

Music prof composes busy year

Don Appert wrote music for John Donne's "Holy Sonnet 14" in 2009.

The Clark College Concert Choir was going to sing its debut, but that didn't work out. So more than a year after he wrote it, Appert turned to the First United Methodist Sanctuary

Choir, which he directs, to give life to the notes he wrote.



Don Appert

The choir premiered the piece in a Feb. 27 church service.

"That's a pretty good place to do it," said Appert, chairman of Clark's music department. "The text is religious text."

The past year has been a productive one for Appert. He wrapped up a concertino for bass clarinet and strings, which he wrote for renowned clarinetist Rocco Parisi. The Clark College Orchestra, which Appert directs, will premier the piece in a year. He wrote a trombone quartet, which a former teacher recorded.

He wrote two pieces for his daughters' weddings, one last summer and one planned for this summer.

His conducting duties keep him busy, as well. In Vancouver, he conducted the Clark College Orchestra as it performed Josef Suk's "A Fairy Tale, Opus 16," among other pieces, in a free concert Wednesday at the Vancouver School of Arts & Academics.

He will travel to Bacau, Romania, to guest conduct the philharmonic orchestra there March 24. In Portland, he will conduct a concert by the Oregon Sinfonietta at 3 p.m. March 13 at Sunnyside Adventist Church.