

GATEWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UMASS Chamber Percussion Ensemble at Gateway

Huntington – The UMASS Chamber Percussion Ensemble visited Gateway on May 5 and gave an awesome performance to students from Littleville Elementary School, along with band and choral students from the middle and high schools.

The Ensemble focuses on intricate contemporary works, theatrical music, music with live electronics and newly commissioned works for both percussion and mixed ensembles. In addition to two concerts each year in Bezanson Recital Hall, the ensemble performs at festivals and art museums, and has been hailed for its “extraordinary level of performance” and called “the very finest of any university percussion group in North America, or for that matter internationally.”

The program included pieces entitled “Conversation for two Tambourines”, “Motto Perpetuo” (featuring timpani); “Aphasia”, “Pattern Transformation” (featuring marimba); “Angels: II. Angels Crying” (triangles in water); Song and Dance: II. Dance of the Drums (numerous percussion instruments, including conch); and “Omphalo Centric Lecture”.

Ensemble members are Casey Jones, Dominic Mrakovcich, Aaron Di Pilla, Mitchell Tilghman, Thomas Wilson, Lindsey Hartfelder, Casey Choi, Alejandro Alvarino, Christopher Keeler, Maxwell Newman, Seth Lampert, Christopher Cossuto, and Andrew Armstrong.

The assembly, organized by elementary music teacher Renee Mosher, was supported by grants from the Local Cultural Councils of Blandford, Huntington, Montgomery and Russell. Local Cultural Councils are funded through the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

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Photo: Lindsey Hartfelder, Casey Choi, Thomas Wilson and Alejandro Alvarino performing “Pattern Transformation” in the Gateway Performing Arts Center on May 5.