

# Southern Utah Piano Pedagogy Conference

**Saturday, March 1, 2025**

**\$25 Registration Fee**

## Sessions

**9:00** Keynote Presentation: Building a Successful Foundation for Piano Study Right From the Start  
Yu-Jane Yang

**10:00** Teaching to Transform: Inspiring the Best in Your Students  
Nancy Alfred

**10:45** Effective Practicing: Transformative Practice Strategies to Develop Confident Musicians  
Yu-Jane Yang

**11:30** The Benefits of Playing (and Learning) With Others  
Panel Discussion with Caroleen Lee and Christian Bohnenstengel

**12:00** Jazz at Noon:  
Live Performances in Thorley

**1:00** Tiffany Barnes Watts

**2:00** Intermediate Level Masterclass  
Yu-Jane Yang

**3:00** Duet Derby  
Christian Bohnenstengel

**4:00** Recital: "Collaborations"

**7:30** Zion Trio Concert

## Featuring Guest Speaker:

Yu-Jane Yang



**SUU**  
SOUTHERN UTAH  
UNIVERSITY

**UT**  
UTAH TECH  
UNIVERSITY





# Southern Utah Piano Pedagogy Conference

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Saturday, March 1 @ Southern Utah University

<https://www.suu.edu/pva/music/pianopedagogyconference.html>

## Directors

Dr. Nancy Allred-Wright, Utah Tech University

Dr. Christian Bohnenstengel, Southern Utah University

## Special Thanks

Utah Tech University

Southern Utah University

Dr. Trevor Davis and the SUU Woodwind Day

# Schedule

## Morning

9:00	Yu-Jane Yang	<b>Keynote Presentation:</b> Building a Successful Foundation for Piano Study Right From the Start	206
10:00	Nancy Allred	Teaching to Transform: Inspiring the Best in Your Students	206
10:45	Yu-Jane Yang	Effective Practicing: Transformative Practice Strategies to Develop Confident Musicians	206
11:30	Caroleen Lee and Christian Bohnenstengel	The Benefits of Playing (and Learning) With Others	206
Noon	Lunch on your own Jazz Performances in Thorley Recital Hall		

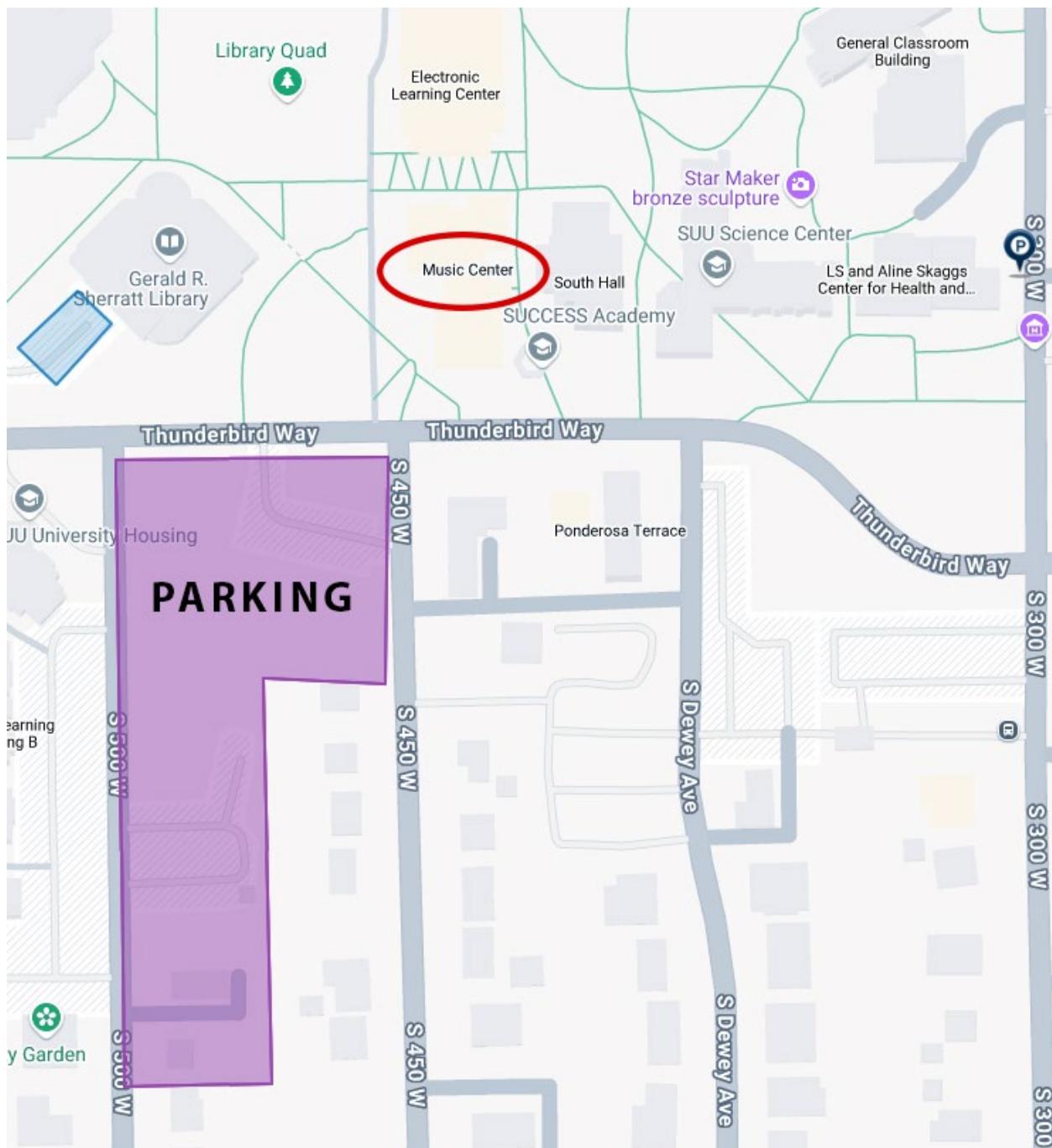
## Afternoon

1:00	Tiffany Barnes Watts	Assessing the Whole Student From Day 1 While Capturing Their Heart	206
2:00 – 3:40	Yu-Jane Yang	Intermediate Level Master Class	Thorley
3:00	Christian Bohnenstengel	Duet Derby	207
4:00	Panel	Accompanying and Accompaniment 101	Thorley

## Conference Recitals (Thorley Recital Hall)

**5pm**                    Collaborations

**7:30pm**                Zion Trio



**The Music Building is on the corner of S 450 W and Thunderbird Way.**

Free parking is available just across the street.

# Intermediate Level Master Class

Master Teacher: Dr. Yu-Jane Yang

## Program

*Valse Parisienne* ..... Glenda Austin (b. 1951)

Sariah Carter  
Studio of Elizabeth Partner

Allegro from Sonatina in C ..... Franz Joseph Haydn (1732–1809)

Kenna Carter  
Studio of Elizabeth Partner

*Blessed and Happy* ..... Corban J. Beutler

Corban J. Beutler  
Studio of Kelli Beatty

*Puck*, op. 71, no. 3 ..... Edvard Grieg (1843–1907)

Reagan Anderson  
Studio of Caroleen Lee

# Presenters



**Dr. Yu-Jane Yang** is a Brady Presidential Distinguished Professor and the Director of Keyboard Studies at Weber State University. Dr. Yang is the national recipient of the prestigious *Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) Teacher of the Year* award in 2020, inducted to the *Steinway Teacher Hall of Fame* in New York (2021), recognized with the *Steinway Top Teacher Award* (2022), and named an *MTNA Foundation Fellow* (2011). Furthermore, Dr. Yang received the esteemed 2023 *Utah Governor's Mansion Artist Award* presented by Governor Spencer Cox and First Lady Abby Cox in Sep, 2023.

Much in demand as a presenter, performer, and master class teacher, Yu-Jane has given numerous piano workshops, master classes, and concert performances in Austria, Poland, Norway, Spain, Italy, Germany, Singapore, China, Taiwan, the Philippines, Canada, and the United States. Dr. Yang was the featured 2022 MTNA National Conference masterclass teacher for the Intermediate Piano Master Class. Dr. Yang and Dr. Shi-Hwa Wang were the featured national conference concert artists performing as the Formosan Violin-Piano Duo at the jam-packed Opening Session Concert of the 2023 MTNA National Conference. She also appears frequently as an adjudicator for piano competitions nationally and internationally, including judging the MTNA Competition National Finals, MTNA Division Competitions, the California and Nevada state solo and concerto competitions, International Young Artist Piano Competition in Washington D.C., and the Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition preliminary auditions.

Dr. Yang's students have been top prizewinners in both collegiate and pre-college divisions in numerous state, national and international piano competitions, including the national first place winner of the 2010 MTNA Steinway Young Artist Collegiate Piano Competition and the 2020 Gilmore Young Artist Award national winner. Yu-Jane's students at Weber State University have received piano scholarships for graduate studies from world-renowned music schools such as the Juilliard School, Eastman School of Music, the University of Michigan, Peabody Institute, and the Cleveland Institute of Music.



**Dr. Nancy Allred** is Professor of Music and Director of Piano Studies at Utah Tech University. She developed Utah Tech's outstanding piano program and mentors a wonderful studio of piano majors. A gifted teacher, she loves the classroom as well as the private studio. Dr. Allred has designed courses in piano pedagogy, piano literature, piano ensemble, accompanying, group piano and private piano. She loves to mentor students through the wonderful process of learning and applying piano teaching skills. An accomplished soloist and chamber musician, Dr. Allred is a distinguished collaborator of vocal, choral, and instrumental music. She has collaborated with Ronald Staheli, Craig Jessop, Eph Ehly, Ariel Bybee, Robert Breault, George Dyer, Jordan Bluth, and Jenny Oaks Baker. She has performed in master classes for Richard Goode, Lorin Hollander, Leonard Pennario, and Dorothy Taubman.

In 2023, Dr. Allred was appointed as the artistic director for Lieto Voices. In that capacity, she plans and organizes rehearsals and concerts for each performance season. She is the former artistic director and accompanist for the Southern Utah Heritage Choir, with whom she collaborated for sixteen years throughout southern Utah, as well as Europe, the British Isles, China, and the United States. Previously, she was the accompanist for the BYU Singers and collaborated with the Southwest Symphonic Chorale for many years. She holds advanced degrees from Brigham Young University and the University of Missouri-Kansas City, studying piano with Paul Pollei, Robert Smith, and renowned professor Joanne Baker. Dr. Allred has performed concertos with the Southwest Symphony Orchestra, the Utah Tech Symphony Orchestra, the Tuacahn Youth Orchestra, the UMKC Conservatory Orchestra, and the BYU Philharmonic Orchestra. She has taught hundreds of piano students, many who have pursued music degrees at prestigious undergraduate and graduate music programs. She is frequently asked to give workshops and presentations at music educator conferences, sharing her knowledge and expertise with her fellow music educators. Dr. Allred looks forward to many wonderful years of creating beautiful music with the fantastic students at Utah Tech!



**Tiffany Barnes Watts** has two degrees in music and music education including a MA from Teachers College: Columbia University in New York City and a bachelor's degree in Piano Pedagogy from Utah State University and has been teaching piano for over 25 years. Currently, she plays in the *Red Rock Jazz Orchestra*, and also back up conductor for *Desert Strings Community Orchestra*.



Pianist **Christian Bohnenstengel** feels equally at home in a wide range of musical genres. He was recently featured as soloist in Saint-Saens's *Carnival of the Animals* with the Orchestra of Southern Utah, and in George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* at the NAMM Show in Anaheim, CA. Christian is a founding member of Southern Utah University's faculty jazz combo *Kind of Blue* and frequently performs with jazz ensembles and musicians throughout southern Utah. Praised as "a master of contrasts" (Aalener Nachrichten) and for his ability to "put the audience into a state of sheer awe" (Gmünder Tagespost), Christian's performances have taken him all over the United States, to South America, Asia, and to Europe.

Christian has performed on public radio, and he has presented at state, regional, national and international conferences. David DeBoer Canfield (*Fanfare Magazine*) remarked about his Albany Records album *Set No Limits* with clarinetist Dr. Jessica Lindsey that the "piano parts are superbly rendered by Christian Bohnenstengel, whose artistry also greatly impresses me." His latest recordings include *Jazz Hands II* with the Shawn Owens Project Trio and *Southern Utah Jazz Collective*.

Christian received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Missouri Western State University. He earned Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He has been Director of Keyboard Studies at Southern Utah University since 2011.



**Caroleen Lee** has a deep love of music and has taken a passionate role in extending this love to others. She has taught both piano and violin for nearly 50 years in venues that include her private studio and the public school--teaching orchestra at all levels, elementary through high school. She has also taught String Methods, Private Instruction, and String Ensemble at the collegiate level. Her students receive top ratings at competitions. Many of her students have majored/minored in music and are currently performing and teaching music (strings and piano). She has been a member of numerous chamber groups and orchestras including the Cedar City String Quintet and the Orchestra of Southern Utah —serving as assistant concert mistress and principal 2nd. On piano, Caroleen has accompanied innumerable choirs, groups, and individuals and has served as church organist and pianist much of her life. Caroleen loves to compose for choir, band, and orchestra. Her works have been performed in many secular and religious settings— locally and internationally. Two of her compositions placed in the Ensign Music Composition Competition. She served as president and vice president of the Music Teacher's Organization of Southern Utah where she helped write and implement leveled theory tests for students, planned and monitored monthly recitals to benefit community music teachers, and scheduled specialists for monthly teacher training.