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Contact: Lisa A. Fellers  
Director of Communications  
Office: (817) 531-4498  
Cell: (817) 874-8683  
lfellers@txwes.edu

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Texas Wesleyan music department presents *Olympic Ideals*,  
a labor of love**

FORT WORTH, Sept. 21 – Texas Wesleyan University’s Department of Music presents *Olympic Ideals: Eros, Philia & Agape*, a faculty recital featuring the three Greek ideals of love: Eros, which describes physical attraction; philia, which describes longing for family, friends or the homeland; and agape, which is Christian charity. The recital will be Tuesday, September 28 at 7:30 p.m. in Nicholas Martin Hall, located at 1309 Wesleyan St. inside the Ann Waggoner Fine Arts Building. Admission is free and open to the public.

“(Did) you know there are three Greek words for love ... and the Phoenicians had 98 words for it?” asks Dale Morehouse, assistant professor of music at Texas Wesleyan. “In English we only have one.”

Morehouse says this realization, coupled with the recent broadcast of the Olympic games, gave him the idea for the theme of the faculty recital. The production will showcase Morehouse singing baritone and Mark Stamper, visiting assistant professor of music, on piano. The program includes Vincenzo Bellini’s *Tre Arie*, a poignant composition about the death of the singer’s love, Phyllis; five

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German art songs with contrasting moods by contemporary artist Richard Strauss; Francis Poulenc's *Banalities*, which describes the love the composer has for his country and the sorrow he feels over its occupation by Germany during World War II; and *Three Spiritual Songs*, an original composition written by Morehouse about three stages in Christian love: baptism, celebration and commitment.

“They were originally written for people to sing in church,” says Morehouse. Morehouse adds that he wrote the first piece for Helen, his friend's daughter, when she was baptized. The second was written as a more jubilant version of the well-known hymnal lyrics “Make a joyful noise unto the Lord,” and the third was written in the grandiose style of traditional church music.

Morehouse holds a Bachelor of Arts in voice and organ from the University of Central Florida and a master's degree in opera from Binghamton University in New York. He has performed all over Europe and the United States, including Austria, England, Germany, Scotland and Venezuela. In 1991, he had his Carnegie Hall debut with the Manhattan Philharmonic, singing Fauré's *Requiem*. He has written over one hundred compositions for choir and currently serves as both the director of music and the organist at Arapaho United Methodist Church in Richardson. At Texas Wesleyan, Morehouse directs the vocal program and Opera Workshop.

Stamper earned his bachelor's degree in music from Winthrop University in Rock Hill, S.C. and his master's degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth. This is Stamper's first year at Wesleyan, where he is the director of the Wesleyan Singers and Trouvères and musical director and vocal coach for the Opera Workshop. Since 2003, he has also served as musical director of The Singing Girls of Texas – a nationally recognized, professional girls' choir.

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For more information on the faculty recital, contact the Texas Wesleyan University Department of Music at (817) 531-4992 or visit <http://department.txwes.edu/mus/>.

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