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Playing for a cause

Furman University

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Playing for a cause

Alumni release CDs whose proceeds benefit others

Two Furman alumni, one of whom teaches music at the university, have recently released well-received recordings whose profits go toward charity.

Bobby Holliday '72, a well-known musician in the Greenville area, has produced "Crown of the Carolinas," a 17-song collection that features guitars, dobro, mandolin and violin and celebrates his love of nature and of the Western Carolinas.

GRITZ magazine, the "Digital Southern Music Magazine," described "Crown of the Carolinas" as "nothing short of a beautiful piece of work from some of Carolina's best players. Bobby Holliday and friends turn in a musical journey that evokes the true feeling of a walk in the Blue Ridge Mountains, or fishing off of a rock in a mountain river."

Holliday, who worked on the CD for seven years and wrote all the music and lyrics, performed in the Greenville area during his high school and college days, most notably with the band The Bojax. He later moved to Nashville, Tenn., to work in the music industry before returning to the Greenville area in the mid-1990s.

Of "Crown of the Carolinas," he says, "The goal from the beginning was to create a souvenir honoring the natural beauty of the Upstate. One of the many attractions of Furman is its location. The CD would remind alumni of the beauty of this area, and hopefully of their experiences at Furman."

And, as he told *The Greenville News*, "Crown" represents an effort to "inspire, educate [and] arouse curiosity, as well as to entertain." To help him promote this goal, he received a grant from the South Carolina Arts Commission.

"Crown of the Carolinas" is the first CD produced by Red Hill Records, whose president is an old friend of Holliday's, Greenville businessman Randy Mathena '71. Mathena says,

"It's a labor of love and not designed for profit but for praise of our Upstate. The profits go to charitable groups."

To hear samples from the recording or to order the CD, visit the Web at www.redhillsrecords.com.

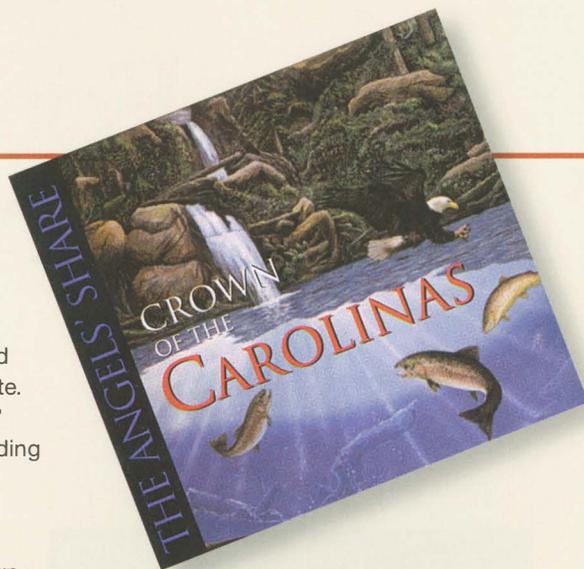
Anita Burroughs-Price '82, harp professor at Furman and principal harpist with the North Carolina Symphony, has produced a CD titled "Healing Touch." Featuring music of hope, reflection and consolation, it received the 2006 Excellence in Media "Silver Angel Award."

Excellence in Media is a group dedicated to the promotion of quality family-oriented programming in all facets of communication. The award honors works of outstanding moral, ethical, and/or social impact in television, film, music, radio, print or video.

According to *Classical Voice*, an on-line arts journal, "Healing Touch" is notable for "the consistency of the program and the high quality of its presentation." Burroughs-Price is joined on the recording by other members of the North Carolina Symphony; the 15 selections range from classical pieces to hymns, spirituals and popular melodies.

Burroughs-Price, who lives in Raleigh and holds a master's degree from Yale University, frequently volunteers to perform for churches, charities, soup kitchens, hurricane shelters and prisons. In 1999 she was awarded the Raleigh Medal of Arts, the city's highest award, for "outstanding artistry and humanitarian service."

A portion of the proceeds from sales of "Healing Touch" goes to two Raleigh-based charities: Interact of Wake County, which assists victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and Interfaith Food Shuttle. The CD is available by e-mail, 47strings@bellsouth.net.



Burroughs-Price's colleague on the music faculty, director of jazz studies **Matt Olson**, has produced a CD titled "Vortex."

The CD, the first by the saxophonist, was completed with the help of a Furman faculty grant. Three of Olson's own compositions, including the title cut, are featured.

Olson, a native of Racine, Wis., earned his undergraduate and master's degrees from Northwestern University and his doctorate from the University of Illinois. He joined the Furman faculty in 2002.

An active clinician and soloist, he has performed with such artists as Doc Severinsen, Manhattan Transfer, Aretha Franklin, Johnny Mathis, Wayne Newton and Lou Rawls.

Three of the musicians who accompany Olson on the CD live in Phoenix, Ariz., where it was produced. It is receiving play on jazz radio stations nationwide.

According to Don Owens, professor emeritus at Northwestern University, "Vortex" represents "a true collaboration: gifted individuals coming together to make expressive music."

To learn more, visit the Web at www.mattolsonmusic.com or www.cdbaby.com/cd/molson.

The Furman bookstore features a wide variety of CDs by alumni, faculty, students and student groups. Call (864) 294-2164 to learn more.