

March 5-6, 2020

ITEM 187-1014-R0320

Request for Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus on Maxine Ramey, University of Montana-Missoula.

THAT

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Maxine Ramey from the faculty of the University of Montana, the faculty wish to express their appreciation for her 27 years of dedicated and valued service to the University and the State of Montana by requesting that the rank of Professor Emeritus be conferred upon her by the Board of Regents of the Montana University System.

EXPLANATION

Dr. Maxine Ramey retired in June of 2019 from the University of Montana after 32 years of full-time university teaching. She spent the first five years of her career at Eastern New Mexico University where she was professor of clarinet and music history. In 1992, she was hired at the University of Montana where she taught clarinet, music history and music theory courses. Dr. Ramey received four UM awards for meritorious teaching, creative research and service. In 2008 she was honored as a Distinguished Faculty in the School of Fine Arts, and in 2013 she was awarded the University of Montana Outstanding Administrator Award. During her tenure as professor of music, many of her clarinet students went on to become performers, professors and international teachers, composers, and all manner of musical entrepreneurs.

In 2008, Dr. Ramey became the only female Director of the School of Music since Mrs. Blanche Whitaker's appointment in 1898 to the School of Music, one of UM's original programs. Director Ramey led a successful N.A.S.M. accreditation 10-year review, chaired three Montana All-State Music festivals, and directed four Vienna Study Abroad programs serving over 130 UM music, art and MOLL students in life-changing arts experiences. In 2015 she served as a Smithsonian Journeys Expert Leader providing lectures and walking tour experiences for the Smithsonian in Hungary, Austria, Germany, Czech Republic and Poland as part of "Symphony on the Danube" educational cruises. From 2010-2016 Dr. Ramey served on the board of the International Clarinet Association (ICA) and was elected by the international membership as president in 2014, becoming the second woman president in the 45-year history of the organization. During her time on the board, duties included oversight for annual Clarinetfest conferences in Los Angeles, Baton Rouge, Lincoln, Assisi-Italy and Madrid-Spain; organizing international competitions; and the publication of a quarterly journal, The Clarinet, for a 4000-member global membership.

As a clarinetist, Dr. Ramey has maintained an international reputation in solo and chamber music performance. She was principal clarinet with the Missoula Symphony Orchestra for 27 years, and UM's Montana Woodwind Quintet and Montana Woodwind Trio for 20 years. In 1986, she was principal clarinet with the American Wind Symphony Orchestra which premiered works by Jacques Castérède, William Bolcom, Jean Françaix, Ivan Tcherepnin, and Ivana Loudova, and performed during the re-lighting ceremonies at the Statue of Liberty. As a champion of new music, she premiered works by David Maslanka, Vincent Persichetti and a host of Montana composers. She has performed in 45 U.S. States and 6 continents. She is a founding member of the internationally acclaimed Sapphire Trio, now in their 21st season.

The Trio were U.S. State Department Cultural Ambassadors for a tour of Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia; performed four tours in the West Bank (Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nablus, Ramallah, and the Golan Heights region); and served on international juries for the Palestinian National Music Competitions. The

Trio also toured Japan, Germany, Austria, Italy, Spain, Ireland, South America and most of the United States. The Trio were featured guest artists at the 2013 Spanish National Clarinet/European Clarinet Association Congress and performed at many national clarinet symposia and ICA international Clarinetfests. The Sapphire Trio were featured artists at the 2016 International Clarinet and Saxophone Festival in Medellin-Colombia, South America and at the National Art Museum in Bogota. They have been featured performers at national conferences for the ICA, Music Teachers National Association, American String Teachers Association, Music and Medicine conferences at the Mayo Clinic, and at the American Association of Medical Colleges.

Dr. Ramey is the founding artistic director of western Montana's newest musical adventure, Chamber Music Montana. Now in its third season, CMM produces a season of concerts and summer festival with UM faculty, international guests and young artists for audiences in Missoula, the Flathead, Bitterroot and Seeley-Swan Valleys and Glacier National Park.

Dr. Ramey is on the International Artist Roster of Selmer Paris Clarinets (2014-present) and was an international artist for Buffet Crampon Paris Clarinets from (1998-2014). Maxine received her Bachelor of Music Education degree from Arizona State University (1979) and her Master of Music degree (1981) and Doctor of Musical Arts degree (2010) from Michigan State University with mentor Dr. Elsa Ludewig-Verdehr of the Verdehr Trio.

The faculty of the School of Music are pleased to nominate Dr. Maxine Ramey for emeritus status.

ATTACHMENTS

None