

FOURTH MTNA COLLEGIATE CHAPTERS  
PIANO PEDAGOGY  
 SYMPOSIUM  
SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY

MTNA

[www.mtnacollegiatesymposium.org](http://www.mtnacollegiatesymposium.org)

MTNA COLLEGIATE CHAPTERS  
 *Piano Pedagogy*  
SYMPOSIUM  
*January 17-18, 2015 • Southern Methodist University*



MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

January 17, 2015

Dear Colleagues:

Welcome to the Fourth Collegiate Piano Pedagogy Symposium! The students, faculty and staff of Southern Methodist University has planned an exceptional program for you to enjoy, to broaden your knowledge and to experience new ideas. Please be sure to take a moment to thank your colleagues for their time and work to make this a successful event.

Events such as this are a wonderful opportunity to renew friendships, meet fellow students from around the country and network with your future colleagues. Take advantage of this time to discuss things that are unique to you as a future music professional or one just taking the initial leap.

After the Symposium and other such events, your networking does not have to stop. Your membership in MTNA connects you with a national collegiate network, in addition to programming and leadership opportunities at the local, state and national levels. We encourage you to volunteer to help in whatever way you can. Working and sharing together, we can impact the future of music in America!

We hope your plans include attending the 2015 MTNA National Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada, March 21–25. Highlights of the Conference will include evening recitals by Sir James and Lady Jeanne Galway, the Canadian Brass, and Ann Schein. Lang Lang will present an advanced piano master class, and Scott McBride Smith will conduct an intermediate piano master class. The pre-conference workshop on March 21 will once again feature a track focusing on the needs of young professionals. Along with the MTNA Student Competitions, exhibit hall, 50-plus sessions and exhibitor showcases, you'll be sure to hit the jackpot.

Enjoy yourselves, catch up with old friends, meet new ones and prepare to absorb plenty of new ways of thinking regarding the music teaching profession.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth J. Christensen".

Kenneth J. Christensen, NCTM  
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary L. Ingle".

Gary L. Ingle  
Executive Director & CEO

FOUNDED  
1876



# SMU

MEADOWS SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

*Samuel S. Holland, Ph.D.*  
Dean, Meadows School of the Arts  
Algur H. Meadows Chair and Professor of Music

As Dean of the Meadows School of the Arts and Professor of Music, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the SMU campus for the Fourth MTNA Collegiate Chapters Piano Pedagogy Symposium. In my view this is one of the most exciting initiatives happening at MTNA because it creates the platform for a new generation of teachers to share their ideas on a national stage. The Meadows School is honored to be the host for this year's symposium.

In 2015, SMU celebrates the centennial of its founding and music has had a significant place at the university from the beginning. *College Factual*, reported in *USA Today*, identified the Division of Music at SMU as the number one music program in an American university in 2014. The piano department has a long and distinguished heritage, producing winners of the MTNA national competition and top prizes in the Leeds International Competition, Hamamatsu International Competition, among many others. SMU was among the very first universities to offer degree programs in piano pedagogy and its legacy of innovation and excellence in the field of piano pedagogy is unsurpassed.

I am very grateful for the students and alumni in our school who have helped organize this event, in particular Ryan Greene, who has been at the center of all planning and execution. We could not have hosted this event without his extraordinary contributions and those of the many volunteers who join me in welcoming you as guests to our campus.

We all hope you will enjoy the presentations and collegiality that will be engendered during these two days. May you leave our campus inspired, informed, and recommitted to the art of teaching music we all cherish.

I look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely yours,

Samuel S. Holland, Ph.D., NCTM  
Dean, Meadows School of the Arts  
Algur H. Meadows Chair and Professor of Music

# Saturday, January 17, 2015

All Sessions in the O'Donnell Recital Hall Unless Noted

8:00–8:45 A.M.

**Registration**  
**Taubman Atrium**

8:45–9:00 A.M.

**Welcome**

9:00–9:30 A.M.

***Breaking The Ice Without Breaking A Sweat: A Musician's Guide To Interpersonal Communication***

The successful modern musician must be able to talk to anyone, anytime, anywhere—no small task considering the amount of time isolated in a practice room. Mastering the skills of conversation and communication will help you build your career, engage audiences, connect with students and might even make that next family reunion a little less awkward. Through lecture and role-playing, this presentation explores the strategies and tools necessary for effective interpersonal communication.

■ University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music

9:35–10:05 A.M.

***Creative Ideas For Teaching Scales, Chord Progressions, And Sight Reading In The Group Piano Setting***

At times, the process of laying the foundation for basic keyboard technique may be monotonous and discouraging. Based on this observation, we developed creative new ways to help group-piano college students improve their understanding process in a way that goes beyond playing at the keyboard and integrates other learning modes. We believe the most enriching learning comes through experience and discovery, a process in which the students are excited and actively taking part.

■ University of Missouri

10:10–10:30 A.M.

**LIGHTNING SESSION**

***Debunking Body-Mapping Myths***

■ Nicholas Zollo, University of Idaho

***Mother-Tongue Inspiration For NEW Composers***

■ Kristen Cox, University of Idaho

***Community Music School***

■ Liberty University

10:30–10:50 A.M.

**Break**

**10:50–11:20 A.M.**

***Know Your Body: How To Practice Smarter And Enjoy It More***

As pianists, many of us struggle with muscle tension and fatigue in our playing. The musical and technical demands of our instrument require countless hours of practicing, so it is essential for our well-being that we practice as safely and efficiently as possible. Tension and fatigue can lead to ineffective performance, or worse, to long-term injury. This presentation will explore tools to improve our personal practice by addressing these issues and will help us open a dialogue with our bodies.

■ University of North Florida

**11:25–11:55 A.M.**

***In League With Leschetizky: The Power Of The “Non-Method”***

This presentation analyzes writings and recordings of his students, all validating Theodor Leschetizky’s success through a “non-method” teaching style. Insight into this teaching approach will inspire pedagogues of today to achieve technical excellence in their studios without sacrificing the personal interpretive demands of the great piano literature.

■ Brigham Young University

**12:05–12:35 P.M.**

**SPLIT SESSION**

***Becoming Dispensable: Developing Independent Learners***

**Choral Rehearsal Hall**

By teaching students to learn independently, we empower them for life-long study and success. If we first instruct students how to practice correctly, we will discover exceptionalism from even the most average of students.

■ Southern Methodist University: Zachary Polson, Jessica Welsh

***Music Camps***

**O’Donnell Recital Hall**

Based on experience running summer music camps for the past three years—two years with a private studio and one year with the college—the presenter will share camp experiences and share how to plan a summer music camp.

■ Rachel Preston, NCTM, Trinity Lutheran University

***Poems, Plays, And Preludes: A Discussion Of Literary Influences In Debussy’s Piano Music***

**Room 2020**

Join the presenter as he takes the audience through a survey of the various literary influences that provided the influences for many of the *Preludes* from Books I and II. A live performance of selected individual *Preludes* will be accompanied by a discussion and readings of poetry, theater, novels and other literary influences that provided direct inspiration for this wonderful body of still-revolutionary sounding piano music.

■ Andy Lagrimas, Florida State University

**12:35–1:45 P.M.**

**Lunch (provided)  
Band Hall**

**1:15–1:45 P.M.**

**SMU Facilities Tour**

**1:45–3:00 P.M.**

***Faculty Advisor Teaching Demonstrations***

- Erin Bennett, NCTM, University of North Florida; Courtney Crappell, NCTM, University of Houston; Scott Donald, NCTM, University of Texas at San Antonio

**3:10–3:30 P.M.**

**LIGHTNING SESSION**

***Tap-Practice***

- Megan Rich, University of Idaho

***Interleaved Practice***

- Eric Osborne, University of Idaho

***Pay It Forward: Cultivating Attention At The Piano***

- Rachel Menscher, Southern Methodist University

**3:35–4:05 P.M.**

***Secrets Of Successful Group Teaching***

How can group classes be motivating and fun? This session will use examples from our Community Music School to demonstrate how group classes can work in independent studios. We will discuss planning effectively with both short- and long-term goals; new and exciting games that will keep students of any level engaged; managing behavior in the class; and finding ways to prepare and lead students in a piano ensemble.

- University of Georgia

**4:05–4:25 P.M.**

**Break**

**4:25–4:55 P.M.**

**SPLIT SESSION**

***Non-Verbal Communication In Private Lessons: A Brief Overview Of A Growing Field***

**Choral Rehearsal Hall**

Because about two-thirds of communication consists of nonverbal behaviors and cues, the study of nonverbal communication in arena of the piano lessons promises to be revealing. This presentation shall compile and give a summary of the most recent qualitative studies pertaining to the young field of nonverbal communication in one-on-one music lessons. In doing so, it shall also give a brief overview of the field of gestural studies, as well as discuss further research questions to explore in the future.

- Sarah Quek, University of South Carolina

***Exploration And Discovery Of Dance Elements In Franz Schubert's Piano Sonatas***

**O'Donnell Recital Hall**

This presentation intends to bridge the gap between contemporaneous late-18th and early-19th century social dances and Schubert's piano works, particularly his sonatas. The hope is that it will also provide inspiration, practical interpretative value, and a stimulating perspective on the sometimes, elusive sonatas of Franz Schubert.

■ Jim Nga, Texas Tech University

***Tobias Matthay Method For Young Beginners? You Must Be Kidding!***  
**Room 2020**

This session will discuss and provide examples of practical and easy-to-understand ways of presenting Matthay's tenets regarding the treatment of the physical mechanism for musical gain. The application of each principle will be exemplified using video clips from lessons with the presenter's beginner piano students. Discussions will include the necessity of a free-falling arm; prevention of tension; three species of touch; varieties of "finger-attitude"; difference between "tone-making" and "tone-sustaining"; necessity of forearm rotation; and varieties of "resting" at the keyboard for different articulations.

■ Julia Masters, University of Texas

**5:05-5:35 P.M.**

***Listen Up!***

Listen Up! is a creative classical music outreach and engagement initiative that is part of Project Inspirare, the Ohio University Collegiate Chapter's set of ongoing outreach initiatives. Like the other Project Inspirare initiatives, Listen Up! is focused on providing door-opening classical music experiences targeting populations who normally wouldn't or couldn't engage with classical music.

■ Ohio University

**5:35 P.M.**

***Dinner On Your Own***

**7:30-8:30 P.M.**

***Ergonomically Scaled Piano Keyboards***  
**Caruth Auditorium**

# Sunday, January 18, 2015

**9:00–9:30 A.M.**

## ***MTNA And The College Student***

MTNA leaders want to hear from you—the future of MTNA—about the issues and trends you believe will affect you the most over the next few years. This is an opportunity to offer your insight and tell MTNA how to become an indispensable resource for today's young professionals.

- Kenneth J. Christensen, NCTM, MTNA President; Gary L. Ingle, MTNA Executive Director & CEO; Suzanne Torkelson, NCTM, MTNA West Central Division Director/Collegiate Chapters Forum Chair

**9:35–10:05 A.M.**

## ***Piano Lessons: How To Get Parents/Guardians On Your Side***

To be successful in piano lessons, the teacher, student and parent(s)/guardian(s) must all work together to create a whole. Parents' roles regarding piano lessons for their children are integral to their success. Balancing personalities and standards for parents should be done tactfully and with ease. If you have ever wondered how auspicious teachers communicate with parents this session is for you! Ideas learned from this session can be applied immediately in private and group studios.

- University of Utah

**10:10–10:40 A.M.**

## ***Music And Meditation: Mindful Approach For Music Teachers***

This session will provide a brief historical overview of meditation and explanation of the different types of meditation. Strategies for using meditation on a daily basis will be included for music teachers. This presentation will also include abbreviated tips for music teachers to include in their teaching studio to help their students explore and try out meditation.

- Central Michigan University

**10:40–11:00 A.M.**

## **Break**

**11:00 A.M.–12:15 P.M.**

## ***Faculty Advisor Teaching Demonstrations***

- Lesley McAllister, NCTM, Baylor University; William Mullins, Chadron State College; Stephen Pierce, University of Southern California

**12:15–1:15 P.M.**

## **Lunch On Your Own**

**1:00–2:00 P.M.**

**POSTER SESSIONS**

***Applying Lessons Off The Bench***

- Katherine Chandler, University of South Carolina

***Fusing Multimedia And Electroacoustic Elements***

- Brendan Jacklin, University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music

***Bloom's Taxonomy: Five Steps To Teaching Excellence***

- University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music: Hye Suh, Sophie Wang

***Chopin Editions***

- University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music

***Hearing***

- Chadron State College

***The Hymnal: A Divine Method***

- Western Kentucky University

***Improvisation As An Aid To Help With Sight-Reading Skills At The Keyboard***

- Namji Kim, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

***Outline Of Chapter Activities***

- Texas Christian University

***Outline Of Chapter Activities***

- University of Utah

***Silver Linings: Engaging Injured Students***

- Sarah Welch, Ohio University

***Successful Teaching With The Suzuki Piano Method***

- University of Oklahoma: Anna Halperin, Thomas White

***Transposing Creatively From The First Lesson: As Easy As 1, 2, 3, Do, Re, Mi***

- Lindsay Vickers, University of South Carolina

**2:00–2:30 P.M.**

***Reflecting What's Right In Your Playing: Mirroring Techniques For Left-Hand Development***

This presentation addresses mirroring the motions of the right hand in the left. This session will present a survey of the relevant research, ranging from neurological studies in athletics to analysis of mirroring in beginning piano methods, summarizing the major developments and drawing out the common threads. The presentation will highlight technical exercises and etudes designed to incorporate mirroring while offering demonstrations of mirroring in action.

■ Michael Clark, University of Houston

**2:35–3:05 P.M.**

***Effectively Utilizing Technology In Lessons***

Electronic devices have permeated society to the point that some children cannot focus when participating in activities that do not involve electronics. This behavior makes it difficult for some students to concentrate on their lessons and retain the information they are being taught. This lecture is designed to show piano teachers how to implement technology into lessons if needed to effectively augment lessons without letting it become the primary focus.

■ University of Alabama-Huntsville

**3:05–3:25 P.M.**

**Break**

**3:25–3:55 P.M.**

**SPLIT SESSION**

***Musically Motivated Mobility: Improvisation As An Approach To Build Young Beginner Technique***

**Choral Rehearsal Hall**

This session will examine the case of an early-elementary student with technical difficulties in the realm of finger independence and interdependence. Three approaches are explored and accompanied by video of the case study subject. Based on the experience of this student and the research on improvisation, it may be advantageous for piano teachers to incorporate basic improvisation into all lessons as a means to build technical development, especially with younger beginning students.

■ Kristen Landrum, Southern Methodist University

***The Well-Nourished Musician: You Play How You Eat***

**O'Donnell Recital Hall**

This session will examine which nutritional practices enhance a musical life and which ones detract from it. Drawing from the latest research on nutrition for musicians, the presenter will show how most recent studies support his own nutritional practices. The goal is to not only provide practical applications of nutrition to musicians, but to inspire music teachers and performers to become more aware of the profound effect nutrition has on their musical lives.

■ Evan Englestad, University of Wisconsin-Madison

### ***Teaching Students To Engage Audiences***

#### **Room 2020**

By teaching our students to prepare brief introductions to their pieces, we teach them valuable organizational and public speaking skills. The act of doing so also further connects each student with a piece of music, encouraging research and analysis and reinforcing what is special about a particular piece to each student. We then help to create not only great performers, but cultural ambassadors who are able to speak enthusiastically and effectively to others about their art.

- Sam Grodin, University of Southern California

**4:05–4:25 P.M.**

#### **LIGHTNING SESSION**

### ***How To Start Your Performing Career RIGHT NOW***

- Melanie Hawkins, University of Idaho

### ***Adapting Your Piano Studio***

- Andrew Maurer, University of Idaho

### ***How To Make Your Studio Website More Dynamic***

- Butler University

**4:30–5:00 P.M.**

### ***Collaborative Learning From The Start: Coaching Beginning And Intermediate Level Ensembles***

This session will explore chamber music repertoire and coaching techniques for beginning and intermediate level students. Points will include age-appropriate repertoire, teaching approaches in rehearsals, and the benefits of early collaborative playing.

- University of South Carolina

**5:00–5:30 P.M.**

### ***The Cliburn, Moving Forward***

- Jacques Marquis, president and CEO, Van Cliburn Foundation.

**5:30–6:30 P.M.**

### **Dinner (provided)**

#### **Taubman Atrium**

*Clavier Companion* Giveaway

**6:30 P.M.**

### **Closing Remarks**

# Teaching Demonstrations

**SATURDAY, 11:00 A.M.–12:15 P.M.**

## **Teachers**

Erin Bennett, NCTM, University of North Florida  
Courtney Crappell, NCTM, University of Houston  
Scott Donald, NCTM, University of Texas-San Antonio

Sonatina in C Major, Op. 36, No. 1  
I. Allegro

Muzio Clementi

Kaylan Zhang  
Southern Methodist University  
Erin Bennett, NCTM, University of North Florida

Sonatina in C Major, Op. 13, No. 1  
I. Allegro assai e lusingando

Dmitri Kabalevsky

An Tran  
Southern Methodist University  
Courtney Crappell, NCTM, University of Houston

## **SUZUKI**

Nocturne, Op. 54, No. 4

Edvard Grieg

Jack Dabagia  
Suzuki Music Institute of Dallas  
Scott Donald, NCTM, University of Texas at San Antonio

# Teaching Demonstrations

SUNDAY, 1:45–3:00 P.M.

## Teachers

Lesley McAllister, NCTM, Baylor University  
William Mullins, Chadron State College  
Stephen Pierce, University of Southern California

Danzas Argentinas, Op. 2, No. 2  
“Danza de la moza donosa”

Alberto Ginastera

Oona Clay  
Southern Methodist University  
Lesley McAllister, NCTM, Baylor University

*Desperate Measures*

Robert Muczynski

Alexis Ren  
Southern Methodist University  
William Mullins, Chadron State College

Concerto No. 1 in C Major, Op. 15  
I. Rondo. Allegro scherzando

Ludwig Van Beethoven

Vatsal Vemuri  
Suzuki Music Institute of Dallas  
Stephen Pierce, University of Southern California

**MTNA  
Thanks The  
Students, Faculty And Staff  
Of  
Southern Methodist University  
For  
Hosting The  
MTNA Collegiate  
Piano Pedagogy Symposium**

**Special Thanks To  
Ryan Greene, SMU Alumnus  
For Chairing The Event**

# Restaurants

## ON-CAMPUS RESTAURANTS

Hughes-Trigg Student Center: Subway, Chick-fil-A, Pizza Hut Express, Starbucks

Cox School of Business: Einstein Brothers Bagels

## OFF-CAMPUS RESTAURANTS

Front Room: 6101 Hillcrest Ave., Dallas, TX 75205

Digg's Taco Shop: 6309 Hillcrest Ave., Dallas, TX 75205

Olivella's: Hillcrest Village, 3406 McFarlin Blvd., Dallas, TX 75205

Goff's Hamburgers: Hillcrest Village, 6401 Hillcrest Ave., Dallas, TX 75025

Jimmy John's: 6411 Hillcrest Ave., Dallas, TX 75205

Chick-fil-A: Hillcrest Village, 6423 Hillcrest Ave., Dallas, TX 75205

Sushi Kyoto: Hillcrest Village, 6429 Hillcrest Ave., Dallas, TX 75205

Peggy Sue's BBQ: 6600 Snider Plaza, Dallas, TX 75204

La Madeleine: 3072 Mockingbird Ln., Dallas, TX 75205

# Save The Date

## **Piano Pedagogy Symposium** MTNA Collegiate Chapters **University of South Carolina**

January 15-16, 2016

