

# Southern Utah Piano Pedagogy Conference

**SUU**  
SOUTHERN UTAH  
UNIVERSITY

**DSU**  
DIXIE STATE UNIVERSITY

APRIL 9, 2022  
@ SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY

## SESSIONS

### KEVIN OLSON

PRODUCTIVITY HACKS FOR PIANISTS: GETTING MORE DONE IN LESS TIME  
COMPOSITION WORKSHOP  
INTERMEDIATE LEVEL MASTER CLASS

### NANCY ALLRED

THE INTERMEDIATE STUDENT: REPERTOIRE, TECHNIQUE, THEORY  
DISCOVER AND PLAY INTERMEDIATE PIANO ENSEMBLE MUSIC

### CHRISTIAN BOHNENSTENGEL

DISCOVER AND PLAY EASY PIANO ENSEMBLE MUSIC

### PANEL DISCUSSIONS

CAREERS IN MUSIC  
UMTA/FEDERATION/RCM - WHAT DO THEY DO?

... AND MORE, INCLUDING A SESSION ON PIANO MAINTENANCE AND A CHANCE TO PLAY ON A  
HARPSICHORD AND A PIANO SIGNED BY RACHMANINOFF

CONFERENCE RECITAL: ZION TRIO @ 5:00 P.M.  
PAUL ABEGG (VIOLIN), KA-WAI YU (CELLO), CHRISTIAN BOHNENSTENGEL (PIANO)



KEVIN OLSON, FEATURED GUEST SPEAKER

FOR INFORMATION & REGISTRATION, VISIT [WWW.SUU.EDU/PVA/MUSIC/PIANOPEDAGOGYCONFERENCE.HTML](http://WWW.SUU.EDU/PVA/MUSIC/PIANOPEDAGOGYCONFERENCE.HTML)



# Southern Utah Piano Pedagogy Conference

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Saturday, April 9 @ Southern Utah University

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

## **Directors**

Dr. Nancy Allred, Dixie State University

Dr. Christian Bohnenstengel, Southern Utah University

## **Special Thanks**

Dixie State University

Southern Utah University

Utah Music Teachers Association

# Schedule

## Morning

9:00	Kevin Olson	Productivity Hacks for Pianists: Getting More Done in Less Time	206
9:45	Caroline Jennings	Understanding the Brain and Stress for a Studio of Self-driven Students	206
10:30	Nancy Allred	The Intermediate Student: Repertoire, Technique, Theory	206
11:15	Panel	Careers in Music – Nancy Allred (moderator), Christian Bohnenstengel, LuAnn Keate, Kevin Olson	206

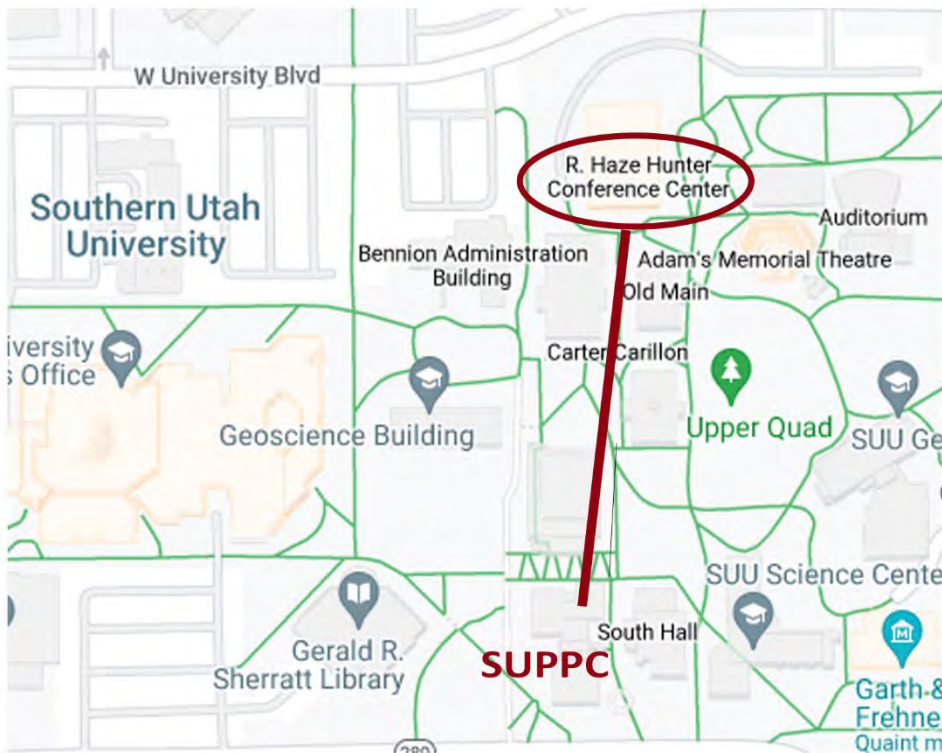
## Afternoon

1:00	Christian Bohnenstengel	Discover and play easy piano ensemble music	207
1:00	Kevin Olson	Composition Workshop	206
1:45	Nancy Allred	Discover and play intermediate piano ensemble music	207
1:45	Christian Bohnenstengel	Piano Maintenance	206
2:30	Panel	NFMC, RCM, MTNA, LPM – Sarah Bearson, Christian Bohnenstengel (moderator), Diane Decker, Patrice Hunt, Kathy Wells	206
3:15	Kevin Olson	Intermediate Level Master Class	Thorley

## 5 pm: Conference Recital

The Zion Trio performs works by Beethoven and Brahms (Thorley Recital Hall)

Music Center  
432 W 200 S  
Cedar City, UT 84720



The Rachmaninoff piano is on the upper level of the Hunter Conference Center, in the Whiting Room. The conference center is just two buildings to the north of the Music Center.



# Steinway S - Hunter Conference Center



Starting in the 1920's, tourists took the Union Pacific to the Cedar City Train Depot, where they could rent a car or board a bus to visit the area's parks (Bryce Canyon, Cedar Breaks, North Rim, Zion). Rachmaninoff was one of these tourists in 1938, and apparently he found this piano in his hotel on Main Street, where he played on it and signed it.

Signed by

## **Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)**

Rachmaninoff has long been considered one of the best classical pianists and composers. Born in Russia, Rachmaninoff emigrated to the United States in 1918.

## **Reid Nibley (1923-2008)**

Nibley taught at the University of Utah and Brigham Young University. He wrote the words and music to the Latter-day Saint hymn "I Know My Father Lives."

## **Crawford Gates (1921-2018)**

Gates taught at Brigham Young University and composed two hymns in the LDS hymn book: "Our Savior's Love" and "Ring Out, Wild Bells."

## **Leonard Pennario (1924-2008)**

Pennario was an American pianist and composer. He recorded over sixty LP's.

# Intermediate Level Master Class

Master Teacher: Dr. Kevin Olson

## Program

Fantasia in D Minor, K. 397 .....Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791)

Kathryn Garza  
Studio of Kelly Johanik

Spring Dance, op. 47, no. 6 .....Edvard Grieg (1843–1907)

Alyssa Holtum  
Studio of Caroleen Lee

“Reflets dans l’eau” from *Images* .....Claude Debussy (1862-1918)

Ben Carter  
Studio of Sarah Bearnson

Für Elise .....Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827)

Emma Gray  
Studio of Mary Anne Andersen

# Conference Recital: "Zion Trio"

## Program

Trio in C Major, op. 87 ..... Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)

- I. Allegro moderato
- II. Andante con moto
- III. Scherzo: Presto
- IV. Finale: Allegro giocoso

Trio in G Major, op. 1, no. 2 ..... Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827)

- I. Adagio—Allegro
- II. Largo con espressione
- III. Scherzo: Allegro
- IV. Finale: Presto

Dr. Paul Abegg, violin

Dr. Ka-Wai Yu, cello

Dr. Christian Bohnenstengel, piano

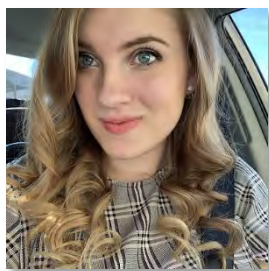


# Presenters



**Dr. Nancy Allred** is Professor of Music at Dixie State University and Associate Dean of the College of the Arts. As director of piano studies, she has spent several years developing Dixie's outstanding piano program. She loves working with university students and mentors a fabulous studio of piano majors at DSU. A gifted teacher, she loves the classroom as well as the private studio. Dr. Allred has developed courses in piano pedagogy, literature, ensemble, accompanying, group piano and private piano. An accomplished soloist and chamber musician, she is a distinguished collaborator of vocal, choral and instrumental music. She has collaborated with Craig Jessop, Ronald Staheli, Eph Ehly, Ariel Bybee, Robert Breault, George Dyer, Jordan Bluth, and Jenny Oaks Baker.

Dr. Allred 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. 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. She has performed in master classes for Richard Goode, Lorin Hollander, Leonard Pennario, Paul Sheftel, and Dorothy Taubman. She has performed concertos with the Southwest Symphony Orchestra, the Dixie State Symphony Orchestra, the Tuacahn Youth Orchestra, the UMKC Conservatory Orchestra, and the BYU Philharmonic Orchestra. Dr. Allred 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 Dixie State!



**Sarah Bearson** – I always knew that I wanted to become a professional Music Teacher. In fact, I can't imagine anything else in life that would bring me such reward or satisfaction. I've been teaching since 2012 and truly believe that anyone who puts in the time and effort to practice can succeed. I had my own music teaching business up in Calgary, Alberta, Canada back in 2017. Since then, I have moved down to Cedar City, Utah and have started my business in June of 2021.

I have my ARCT in piano performance and have been playing piano for 20 years. My passion began at 2 when my mother placed me on the piano bench and I started playing chopsticks. I graduated with my ARCT in piano performance when I was 16 years old. When I was 6, I started singing and performed as a soloist in many performances. At 12, I started playing guitar and ukulele. Since then, I have developed those skills and took the necessary courses to be able to teach those instruments. Aside from this, I have also recorded songs for TV shows and was able to have one of my songs displayed on Apple Music. My favorite curriculum (especially for piano) is the RCM program. This has helped me gain an associates

degree in piano performance which has aided me in performances and being able to help other pianists get their education in piano performance at a young age.

In my free-time, I enjoy taking my dog to the dog park, spending time with my husband watching tv shows, cooking and baking, and being outdoors when the weather is nice enough for camping.



Pianist **Christian Bohnenstengel** feels equally at home in a wide range of musical genres. He was recently featured as soloist in Richard Addinsell's *Warsaw Concerto* with the Southern Nevada Symphony Orchestra. 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 and to Europe. Christian has performed on public radio and presented at state, regional, national and international conferences. He recently released a CD recording with clarinetist Dr. Jessica Lindsey on Albany Records.

Christian received his Bachelor of Arts degree, summa cum laude, from Missouri Western State University. He received Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His primary teachers include Jerry Anderson and Mark Clinton, piano, and Quentin Faulkner, harpsichord and organ. Christian currently serves as Director of Keyboard Studies at Southern Utah University.



**Diane Decker** started taking piano lessons as a young girl from her mother until she graduated from high school. She continued taking lessons from Dr. Campbell off on and for the next 16 years. She has taught private piano lessons for approximately 40 years, teaching up to as many as 56 students per week. She and Lucinda Duncan took over as co-directors of the piano portion of the National Federation of Music Clubs from Sara Penney after the first year she introduced this festival to Cedar. She has been and continues to be either the director or a committee member of this organization ever since as she continues teaching piano.



**Patrice Hunt** has been a member of UMTA for the past 14 years and has served as St. George Chapter President. She has served in several positions on the UMTA State Board, and currently is the 2nd VP Competitions Chair, and is also the UMTA website co-chair. She is an independent music teacher with a studio in Santa Clara, Utah. She is married to Rod Hunt, and they have seven children and 13 grandchildren.



**Caroline Jennings** received her master and bachelor degrees in piano performance from the University of Utah. Ms. Jennings became a Permanent Professional National Certified Teacher of Music in 2020. She has enjoyed serving in UMTA as the president of the St. George chapter, a member of the State AIM Board, and as local AIM chapter chairman. She maintains an active private studio and is a part time professor at Dixie State University.



**LuAnn Keate** began teaching at 14 years old and has continued until now. She studied with Eva Dean Moody from early elementary school through high school. Eva Dean Moody was a student of Paul Pollei and specialized in Russian technique. While in high school she studied with Robert Smith at BYU and Donald Windham in Provo, Utah. LuAnn's teaching philosophy prioritizes reaching the student on a personal basis and respecting who they are. She also encourages the realization of the innate talent and skills of her students, which they aren't aware of – there is always more in them than they know! LuAnn maintains high expectations to always raise the bar in first technical skills, efficient practice, and learning to perform and shape a piece. All students are not the same and they do not process instruction in the same way, therefore every student receives a tailored mentoring process for their individual journey. Positive reinforcement in every learning situation is the foundation for students to be able to achieve their best self and more.



**Kathleen Vernon Wells** grew up loving music and plays piano, organ, and violin. Kathy graduated from Brigham Young University in 1989 with a BA in family living and a minor in organ. She also attended school later and completed a teacher licensure program in music education through the state of Colorado. Currently, Kathy is a Let's Play Music teacher in Cedar City, Utah, and has also taught piano privately for over 25 years. In addition to having a private studio, Kathy also teaches at Iron Springs Elementary as a Beverly Sorenson Taylor Arts Educator (BTS arts). Kathy feels very strongly about bringing music to all in one form or another and loves to see the joy and self confidence it inspires.

Kathy is married to Dr. Wells, a biologist at SUU, and together they have 4 children and 9 nine grandchildren. She enjoys spending time with family, reading, gardening and loves traveling. One of her favorite places to visit was Vienna, Austria.



**Kevin Olson** is an active pianist, composer, and member of the piano faculty at Utah State University, where he has taught courses in piano literature, pedagogy, accompanying, music theory, commercial composition, and rock & roll history, among others. In addition to his collegiate teaching responsibilities, Kevin coordinates the piano program at Utah State University, and oversees the Utah State University Youth Conservatory, which provides weekly group and private piano instruction to over 150 pre-college community students. The National Association of Schools of Music has recently recognized the Conservatory as a model for pre-college piano instruction programs. Before teaching

at Utah State, he was on the faculty at Elmhurst College near Chicago and Humboldt State University in northern California.

A native of Utah, Kevin began composing at age five. When he was twelve, his composition, *An American Trainride*, received the Overall First Prize at the 1983 National PTA Convention at Albuquerque, New Mexico. Since then he has been a Composer in Residence at the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy, and has written music commissioned and performed by groups such as the Five Browns, American Piano Quartet, Chicago a cappella, the Rich Matteson Jazz Festival, Music Teachers National Association, the Festival for Creative Pianists, the American Festival Chorus & Orchestra, and several piano teacher associations around the country. He gives workshops and performances nationally and internationally, most recently in India, China, Canada, and Great Britain.

Kevin maintains a large piano studio, teaching students of a variety of ages and abilities. Many of the needs of his own piano students have inspired hundreds of published books and solos, written in a variety of levels and styles. For more information, visit <https://www.kevinolsonmusic.com/>