

ARKANSAS STATE MUSIC TEACHER

APRIL 2008



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I have recently returned from the national conference in Denver, and as I reflect on all that happened there, I realize how important it is that all of us, as teachers, make it a priority to attend these gatherings. So much goes on that it is nearly impossible to *not* find something that interests you. From informative sessions and clinics to student performances in competitions and everything in between—master classes, publisher's showcases, exhibit booths, concerts, premieres of new compositions, new pedagogical research by students from some of the top music and pedagogy programs in the country, meetings for association leaders—you often wish you could be in two places at once.

You may remember from last fall's Leadership Summit report that MTNA is focusing on collaboration and partnerships this year. That was certainly the theme from the conference's opening session—"Two's Company!"—a collaborative piano recital featuring Anne Epperson and several friends and colleagues. The partnerships continued in the remarkable performance of *Stäudlin As Vogl: Preamble to a Winter Journey* by the MTNA-Shepherd Distinguished Composer of the Year, John McDonald (piano—Tufts University) and his colleague, Philipp Stäudlin (alto saxophone). The performance inspired me to attend the composer commissioning open meeting with dreams of Arkansas once again participating in the commissioning of a new work.

I attended an energetic session on teaching improvisation by Bradley Sowash, an IMT from Ohio. His ideas were quite good, and I encourage you to read his article in the December/January issue of AMT if you haven't already. Other sessions I attended included a review of intermediate piano concertos, a review of pre-college chamber music for piano and strings, and applying research findings to the teaching of sight reading. These were, of course, topics that interested me, but there was a wealth of other sessions to choose as well.

The South Central Division meeting was very informative. Ruth Pitts, our division director, announced that the national composition competitions are now sponsored and include several very nice incentives for national winners. Also, the MTNA Foundation Program is offering Enrichment Grants from \$2000-\$5000. Finally, the MTNA Discussion Boards are now open on the MTNA website (mtna.org), so if you haven't checked out the new design of the site, log on and find out what members of the association are talking about.

Congratulations to Luke Hubbard and Zach Gingerich for placing in the competitions. Luke placed 2nd in the Young Artist String category and is a violin student of Er-Gene Kahng at UA-Fayetteville. Zach placed 2nd in the Senior Brass category and is a trombone student of Todd Johnson.

Of course, the true highlight of the conference was the Foundation Fund Gala in which two of our association members, Peggy Lewis and J.D. Kelly, were honored as Foundation Fellows for their dedication, service, and accomplishments as musicians and teachers. And it was a joy to have so many from Arkansas in attendance to share the receipt of this honor with them—Sharon Ard, Alline Fulton, Betty Sutton, and myself. We really had a great time. They were also able to stick around for the recital by Lang Lang on Tuesday night. Unfortunately, I had to return home on Tuesday to get back to teaching. So if you're interested in all the details from the recital, you'll have to corner one of them.

I know that a national conference often seems far removed from what we do day-to-day in our own studios. But I really do encourage everyone to attend one in the near future. Next year, the gathering will be in Atlanta and the year after that, Albuquerque. Even if you can't make it to either of these, I look forward to seeing you at the state conference in Russellville in June. Please refer to all the information about it in this newsletter and register in advance. I know we'll all have a great time!

Tim Smith
ASMTA President

TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

If you know of an outstanding college or independent teacher who is a member of ASMTA and has made significant contributions to the organization and to the music teaching profession, we invite you to submit nominations for the 2008 Teacher of the Year Award. Remember that we are only giving one award annually now. The recipient of this award will be recognized at the state convention this year at Arkansas Tech University in Russellville. Nominations must be received by May 20 in order to be considered. When sending nominations, be sure to include supporting material indicating why the person being nominated should receive this award. Nominations sent last year will be considered again this year. You do not need to re-submit those again unless you have additional/current supporting material to send.

This will be the 31st year we have presented this award, so we hope to have an unusually large group of nominations to consider after the May 20 deadline.

Dr. Ouida Keck,
Chair, Teacher of the Year Award

MTNA FOUNDATION FELLOWS

Peggy Lewis and J.D. Kelly received the MTNA Foundation Fellow Award at the MTNA national conference. They submitted the following acknowledgement to the members of ASMTA for helping to make this commendation possible.

“Receiving the MTNA Foundation Fellow Award in Denver on March 30 at the MTNA Foundation Gala was a truly exciting and memorable moment. It would not have been possible without the support of so many of you in ASMTA---thanks to all who made donations to the MTNA Foundation Fund. To be honored and supported by ones peers is both joyous and humbling and we are very, very grateful for this distinct honor. Thanks to Sharon Ard for spearheading this project.”

Peggy Lewis and J.D. Kelley



MTNA MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

It's time to renew your MTNA membership for the 2008-09 year. Time flies! The easiest and fastest way to renew is to log on to the MTNA web site and renew via credit card: Go to this link to renew online: <http://www.mtna.org/Membership/RenewMembership/tabid/237/Default.aspx>

Please remember to update your mailing address, your telephone number, and most importantly, your email address whether you renew online or by mail. It saves ASMTA money when we can contact you via email rather than paying postage to mail hard copy materials. But we get your contact information from the national MTNA office, so it's essential that you provide your updated contact information to MTNA when you renew your membership. Thanks for your help.

SURVEY OF ARKANSAS PIANO TEACHERS!

Dr. Linda Holzer, associate professor of piano at UALR, has recently launched a new survey of business and professional practices of Arkansas Piano Teachers. You should have received an email from her on April 19 sharing the link at which to complete the online survey. This survey is a follow-up to her 1998 survey on the same topic.

Please log on to the survey web site and complete the survey. The survey is designed to be completed quickly; estimates are that it takes a teacher fifteen minutes or less to answer all thirty-seven questions. As an anonymous survey, it does not identify any teacher personally. This enables us to talk about issues such as lesson fees with candor. The survey results will be tabulated and published so that all participants can learn from one another about the range of practices that are current in our state.

Questions? Contact Linda at <<mailto:LRHolzer@ualr.edu>>LRHolzer@ualr.edu

INDEPENDENT MUSIC TEACHERS FORUM

Our IMTF breakfast at the 2007 ASMTA Conference was very well attended and very well received. So you can look forward to another IMTF breakfast at the 2008 ASMTA Conference. Please see the Conference schedule for time and location.

Last year I led a panel discussion on Studio Policies. Once again this will be our subject. But this year I would ask that you all bring a copy of your policies. I will ask procedural and topical questions for you to consider. Then I will ask some of you to answer. As we will only have one hour, do not be surprised if I have to cut you off and go on to another question. It would be great if you could bring several copies of your policies and share them with us.

The following are things we all would like to know about your Studio Policies –

1. Do you send the policies by mail, email, or deliver in person?
2. How do you ensure that your parents read the policies?
3. How do you handle missed lessons financially?
4. How do you charge for lessons? If you care to tell what you charge, by all means please do so.
5. Do you have any additional fees? What are they and how often are they charged?
6. Do you offer any discounts or scholarships?

I look forward to seeing you at the Conference and at the IMTF Breakfast.

Linda M. Calhoun

NEWLY CERTIFIED

Dustin Summey from Russelville received NCTM status in January. Mr. Summey is a former student of ASMTA president Timothy Smith.

KEITH SNELL LAUNCHES WEBSITE

We are pleased to announce the new official web site for piano pedagogue Keith Snell:

www.keithsnellpianist.com

Keith Snell and Topaz Productions Web Development

LOCAL ASSOCIATION NEWS

The Delta Music Teachers Association sponsored a concert on February 2 at ASU, in honor of J.D. Kelly's nomination as an MTNA Foundation Fellow. Students and faculty members played, and donations were collected for the MTNA Foundation Fund in Dr. Kelly's name. The performances were very fine, and we were glad to honor Dr. Kelly in this way. Next year's plans include a Sonatina/Sonata Festival in the fall, and another Ensemble Concert in the Spring.

Lauren Shack-Clark

ASMTA MEMBER RELEASING CD AND PUBLISHING BOOK

Lauren Schack Clark recently released a CD entitled "Piano Music by Rosey Mei-Kuei Lee." It is available on the Centaur Record label, <http://www.centaurerecords.com/>.

Also, her book *Keyboard Theory and Piano Technique* will soon be published by Longbow Publishing, <http://www.longbow.ca/>. This is a text for Keyboard Skills classes for non-keyboard music majors, but also may be used by other piano students. She appreciates the proofreading help of ASMTA member Pamela Pike and former member Jeri-Mae Astolfi.

MCALLISTERS ENDOW PIANO PROFESSORSHIP

J.W. and Emily McAllister have endowed the Emily J. McAllister Endowed Professorship in Piano in the J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, with a \$500,000 gift. Emily McAllister is a former music student at the University of Arkansas and is a third generation church musician.

Jura Margulis has been named the inaugural holder of the position. Born in St. Petersburg, Russia, Jura Margulis was raised in Germany, where he studied with his father, Vitaly Margulis, at the Musikhochschule in Freiburg. He was also a student at the prestigious Fondazione per il Pianoforte in Cadenabbia at Lake Como in Italy before moving to Baltimore, Md., to study with Leon Fleischer at the Peabody Conservatory.

The endowment seeks to build a student-centered and nationally competitive piano performance program offering students a broad education preparing them for a professional future in the field of music.

Arkansas State Music Teachers Association
87th Conference
June 6-7, 2008

Arkansas Tech University and Lake Point Conference Center
Russellville, Arkansas

Conference Program

Friday, June 6

(all activities Friday take place at the Lake Point Conference Center except as indicated below)

- 9:00 a.m. **Registration** in Lobby of Lake Point Conference Center (see Lodging Information Section for directions)
- 9:30 **Opening Session**, President Tim Smith
- 9:45 *What Do We Do with the Pressured Child?* – Barbara Kreader
- 10:45 Break
- 11:00 **A tempo Software**, a premiere administrative tool for Performing Arts studios demonstration - Dennis McEntire, President
- 12:00 noon Lunch, ASMTA Board Meeting
- 2:00 p.m. *Letters to a Young Teacher: The Joys, Challenges, and Rewards of Teaching Music* – Barbara Kreader
- 3:00 Break
- 3:15 *Partnering with Parents* – Mark Smidt and Brenda Parker
- 6:00 **Conference Banquet** (Lake Point Conference Center (see registration form to order selection)
- 8:00 **Guest Artist Recital**, Jeongwon Ham (Witherspoon Auditorium in Witherspoon Hall, Arkansas Tech University campus)

Saturday, June 7

- 7:00 a.m. **Independent Music Teachers Forum** (Hickory Lodge at Lake Point Conference Center)
- 8:00 Checkout and transport to ATU campus
- 9:00 **Hal Leonard Music Showcase “Reaching the 21st-Century Student”** – Barbara Kreader (Witherspoon Hall on ATU campus)
- 10:00 **Auditions** for Honors Recital and Master Class (Witherspoon Hall, ATU campus)
- 12:00 noon Lunch (on your own)
- 2:00 p.m. **General Session of ASMTA**: Tim Smith presiding (Witherspoon Hall, ATU campus)
Followed by **Honors Recital and Master Class**

Arkansas State Music Teachers Association 87th Conference

Guest Biographies

Dr. Jeongwon Ham



Pianist Jeongwon Ham has won numerous piano competitions, including the Bartók/Kabalevsky International Piano Competition, Epinal International Piano Competition, Paul Hindemith Piano Competition, Artur Schnabel Piano Competition, and the Simone Belsky Piano Competition. The *New York Concert Review* referred to her recital in Merkin Hall as “an admirable piano recital.” The German newspaper *Frankfurter Rundschau* has written, “Jeongwon Ham possessed astonishing and effortless technique. She plays not only with incredible warmth, but also with great power.”

Ham gave her New York City debut recital at the Merkin Concert Hall and has performed in many European countries, Asia, and the United States. In 2002 she was invited to give solo recitals and master classes in Korea, France, and Germany. She was re-invited to give recitals in Germany and Korea. In 2005, she was invited as the artist in residence at the Renmin University of China and gave a recital, master classes, and a workshop. In the same year, she also gave several recitals, workshops, and master classes in Germany and Korea. In 2007, her major performances include two recitals in Bochum and Meissen in Germany and a chamber recital at the International Double Reed Society in Ithaca, New York. Her upcoming engagements include performance trips to Beijing (May 2008) and to Europe (2009). Ham also has been a featured pianist at international and national conferences and festivals including the Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities, Festival Internationale Incontri Musicali di Sorrento in Italy, and the Western Horn Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

As a solo pianist, Ham has performed with several significant orchestras including Symphony Orchestra of the Hochschule der Künste (Berlin, Germany), Philharmonie de Lorraine (Epinal, France), Das Symphonie Orchestra Berlin (Berlin, Germany), and Orchestra of University Essen (Essen, Germany). In the United States, she performed with Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra, North Arkansas Symphony, OU Wind Symphony, Oklahoma Youth Orchestra, University of Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra, and Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony Orchestra.

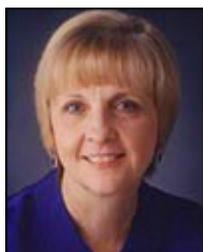
Ham has been an adjudicator at many international and national piano competitions including the Bartók/Kabalevsky/Prokofiev International Piano Competition, Sonatina and Sonata International Youth Piano Competition, Starr Young Artist National Piano Competition, and Donna Turner Smith Piano Competition. She is also frequently invited to judge numerous Music Teachers National Association regional, divisional, and state piano competitions.

Jeongwon Ham obtained piano performance degrees from the United States and Germany. She graduated with distinctions from the Folkwang Hochschule für Musik in Essen (*Reifepriüfung, studied with Professor Ludger Maxsein*) and the Hochschule der Künste (*Konzertexamen, studied with Professors Klaus Hellwig and Hans Leygraf*), in Berlin Germany. In the US, she received her Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Kansas (*studied with Professor Sequeira Costa*).

Ham received several grants including prestigious Junior Faculty Research Program and twice nominated for the Regent's Award for Research and Creative Activities at the University of Oklahoma. At the University of Northern Iowa, Ham received several research grants including a Probationary Faculty Development Grant in addition to nominations for the Teaching Award.

Jeongwon Ham had teaching positions in Germany and the US. In Germany, Ham taught at the Hochschule für Musik Hans-Eisler and Carl Phillip Emmanuel Bach Arts School in Berlin, and the University of Duisburg. In the US, she has been a faculty member of the University of Arkansas and the University of Northern Iowa. Currently, Ham is Associate Professor of Piano at the University of Oklahoma.

Barbara Kreader



Barbara Kreader is a Keyboard Consultant for Educational Keyboard Publications to the Hal Leonard Corporation in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Kreader has taught piano continuously for nearly 35 years. A faculty member of Northwestern University's Division of Preparatory and Community Music from 1974-1985, she also maintained an independent studio at her home in Evanston, Illinois where she continues to teach 45 students.

As a child and young adult, Ms. Kreader studied piano with Beth Miller Harrod, attending Rocky Ridge Music Center in Estes Park, Colorado for several summers. More recently, she was the Program Director of the Junior Student Seminars at Rocky Ridge.

A graduate of Northwestern University, Kreader earned a M.M. in piano performance in 1974 studying piano with Laurence Davis and piano pedagogy with Frances Larimer.

The editor of *Clavier* magazine from 1982-1988, Kreader has published articles in *Clavier*, *The Piano Quarterly*, and *Keyboard Companion*.

Kreader served as moderator for the Baldwin/*Clavier* Keyboard Teacher's Videoconferences presented in 1986, 1987, and 1988. From 1988-1989 she instituted a Baldwin sponsored program of piano lessons and supervised practice in the after-school child care programs in the Evanston District 65 schools. She also served as the Editor of Baldwin Piano and Organ Company's *Soundboard* publication during this time. She joined Hal Leonard in November 1989.

One of the co-authors of the *Hal Leonard Student Piano Library*, Barbara Kreader has given workshops in over 130 cities in the United States, Canada, Australia, China, Taiwan, and Malaysia.

Mark Smidt and Brenda Parker

Mark Smidt and Brenda Parker both teach private lessons and group classes at the Suzuki Music School of Arkansas where Mr. Smidt also serves as director. The Suzuki Music School of Arkansas is an affiliated program of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

Brenda Parker studied piano with Reginald Gerig at Wheaton College and with Frances Renzi at the University of Toledo. Mark Smidt is a graduate of John Brown University and the University of Arkansas. Both have had extensive training in the Suzuki Method.

Their session, "Partnering With Parents", offers an outline for developing relationships between parent, teacher, and student. Building a partnership with parents in a student's musical education has the potential to maximize the effectiveness of teaching as well as strengthen family relationships.

JEONGWON HAM, PIANO

June 6, 2008

8:00 p.m.

Arkansas Tech University

Sonata in B flat Major Hob. XVI:41
I. Allegro
II. Allegro di molto

J. Haydn
(1732-1809)

Preludes
II. Allegretto tranquillo
VIII. Vivace

F. Martin
(1890-1974)

Sonata No.3 Op.46
I. Allegro con moto
II. Andante cantabile
III. Allegro giocoso

D. Kabalevsky
(1904-1987)

Intermission

Four Ballades
1. G minor Op.23
2. F Major Op.38
3. A-Flat Major Op.47
4. F minor Op.52

F. Chopin
(1810-1849)

The logo for Lake Point Conference Center, featuring the words "Lake Point" in a blue, cursive script font, with a blue underline that curves under the text.

CONFERENCE CENTER
at Arkansas Tech University

The Lake Point Conference Center is just minutes away from the Arkansas Tech University campus, all of Russellville and just one mile from I-40. Take Exit 78 from I-40.

If coming from the west, turn right onto Hwy 64 West toward London.

If coming from the east, turn left crossing over I-40 and follow the road to Hwy 64 West.

Turn right toward London. Proceed approximately one mile until you see a sign for Jct 333 and Arkansas Nuclear One. Turn left after the sign for Arkansas Nuclear One onto Hwy 333 and cross over the railroad track. You will see the Lake Point Conference Center sign and entrance immediately on the left.

Each lodge includes a large community area with amenities such as: big-screen TV, DVD/VCR player, movies, video games, pool table, piano, sofa, wired/wireless internet access, etc. Lodging rates are \$65 for single occupancy and \$75 for double occupancy. Rate includes a continental breakfast.

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***After May 22, individuals must make reservations directly with
the Lake Point Conference Center.***

Please contact the Lake Point Conference Center if you have further questions.

Phone: (479) 968-0318 or email LakePoint@atu.edu

2008 ASMTA Conference Pre-registration Form

~ *Must be received by May 22, 2008* ~

Name: _____

E-mail address: _____ Phone: _____

Independent teacher _____ Collegiate teacher _____

Registration (member) \$25.00 _____

Registration (non-member) \$30.00 _____

Lodging:

Single occupancy (\$70.85 including tax per night) _____
_____ Thursday, June 5 _____ Friday, June 6

Double occupancy (\$81.75 including tax per night) _____
_____ Thursday, June 5 _____ Friday, June 6

If sharing a room, please specify with whom: _____

Room Preference:

Double Rooms (2 full beds) _____

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Full Rooms (1 full bed) _____

Friday Board Luncheon \$11.50 _____

Lunch will be a Traditional Chef Salad with your choice of dressing

Friday Evening Banquet \$24.50 _____

Dinner Buffet will include choice of Chicken Alfredo or Scampi Tilapia, salad bar, vegetables, and dessert.

Pre-registration discount (-\$2.00 from registration fee) _____

(must be received by May 23, 2007)

Total \$ _____

Send form and check made payable to ASMTA to:

Dr. John Krebs, ASMTA Treasurer
2925 Candle Circle
Conway, AR 72034

Please note: Registration after May 22 will not guarantee rooms or meals.

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Arkansas Tech University
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(479) 968-0471

timothy.smith@atu.edu

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