Everyone knows anything about The Spirit of Troy, they know that we love our traditions and take them very seriously. We are known for our traditions that happen in the Coliseum on game days in the fall semester, so what happens in the spring semester? Every year for decades, the Trojan Marching Band takes on challenging wind ensemble pieces and collaborates with special guest stars at the spring concert. This 2019 spring concert is particularly special because it will be Dr. Bartner’s last.

However, just because it’s a proper sit-down concert with coats and dresses, doesn’t mean we lose the “Spirit” in The Spirit of Troy. Every rehearsal (which happens once a week) ends just like any other rehearsal Bartner would run during the fall season. We all stand up and do the SoCal Spellout, followed by “Conquest.” Not only do we do that at the concert, but we also have all the band members who didn’t participate in the concert march onto the stage in uniform after the ensemble’s set is complete. Then it turns into a rally-like atmosphere with guests “fighting on” in the audience as we play “Tribute to Troy”, and everyone gets out of their seats rocking out to “Tusk.” Even during the concert itself we put our TMB touch on the pieces thanks to our Associate Director and Arranger Jake Vogel. For last year’s concert, *American Musical: A Century of Broadway*, he not only arranged the whole second half that consisted of the Broadway hit *Hamilton*, but he also arranged a few beautiful Broadway classics in the first half that touched the hearts of many.

After Bartner arrived at USC in 1970, his goal was to make the concert band a spring ensemble of the marching band. At that time, the concert band was part of the School of Music, but Bartner gradually gained control of the group and by 1983, he was ready to take the concert band off campus for a gala event at the famed Pickfair mansion in Beverly Hills, then the home of Lakers owner Jerry Buss. The annual continued on page 6
In Memoriam

Robert W. Jensen

“I believe my paintings are remembrances – dreams of reality where all the best is heightened. They capture the glow of life.”

This is how Robert W. Jensen once described his artwork and anyone who saw his joyous, colorful paintings of the Trojan Marching Band would surely agree. Jensen, who passed away on Sept. 21, 2018 at the age of 89, was the official artist of The Spirit of Troy for nearly four decades.

Jensen’s association with the Trojan Marching Band began in the early 1980s when he attended a charity gala and the band made a surprise entrance. “The ballroom came to life and I made a mental note that I should try to capture that wonderful joy in a painting,” he said. Jensen’s first painting of the band was a performance at the Los Angeles Convention Center. He then received a secret commission to paint a portrait of Dr. Bartner at the 1990 Rose Bowl Game. Posing as a reporter, Jensen surreptitiously observed him in action and the resulting painting was given to Bartner as a surprise in celebration of his twentieth year with the program.

From that time on, Bartner and Jensen – along with Jensen’s partner Keith Walker – collaborated on numerous projects. Jensen sketched “The Man on the Ladder” logo for Bartner’s 40th anniversary at USC, sculpted a statue of the drum major that was given to donors, produced two fully illustrated books and, of course, painted the band many times in a variety of settings. He captured the TMB’s energy and vibrancy at a jock rally on campus, after a victorious Rose Bowl, in the Hollywood Christmas Parade, on Catalina for the Fourth of July, and even imagined them marching through New York’s Times Square. Jensen’s artwork graced a range of Trojan Marching Band merchandise from coasters and notecards to scarves and hats. He donated his time for all these projects. “He is the most creative guy I met outside the music business,” said Bartner. “I never left a lunch with him not feeling elated, more creative, more positive about what I do. It was always uplifting. He had that ability to uplift people. It took a special guy to collaborate with so many different people and he was able to put all these thoughts together and create something great.”

Patrons of the concert band’s spring concert often saw Jensen’s work projected above the stage and choreographed to the music. For 2013’s Pictures at an Exhibition concert, he painted an original work and photographed it at each stage so concert goers could see the work magically transform from a sketch to a finished piece, all set to Mussorgsky’s “The Great Gate of Kiev.” The audience was transfixed. To honor all he meant to the Trojan Marching Band, Bartner is dedicating this year’s spring concert to Jensen and will reprise “The Great Gate of Kiev” segment. In addition, a scholarship fund has also been established to provide a stipend annually to a band member who is a fine arts major at USC. For more information about the Robert W. Jensen Scholarship Endowment, call 213-740-7879. You can see Jensen’s work, including his paintings of the band, at robertwjensen.com. A retrospective hardcover book about his life and works is available for purchase on the website.

-Brett Padelford

J. Douglas Pardee

J. Douglas Pardee, Chairman of the Board Emeritus of Pardee Construction Company and Trustee at USC, passed away this November. Living fully until his passing at the age of 96, he led a generous life of leadership and philanthropy across many programs at the university.

After serving in the Army Air Corps in World War II, Doug Pardee graduated from USC in 1949 with a bachelor’s degree in accounting. Shortly after, he joined Pardee Construction, founded by his father and brothers. Throughout his tenure at the company (which included a merger with Weyerhaeuser Co. in 1969), Pardee Construction boomed, building homes and commercial properties throughout Southern California and Las Vegas, and trailblazing the production of master-planned communities. Pardee retired from Pardee Construction in 1986. Pardee was an ardent supporter of higher education, donating his time as Chairman of the American Citizenship Youth Program at Pepperdine University, giving generously to a scholarship fund at CSU San Marcos, and donating millions to his alma mater. At USC, he donated to libraries, the Dornsife College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences, and The Spirit of Troy.

For decades, the Trojan Marching Band benefitted from the immense generosity of Pardee. In 1994, during the celebration of Dr. Bartner’s 25th year leading the band, Doug was named the band’s “guardian angel.” In 1999 he gifted the band an entire set of much-needed uniforms. More recently, in the band’s new Pavilion, Pardee generously donated to name the student lounge. “He was a wonderful friend, a true gentleman, a very generous human being, and he touched the lives of many people,” said Bartner, echoing a sentiment shared by all who knew Doug. The Trojan Marching Band, as well as the entire university, are wholly grateful to the generosity and lifelong dedication of J. Douglas Pardee. He will be missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

-Erin Rosenberg
Homecoming celebrated not one, but two special moments for The Spirit of Troy. On the field, the band welcomed the world famous USC Song Girls and alumni on the occasion of their 50th Anniversary. Meanwhile the band took to the field with its own milestone; the game represented the 400th consecutive appearance at USC football game, home or away.

Congratulations to Marvell Tell III, the winner of the Trojan Commitment Award at the Trojan Football Awards dinner on Dec 12. It was announced at the same time that the award will forever after be called the Dr. Arthur C. Bartner Trojan Commitment Award, given to the player who most demonstrates dedication to the USC Football program.

The senior class flew to Texas for the TMB’s first game against the Longhorns in Austin. Before the showdown, the band and hundreds of Trojan fans took over the state capitol for a Texas-sized rally.

With a sunset view of the Pacific Ocean from the bluffs of Newport Beach and the sounds of the Trojan Marching Band booming out over the bay, guests at Steve Craig’s house for his annual band fundraiser enjoyed a pleasant afternoon of Trojan pride. Speakers included national champion USC Track & Field coach Caryl Smith Gilbert and football legends Keith Rivers and Terrell Thomas (left). Thank you to Steve Craig and the donors who raised funds so generously for the band program.

-BP
When it comes to half time shows, the Trojan Marching Band is unequivocally the unique from every other band in the country. Every freshman who entered through the doors of Stonier Hall and who will enter through the Dr. Arthur C. Bartner Pavilion is required to do this. No, we’re not talking about “driving it off the field” or playing chart-topping tunes. Every student will have to put their horns down on the football field, in front of thousands of people, and dance. This is a tradition that incorporates fun, modern dance routines into our program, be it during the halftime shows or on 10-piece gigs, and this season was no exception.

This season, the Trojan Marching Band performed three absolutely stellar halftime shows celebrating the history, culture, and love of music and dance. The first of these dance-inspired halftime shows that the band performed was “Karaoke with the Trojan Marching Band” at the ASU game. The band performed arrangements of “Don’t Stop Believing” by Journey, “All Star” by Smash Mouth, and “Africa” by Toto. We performed two dance routines while playing “All Star” and were even joined by the Song Girls and members of the Kaufman School of Dance (opposite) during “Africa.” But perhaps the highlight of the show was the fact that we had the entire Coliseum singing along with us as we played.

We finished off the season against Notre Dame by performing a Latin show. The show was comprised of tunes by Latin and dance legends, starting with “Livin la Vida Loca” by Ricky Martin, going into “I Like It” by Cardi B – an extended arrangement of this year’s highly popular stand tune – “Hips Don’t Lie” by Shakira, and finishing off with the Mexican folk song “El Son de la Negra” – a song that is commonly referred to as the second national anthem of Mexico. During this finale, the band was joined on the field by the Ballet Folklorico de Los Angeles and the Grupo Folklorico de USC (below), performing a traditional Mexican folk dance. It was an amazing, colorful spectacle celebrating the culture of dance and Mexican culture. Several members of the Trojan Marching Band were part of folk dance groups and participated in the performance.

Finally, while it was not the last show of the season, the halftime that stole the season and defined dance was at the homecoming game against the Cal Bears, where we performed “Fifty Years of Ladies of Pop” to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the Song Girls. We had over two-hundred former Song Girls attend the performance including the original squad from 1968. The show started off with “Think” by Aretha Franklin and a dance routine by Song Girls who performed from 1968 to 1984. It was followed by “I Will Survive” by Gloria Gaynor and the members from 1985 to 1999. Next was “I Want to Dance with Somebody” by Whitney Houston, with members from 2000 to 2009. And finally, the Ladies of Pop section of the show concluded with “Bad Romance” by Lady Gaga and the Song Girls from 2010 to 2018 (above). But that was not all, the Trojan Marching Band had its own alumni come home to the Coliseum. And so the halftime show had one final number, we performed the swing and dance classic, “Sing, Sing, Sing” by Benny Goodman, joined by drumline and tuba alumni. If the field couldn’t get any more full, we were accompanied with a dance routine performed by every Song Girl, from 1968 to the current squad.

It was a fitting ending, since “Sing, Sing, Sing” is arguably the band’s most choreography-heavy chart. But as epic as that fi-
nale was, the entire show as a whole was just an unbelievable experience. As we walked onto the field from the stands to set up for the show, we made our way through hundreds of song girls old and new, all wearing uniforms they either made themselves or were given as uniform. It was hard to believe so many came to perform in this halftime. Dance is not only an integral part of the Trojan Marching Band program and legacy, it’s a uniting one. It brings together alumni and students from other departments, all from diverse cultures. Being able to perform in so many shows focusing on dance this season, and the many similar shows I’ve performed in seasons past and know that I will perform in my last season forward, it reminds me that when The Spirit of Troy takes that field, we are not just there to celebrate football, we are not just there to celebrate the University of Southern California; we take that field to perform and pay a tribute to music and all that it encompasses – dance enthusiastically included.

-Erica Riley
Spring Concert

Continued from Page 1

event moved to different venues during the intervening years, including Paramount Studios and the Tournament House in Pasadena, before finding a home at the Cerritos Performing Arts Center from 1997-2009. Since 2010 the spring concert has been held on campus at Bovard Auditorium.

Dr. Bartner’s primary goal in integrating the concert band with the marching band was to give its musicians an outlet, as well as giving himself an outlet. “I needed this as a musician to grow,” says Dr. Bartner, “Also for the students who are the better players in the marching band, they needed an outlet where they could get their abilities on stage. His second goal was to use this concert as marketing. He wanted the fans at football games in the concert hall. Because our die-hard fans always have Bovard Auditorium filled, it has become one of our biggest fundraisers of the year. It also gets the fans and bandsmen alike ready to take our rock charts from the stage back to the field in the fall.

This year’s theme will be The Final Curtain, to commemorate Dr. Bartner’s last spring concert. We will be bringing back his favorite pieces as well as special guest artists that have played with us before. We will open up the concert with John Williams’ arrangement of “The Star Spangled Banner,” which was played by the TMB at the 2004 Rose Bowl. We will also perform “Sing, Sing, Sing”, which all of our fans know because of our iconic arrangement by Tony Fox. In this concert, we will be playing a more traditional big band arrangement, featuring world-famous musician Sal Lozano on jazz clarinet. Another guest artist will be Dave Washburn, who was a trumpet section leader in the TMB, playing with us on Hummel’s Trumpet Concerto. Other guest artists scheduled to attend are past spring concert crowd favorites, Felipe Prado, Barbara Morrison, and Dennis McNeil.

The finale of the show will be the first movement of Holst’s “First Suite,” where we will bring back many of our alumni that have gone on to play and teach music as a career. This concert will encompass what it means to be in the Trojan Marching Band. It will showcase the talented musicianship that the band has, maintain traditions we’ve practiced for decades, and bring back what’s most important: the Trojan Family. People who played in this concert band 37 years ago will be welcomed back to play with their Trojan Family once again, making this concert nostalgic for everyone involved. So don’t miss The Final Curtain on April 28 at 3:00pm in Bovard Auditorium.

“To me, it’s a great summation of my career. This part of my career is very important to me, and I hope this tradition continues forever and ever,” he says. So thank you, Dr. Bartner, for letting decades of bandsman show that they aren’t just marchers, but musicians as well.

-Hannah Sobelman

Erica Riley is a junior trombone player, majoring in writing for screen and television.

Erin Rosenberg is a junior trombone player, majoring in industrial and systems engineering.

Alex Da Silva is a sophomore trombone player, majoring in biomedical engineering.

Hannah Sobelman is a sophomore tenor saxophone player, majoring in saxophone performance.

Sean Syed is a sophomore alto saxophone player, majoring in computer engineering and computer science.
The last year has been quite eventful: the band moved into our new home, and we are beginning the process of acquiring new instruments and uniforms! Both of these transitions have been years in the making, and it is certainly exciting to see all of our planning becoming a reality. Following our move into the Dr. Arthur C. Bartner Band Pavilion, located on the second floor of the Lyon Center, we have been hard at work adding our own little flair to the new space. In the months following the move, graphics were added depicting all facets of who we are and what we do. The first thing that every person sees when they walk up the stairs is now a colossal picture of Dr. Bartner, the Pavilion’s namesake. In addition, auxiliary systems - such as a new projector - have also been installed to ensure that we can use this space to its greatest extent. These systems allow not only band rehearsals, but also halftime show review and presentation opportunities that we may now take advantage of. Our goal is to make as much use out of what we’ve been given, and it is easy to say that we are well towards accomplishing that vision.

With your support, the band hopes to fill this new Bartner Band Pavilion with new uniforms and instruments in 2020. So far the band has raised $250,000 towards their $2M goal for the uniform endowment. The student uniform team will meet with the manufacturer soon to design the new set of uniforms. It is anticipated that the design of the uniform, itself, will largely remain the same. However, there will be some changes to the functional aspects of the uniform to make them easier for both bandsmen to use and for the team to adjust.

Meanwhile, the student equipment team is ready to take on a new set of instruments. Thanks to our partners at Yamaha, instruments will be arriving in the fall of 2020. The band is working towards raising $2M to endow the instruments, insuring the band can purchase a new set of instruments every ten years.

These uniforms and instruments are housed in individual student lockers in the new Pavilion. There are still 200 lockers and 20 benches available to sponsor. All proceeds help increase the travel endowment which contains $2.2M towards its $6M goal.

The final pillar in the band’s $15M endowment goal is scholarships. The band has raised more than $2.3M towards its $5M goal.

For more information on how you can help the band reach its goals by Dr. Bartner’s 50th Anniversary Gala Celebration on May 2, 2020, contact the band office at (213) 740-7879 or tmbdonate@gmail.com.

-Sean Syed

R esurrecting a fun tradition, a group of loyal Trojans and a few USC football legends came together one last time on Nov. 24 at Bovard Auditorium to celebrate the greatest intersectional rivalry in college football at “Up The Irish.” The party was first hosted in 1974 by friends of the band Ken and Barbara Cotler but it had been dormant since 2010. Barbara decided to bring it back one last time before Dr. Bartner’s retirement.

After enjoying the dangerous “Irish Green Death” drink at the reception, attendees heard the great USC fullback Sam “Bam” Cunningham (above) reminisce about battling the Irish in the early 1970s. Next, “Voice of the Trojans” Pete Arbogast colorfully reminded everyone why Notre Dame is USC’s true, most-hated rival. The audience was then entertained by “Up The Irish” stalwart John Charles before the Trojan Marching Band provided the rousing finale (below).
the itinerary

Saturday, April 6
Swim with Mike and USC Football Spring Showcase

Sunday, April 28
Spring Concert: The Final Curtain

Saturday, May 4
USC Alumni Awards

Friday, May 10
Commencement

Friday, August 9 & Saturday, August 10
Tchaikovsky Spectacular at the Hollywood Bowl