "The Arts in Our Lives" will open at 1:30 p.m., Thursday, October 2, in the Portland Gym.

Playwright William W. Gibson, perhaps best known for his play "The Miracle Worker," will give the keynote address following the traditional academic procession. A reception will follow in the dining area of the Campus Center.

## "Button, Button"

For many University people last July was reminiscent of the childhood game "Button, button, who's got the button?" Only the chant was more like "Office, office, where is my office?"

But Currents is happy to report that by the end of August most folks were settled into new quarters. For the information of the University community, the following is a list of offices which have been moved and their new campus addresses.

|  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| Basic Studies  | 103 Payson Smith Hall |
| Graduate Affairs   | 100 PSB               |
| Prior Learning Assessment  | 100 PSB               |
| Testing and Assessment   | 100 PSB               |
| Academic Computing   | 46 PSB                |
| Learning Assistance  | 47 PSB                |
| University Relations   | 209 Deering Ave.      |
| <i>(Includes: Media Relations; Publications; Development)</i>  |                       |
| Financial Resources  | 11 Granite St.        |
| Administrative Services  | 94 Bedford St.        |
| Women's Studies  | 94 Bedford St.        |
| Honors Program   | 102 Bedford St.       |
| CORE Curriculum  | 102 Bedford St.       |
| New Enterprise Institute   | 118 Bedford St.       |
| Center for Real Estate Education   | 68 High St.           |
| UM Talent Search (Bruce Graham)  | 68 High St.           |
| Child Care Services  | 68 High St.           |
| Instructional Television   | 68 High St.           |
| Division of Public Service   | 68 High St.           |
| <i>(Includes: Community Programs, Conferences; CED for Nursing and Health Professions; and CE for Business and Industry)</i> |                       |

## Faculty Promotions

The beginning of academic year 1986-87 is marked by promotions for several of our faculty. They are:

Monique Crochet, professor, Foreign Languages/Classics Department

Craig Dietrich, professor, History Department

Irving Fisher, professor, Political Science Department

Patt Franklin, professor, Art Department

Michael Mazurkiewicz, professor, Biology Department

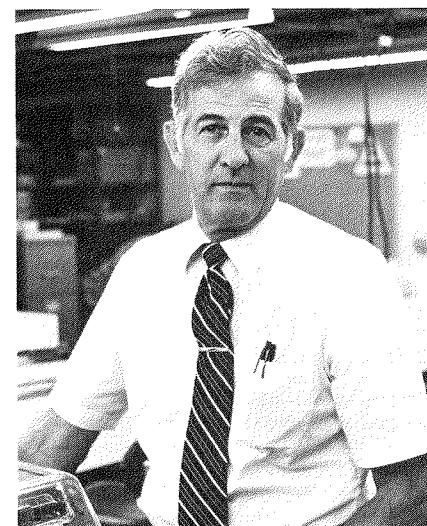
W. Gale Rhodes, associate professor, Chemistry Department

Elizabeth Elliott, assistant professor, School of Nursing

Kimberly Moody, assistant professor, SON

Mildred Roche, assistant professor, SON.

## USM Printer Retires



# Faculty Premieres to Open Corthell

Two premiere performances of original compositions by USM music faculty will inaugurate the new Corthell Concert Hall in Gorham next weekend.

"Fanfare and Toccata" by J.L. Bowder, professor of music, and Associate Professor Bruce Fithian's "Rising in Music, op. 12," based on a poem by Thomas R. Carper, associate

and Fithian will be repeated at 8 p.m., Saturday, September 20, at a public concert featuring alumni of USM's Music Department.

Saxophonist Darmon Meader will sing and play original jazz and pop compositions, Dennis Gowen will perform "Trumpet Concerto" by A. Arutunian, and Christopher Kane will perform works for the classical guitar.



The new Steinway Concert Grand awaits opening night.

(Kramer photo)

professor of English at USM, will be included in an invitation-only concert here at 8 p.m., Friday, September 19, for patrons of the new facility. Also performing that evening are the Portland Brass Quintet, the Bill Street Jazz Trio and the Portland String Quartet, many of whom are USM Music Department faculty.

Individual full- and part-time faculty performing on Friday evening include: John Schnell, trumpet; John Boden, horn; Mark Manduca, trombone; Ronald Cole and Robert Glover, piano; Neil Boyer, oboe; Thomas Parchman, clarinet; Ardith Freeman, bassoon; Bruce Fithian and Sue Ellen Kuzma, voice; Jara Goodrich, harp; Bill Street, saxophone; Stephen Keskemethy and Ronald Lanz, violin; Julia Adams, viola; and Paul Ross, cello.

The original compositions by Bowder

In addition, Portland soprano Deborah Hall will present a selection of classical and show tunes. Accompanist for the Saturday performance is Victoria Stubbs. She will be playing the new Steinway Concert Grand which is the centerpiece of the new Concert Hall.

At 2 p.m., Sunday, September 21, there will be an auditioned student recital featuring USM's most talented music majors.

Ticket prices for the Alumni Concert are \$7 and \$4 for the Student Recital. To make reservations, call the USM Music Department at 780-5256.

Corthell Concert Hall has been created from within the framework of a building erected on the Gorham campus in 1878. The renovation, which began last November, incorporates "a new system within an old one," according to the project's chief architect, David Hingston of the Portland firm Teas, Feely and Hingston.

The tin ceiling, the arched windows, the narrow wainscoting and the iron heating ducts have been preserved amid the sweeping angles and clean lines of the new recital hall. "Acoustically, we had to generate modern forms, and the challenge was how to do that within a 19th century building," noted Hingston. "We retained the tin ceiling and the windows to remind people that we set this modern thing within a 19th century matrix."

The renovation of Corthell Concert Hall cost some \$250,000, funded by passage of the 1984 bond issue referendum. This cost does not include ventilation or air conditioning, according to Department Chair Bowder, and funds for the seats were raised from private gifts.

The 182-seat hall will showcase the talents of USM students and faculty.