

# **NEW FACULTY AT THE RUDI E. SCHEIDT SCHOOL OF MUSIC**

## **HARVEY FELDER, DIRECTOR OF ORCHESTRAL ACTIVITIES**

Harvey Felder brings to the podium a refreshing combination of talents. He is known for his deeply moving performances of the great "Classical" repertoire as well as his entertaining performances on "Pops" stages across this country. "Felder is widely regarded for his effective and quality programming and performances" (*Saint Louis Star*). He has been characterized as having an affable and magnetic podium demeanor which helps audiences feel immediately welcomed, comfortable, and connected to his performances.

Mr. Felder is Conductor Laureate of the Tacoma Symphony Orchestra, a position he accepted after having served as its music director for twenty years. Felder has served as assistant conductor of the Milwaukee Symphony, Resident conductor of the Saint Louis Symphony, and regular guest staff conductor with the Atlanta and Chicago Symphonies. Additionally, Mr. Felder has held the post of music director with the Fox Valley Symphony (WI), Johns Hopkins Symphony (MD), and the Ann Arbor Summer Symphony (MI).

During the "Carnegie Hall at 100" celebration, Mr. Felder was invited to make his Carnegie Hall debut, conducting the American Symphony Orchestra. The success of these performances led to the beginning of an exciting and active guest conducting career. Mr. Felder has held teaching positions on the faculties of Eastern Michigan University, Haverford College, Bryn Mawr College, Johns Hopkins University, West Virginia University, and the University of Connecticut where he currently serves as director of orchestral studies.

## **SAM SHOUP, JAZZ AND COMMERCIAL MUSIC**

After completing a degree in Music Composition from the University of Memphis in 1979, Sam Shoup spent ten years working as a full time jingle writer for Media General Broadcast Services, where he received several awards for his outstanding work. He was a founding member of the band "Dog Police", which won MTV's Basement Tapes Competition in 1985.

After starting his own company, SamJamm Productions in 1990, Shoup began specializing in orchestral and big band arranging. He is currently a staff arranger for The National Symphony Orchestra at The Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., as well as The New York Pops Orchestra, Houston Symphony and The Memphis Symphony Orchestra.

In addition to writing and arranging, Shoup plays upright and electric bass, trumpet and piano and is a two-time winner of NARAS's Premier Bassist Award. He has performed or recorded with Ringo Starr, Kallen Esperian, Ella Fitzgerald, Aaron Copland, Wynton Marsalis and many others.

### **Michael Shults, Saxophone**

Saxophonist Michael Shults has been praised for his “strong, imaginative” improvisations (Downbeat Magazine) and “fresh and intelligent musical ideas” (The Pitch). As a graduate student at the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, Michael was a finalist in the 2012 North American Saxophone Alliance Jazz Artist Competition, and was the winner of the Graduate College Soloist category in the 2012 Downbeat Magazine Student Music Awards Issue.

He was a featured soloist on Bobby Watson's 2010 release *The Gates BBQ Suite*, which reached as high as #4 on the Jazzweek National Radio Airplay Charts. A first-call musician on the Kansas City jazz scene for nearly a decade, Shults remains an active performer with Forward (a contemporary original jazz quintet), the New Jazz Order Big Band, his own quartets and quintets, and the Kansas City Generations Sextet - who recently released their debut album *Acknowledgement*, celebrating the music of Kansas City jazz icons Pat Metheny, Bobby Watson, and Ahmad Aladeen. *Acknowledgement* reached as high as #8 on the CMJ Jazz Charts, and spent several weeks on the Jazzweek Radio Airplay charts as well.

Most recently Dr. Shults was Assistant Professor of Saxophone at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, where he taught applied jazz and classical saxophone, saxophone quartets, jazz combos, and jazz improvisation.