



## HANS BOEPPLE

An acclaimed soloist with orchestra since his debut with the LA Philharmonic at age ten, **Hans Boepple** has collaborated with eminent conductors that include Zubin Mehta, Johnny Green, Minas Christian, and Dennis de Coteau. Mr. Boepple, a member of the Steinway International Artist Roster, is guest artist on series across the United States. Both National Public Radio and Voice of America have broadcast his live performances. With both a Bachelor and Master of Music and the honorary Performer's Certificate from Indiana University, where he studied with Sidney Foster, Mr. Boepple was a full-time member of the piano faculty at the Indiana University (1974-78). He has been Professor of Music at Santa Clara University since 1978. Mr. Boepple balances his demanding performance activities with those of a dedicated and successful teacher. His students have been awarded over 160 state, national, and international awards

### *Toward Advanced Playing*

- "How can students break through the intermediate level and progress toward advanced-level playing? What exactly are the attributes of advanced playing, and how do students achieve them?"



## JOHN MCCARTHY

**John McCarthy's** life in music includes that of pianist, distinguished pedagogue, arts administrator and educational consultant. As a performer, Mr. McCarthy has appeared with the San Francisco Symphony in Davies Symphony Hall and at the Ojai Festival with the San Francisco Contemporary Music Players. Mr. McCarthy's students have received numerous awards, including a Davidson Fellowship, and three students have been named Presidential Scholars in the Arts. In 2011, he was bestowed the title "Director Emeritus" by the San Francisco Conservatory of Music in a ceremony marking his retirement after sixteen years as director of Preparatory and Extension Divisions.

### *Barriers to Emotional Connection - Parenting, Teaching and Learning Styles*

- *This session will explore the confluence of forces that affects a student's ability to communicate authentic emotion in an artistic manner, especially the impact of parental and teacher involvement.*



## EDWARD FRANCIS

**Edward Francis** leads a versatile life in music as a performing artist, professor, author, administrator and arts advocate. He holds concurrent faculty positions at Pepperdine University, California State University-Northridge and Moorpark College. He is the coordinator of piano pedagogy at CSUN. His students have matriculated at the most prestigious music schools around the world, and have become laureates at regional, state, national and international competitions. He is the founder and chairman of the Thousand Oaks Philharmonic. He was presented the lifetime achievement award by CAPMT in 2015, the Presidential Scholar in the Arts Teacher Award in Washington, D.C. and the Encore Award for Excellence in the Arts from the City of Thousand Oaks. He has published several articles in the California Music Teacher magazine, has been a presenter at conferences for MTAC, CAPMT and MTNA.

### *Con Moto, Con Spirito, Concerto! Early Level Piano Concerti*

- *Emerging artists from our piano studios benefit greatly from ensemble work. Piano concerti represent much of the epitome of the piano repertoire. Finding earlier level piano concerto literature can be a challenge. However, there are many examples from the repertoire, past and present that are not only suitable but inspirational. Find out more at this session.*



FORREST KINNEY

**Forrest Kinney** has been a music educator for forty years. He has given hundreds of presentations for music educators throughout North America and Europe. He is the author of 23 books including the *Pattern Play* series on improvisation, the new *Create First!* series that introduces scales and chords through improvisation, and the *Chord Play* series on arranging. His book *Creativity—Beyond Compare* explores misconceptions about creativity. He is a pianist who regularly gives solo and collaborative concerts. He has played 24 times at Bill Gates' home. Forrest is a composer and arranger whose arrangements are in over 40 publications.

**Dr. Kevin Helppie** has been involved professionally in choral and vocal music for over 35 years. He has directed collegiate, church, and community choirs in five states. Kevin obtained a Doctor of Musical Arts Degree from the University of Washington and a Master of Music Degree from the Indiana University, and is now a Professor of Music at the Western Oregon University where he oversees the vocal program. A frequent solo vocal performer throughout the Northwest, Kevin is conversant in classical and jazz genres. He has been a recitalist and guest teacher in Finland, Latvia, and China. Kevin has co-composed and published two books of modern art songs.

#### *Four Arts Concert for Piano and Voice*

- *Prior to the mid 19th century, keyboardists performed their own compositions, arrangements, and improvisations, often with singers. Then they became interpreters of other's music. This piano/voice concert features all four of these musical arts.*

#### *Teaching Songwriting*

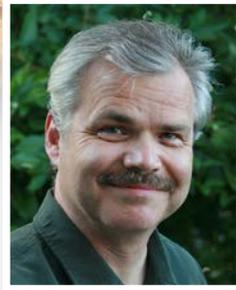
- *Many students wish to write their own songs (lyrics, melodies, and accompaniments). Piano and voice teachers can guide their students in a step-by-step fashion into the twin worlds of songwriting and accompanying.*

#### *Creators vs. Performers (Forrest Kinney)*

- *Painters copy the works of others to help them create their own images. Why do most musicians now only perform other's scores? When did music education become about performance and not creation? Can we have both?*

#### *Small Coaching Session (Forrest Kinney)*

- *"Drilling" can dull sensitivity and responsiveness. Mechanical activity is at odds with the higher purposes of art. Participants will learn ways to master the fundamental materials of music (scales, intervals, chords) in creative, enjoyable ways. (Separate pre-registration is required for this limited attendance session.)*



KEVIN HELPPIE



LORI BASTIEN

**Lori Bastien** began piano lessons with her mother at the age of four. She received her Bachelor of Music degree in piano performance from Rice University. Currently, Lori teaches both private and group lessons to students of all ages in her home studio. She enjoys composing fun, motivational music and has co-authored the series *Bastien Piano for Adults*, and *Bastien's Invitation to Music*, with her mother, Jane Smisor Bastien, and her sister, Lisa Bastien. Lori has recently begun a blog which can be found at [www.bastienpiano.blogs.com](http://www.bastienpiano.blogs.com). This site gives the reader an inside look into a private piano studio.

#### *Teaching Students How to Teach*

- *Lori will demonstrate how along with the students' learning of repertoire, technique, ear-training and music theory, they can also be taught the basics and joy of how to teach piano.*



## MICHELLE LIFSHITZ

**Michelle Lifshitz** began studying piano at age five in Manhattan. She started teaching piano in 1999 with the non-profit Music And The Brain founded by her mentor, Lisha Papert Lercari, which cemented her passion for teaching music and stimulated her interest in brain sciences. Weaving together music, neuroscience, linguistics, and psychology, Michelle earned a B.A. in Music and Cognitive Science from UC Berkeley. She resides in the Bay Area creating and teaching music, performing with CK Ladzekpo's West African Music and Dance Ensemble, making hip-hop beats, practicing yoga, and spending time with family and friends.

### *Cognitive Science and New Approaches in Teaching*

- *We know more about the human brain and mind now than ever before. What is Cognitive Science and how can it help us become more effective music teachers?*



## JUSTIN LEVITT

**Justin Levitt** is an award winning pianist and composer. Justin has published four volumes of solo piano music that include seven of his winning pieces in the MTAC, Composers Today State Composition contest. Justin has composed pieces for the Diablo Ballet and the Diablo Symphony. He has performed in small, intimate settings and world-famous concert halls including Carnegie Hall. Justin is President of the nationally recognized music organization Composer's, Inc. and is an active participant and supporter of the music community. His music is being played in homes, recitals, master classes, concerts, and competitions across the country.

### *New Music*

- *Justin Levitt will be presenting new contemporary pieces of all levels and genres from established publishers that are enjoyable and engaging for students and teachers. The corresponding CM levels will be included.*



## GAYLE KOWALCHYK

**Dr. Gayle Kowalchyk** is a member of the keyboard faculty at California State University, Northridge, where she teaches class piano, piano, and piano pedagogy. A graduate of Ohio University (BM), she received the Achievement in Music Award in 2003, presented by the Society of Alumni and Friends and the Ohio University School of Music. She also has degrees from Northwestern University (MM) and Teachers College, Columbia University (Ed.D.). Her passion for piano teaching and music education has inspired her to write educational piano materials for students of all ages. She is the co-author of over 275 publications for piano.

### *Technique for Life: Ten Technical Skills for Creating a Lifetime of Music Making*

- *Artistic piano performances depend upon good technique. This session explores ten basic technique "tools" that can be used at any level. From beginning pieces to standard repertoire, all students can play beautifully using these tools.*



## DENNIS ALEXANDER

**Dennis Alexander** began his affiliation with Alfred Music Publishing in 1986. Mr. Alexander's over 400 publications and recordings created with Alfred Music have earned him an international reputation as one of the world's most prolific and popular composers of educational piano music for students at all levels. Professor Alexander taught applied piano and piano pedagogy at the University of Montana, Missoula, California State Fullerton and California State Northridge. He currently lives in Albuquerque, NM. In August of 2015, he was awarded a "Lifetime Achievement Award" by the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy in recognition of his extraordinary service to the music teaching profession.

### *Breaking Barriers with Teenagers: Alternative Teaching Strategies To Help Motivate and Inspire*

- *This session will focus on ways to motivate, inspire, and keep those intermediate students practising instead of becoming another sad statistic in the ever growing pool of "I wish I hadn't quit taking piano lessons!"*



## CAROL MATZ

**Carol Matz** has composed, authored, and arranged over 300 published titles for piano students. Her latest work, the comprehensive *Interactive Piano Method*® combines the best of today's pedagogy with printed Lesson Books and corresponding online materials, theory games and activities, ear training, and more. An experienced piano teacher herself, Carol has presented numerous piano-teaching workshops throughout the United States, Canada, England, New Zealand, and Australia. She is well known for her *Famous & Fun* series (published by Alfred Music). Carol studied composition, arranging, and orchestration at the University of Miami, and has written for a variety of ensembles.

### *Teaching Composition to Young Students*

- *Teachers will learn tangible approaches to teaching early-level students how to compose. This includes having students create their own book of compositions, "advanced" compositional techniques made easy, plus strategies to guide students and spark creativity.*

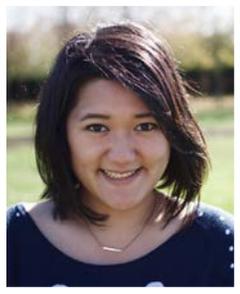


## BILL BECKER

**Bill Becker** is a long time member of MTAC and previous State Board Member. After a two-year hiatus from teaching in the late nineties, he started teaching again in January 2002. His studio grew to over fifty students in 2004, and has been averaging 70+ private students for the last several years. And it isn't just numbers. Bill can be counted on to enter about twenty-five students in CM each year, and consistently sends half a dozen students to Convention, as well as a couple to Branch Honors. Bill is a graduate of Cal State University Sacramento, with a BA in Music.

### *Breaking Barriers: Grow Your Studio Now!*

- *Identify and break down the barriers to growing your studio. Find out how and when to raise rates. Gain exposure for your studio in the right markets. Learn the secret to getting those referrals.*



ANNIE WANG



MAGGIE WANG

**Annie Wang** received her Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from the University of California, Irvine and her Master of Music in Piano Pedagogy from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. She has concertized in Asia, North America, and Europe, and has taught at University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Orange Coast College, and Illinois Summer Youth Music. She founded Sforzando Piano Studio in Irvine, specializing in early-childhood music education and teaching children with special needs.

**Maggie Wang** received her Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from the University of California, Irvine and her Master of Arts in Music Therapy from New York University. Her former piano teachers include Margery Burger and Nina Scolnik. She completed her music therapy internship at Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital of New York Presbyterian, specializing in medical pediatrics. She has also amassed experience working with special needs children at HeartShare Human Services of New York. As a board-certified music therapist, she uses music and evidence-based approaches to help her clients meet their developmental and socio-emotional goals and objectives.

#### *Fundamentals of Music Teaching for Students with Special Needs*

- *Music can be received, experienced, and learned for any student. Studies show that learning music can increase developmental stimulation, self-awareness, and engagement with the outside world. Using different methods and approach, music teaching can be adapted to make learning an instrument accessible to the special needs population.*



ANAT BANIEL



NEIL SHARP

**Anat Baniel**, founder of the Anat Baniel Method® NeuroMovement® (ABMNM), is author of best selling *Move Into Life* and *Kids Beyond Limits*. Anat was trained as a clinical psychologist, dancer, and was a close professional associate of Dr. Moshe Feldenkrais. Anat developed ABMNM, a powerful approach and practice that takes advantage of the brain's ability to change itself to heal body and mind over 30 years working with thousands of clients, from children with special needs to world class musicians such as Leon Fleisher, Byron Janis, Seiji Osawa, Tanglewood Music Center, and the San Francisco symphony.

**Neil Sharp** studied medicine at Cambridge University and Edinburgh University Medical School. He subsequently left medicine to pursue a career as a professional opera singer in the UK and Europe including performing at the Bayreuth and Salzburg festivals. He is also a violinist. He discovered the work of Anat Baniel ten years ago and immediately recognized its potential for the rehabilitation and prevention of injuries and the development of peak performance. He now lives in California and collaborates full time with Baniel. He works extensively with children with special needs but his practice also includes singers, pianists and string players.

#### *The Brilliant Learning Brain*

- *Research in neuroplasticity defined "rules" for positive brain change. ABMNeuroMovement® provides practical tools that potentiate positive brain change to help teachers and students achieve new levels of performance, including children with learning challenges and autism.*

#### *Small Coaching Session (Neil Sharp)*

- *NeuroMovement®: Experiential session for Teachers and Musicians*  
*In a valuable adjunct to Anat Baniel's lecture, participants will experience the positive brain change potentiated by ABMNeuroMovement®. This session will facilitate bringing these practical brain plasticity tools into practice. Teachers, instrumentalists and singers are all welcome. Piano(s) will be available for use and instrumentalists may bring their instruments.*  
*(Separate pre-registration is required for this limited attendance session.)*