

COLORADO
STATE
UNIVERSITY

DIRECTOR:

DR. BONNIE
JACOBI

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST

New CKI Faculty
Members

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Colorado Kodály Institute NEWSLETTER

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SPRING 2012

Meet the New Faces of this Summer's Institute



Tanya LeJeune

Ms. LeJeune will be joining us this summer as the new Level 1 Pedagogy instructor. Ms. LeJeune is in her seventeenth year of teaching general music in Jefferson County Public Schools in Westminster, Colorado. She holds a Master's of Music Education with Kodály emphasis degree from Colorado State University and is past president of ROCKE. Ms. LeJeune has presented music education workshops and in-services for OAKE, CMEA, Jefferson County Public Schools, Adams County 50, Adams County 14, AOSA Rocky Mountain Chapter, Broomfield Preschool, Colorado Christian College, and Metro State University. She currently serves as Member-at-Large on the board of the Organization of American Kodály Educators.

"As an alumni of the Kodály Institute at CSU, I am very excited to return to share Kodály's vision of "Music for Everyone." I can't wait to inspire teachers and share my enthusiasm for teaching children in a Kodály classroom." — Tanya LeJeune

Peggy Rosenkrantz

Mrs. Rosenkrantz has 35 years of teaching experience in elementary, junior high and college classrooms, with the majority of her time being in the Poudre School District. She earned a B.A. degree in music at Dakota Wesleyan University, a Master of Music degree at Colorado State University and has advanced work in school administration. Centennial Children's Chorus was founded by Rosenkrantz and she was their Artistic Director for 25 years. For 30 years, she was also the adult Choir Director at Christ United Methodist Church. She has been a clinician at CMEA, SDMEA and Colorado Kodály Institute, and a Colorado ROCKE workshop as well as being a guest conductor for: South Dakota All-State Elementary Honor Choir, Regional ACDA Children's Choir Festival (Cedar Rapids, Iowa), Poudre Junior High Honor Choir, Poudre Elementary Honor Choir and festivals in Colorado and Wyoming. In 2008, Rosenkrantz received the Peace Medallion Award from Arts Alive for outstanding work in furthering the arts in Fort Collins. In January of this year, Rosenkrantz was inducted into the CMEA Hall of Fame.



"It is my hope that the Institute choir will give you, the classroom teacher, another opportunity to enjoy your own quality music making experience." —Peggy Rosenkrantz

2nd Annual Student Recital



Why not showcase your musicianship skills when you join us this summer at the Institute? This summer we are inviting solo and small ensemble groups to perform in the student recital to be held in the Organ Recital Hall on Thursday, July 19.

Accompaniment will graciously be provided by Dr. Bonnie Jacobi.

If you would like to sign up, or have questions, please contact Chealsea Bernhardt (cviolab@gmail.com) for more details. Please submit selections by **May 31**.

“I don’t know what I would have done without it...”
-Ms Bender on her Kodály experience

Don’t forget...
Registration has begun for the 2012 session of the Colorado Kodály Institute

Martha Bender is a flautist who has recently completed all three levels of Kodály training and will graduate in May 2012 with her Master’s in Music Education with Kodály Emphasis from Colorado State University. She is current in her third year of teaching; her first took place in Denver, and she currently enjoys spending her time with the children of Riffenburgh Elementary in Fort Collins, Colo.



Since her completion of all three levels, Ms. Bender has seen both her approach to teaching and the students’ skills improve. She realizes she now has much more literature to utilize in her classroom, and her students are improving faster than before. Ms. Bender believes this improvement is due to being able to allow children to access the information in numerous ways. They begin to understand the concept inside and out.

Ms. Bender also appreciates the curriculum she has obtained through her CKI experience. She now is able to use the school’s curriculum as a supplement to her own Kodály knowledge. Most importantly, the children are finding joy through music and improving their musicianship. “They’re really matching pitch and listening to each other. It’s fixing problems they don’t even realize.”

To anyone contemplating the program, Ms. Bender highly encourages you to attend. “For anyone planning to teach elementary music, it is a must! You learn so many different activities to approach reading and writing music. Honestly, I don’t know what I would have done without it.”

First-ever Summer Dalcroze Program at CSU July 30—August 10, 2012

Directed by: Dr. Jeremy Dittus, Diplôme Supérieur, (Geneva, Switzerland) and Director of the Dalcroze School of the Rockies. Faculty: Dr. Dittus, Mary Dobrea, Hélène Nicolet. Contact: Mark Allwein for more information (mark.allwein@yahoo.com), or visit www.CSUMusic.com > Music Education > Dalcroze. Coursework may be taken for credit or non-credit. Progress toward Dalcroze Certificate available.

Kodály for Kids Day July 23—24, 2012

This summer Kodály for Kids day has been expanded to two days, and also to more children! Monday, July 23 will include children in grades 4 and 5, and the Tuesday, July 24 session will be for students entering 1st grade next year. Room is limited for this exciting event, so do not hesitate! Cost is \$25. For more information, or to obtain an application, contact Chealsea Bernhardt (cviolab@gmail.com). Registration ends May 21st.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Colorado Kodály Institute Dates: July 16-28 at the University Center for the Arts. Exit Exams for M.M. students are scheduled to take place on July 14 (written) and July 30 (oral).

Ms. Jena Dickey, Founder and Artistic Director of Young Voices of Colorado, will be presenting a session on **Developing Children's Singing Voices** as part of CKI this July.

Dr. Maxine Fawcett-Yeske, who is part of the Music Faculty at the U.S. Air Force Academy, will be joining the CKI Institute on July 24th. Dr. Fawcett-Yeske, along with her graduate student, Jenna, will be presenting her **Ireland Folk Song Project**, including videos of her children singing in Ireland!

What I Learned at OAKE...

- **Mallory Harrison**, ROCKE President says "I really appreciated **Donna Menhart's** session; it was a wonderful review and refresher on solfège "challenges" from my Kodály level 1 course. I was reminded of solfège, rhythmic, and staff reading exercises that I learned and can apply to my classroom; activities such as singing while hand clapping the rhythm of one measure behind, singing on absolute pitches then switching to solfège after a "signal," such as a clap, or singing while signing the Curwen hand signs in canon. My favorite session of the conference was **Susan Brumfield's** choral rehearsal from beginning to end session. Susan brought several of her own children's' choir students to demonstrate her rehearsal and choral music teaching technique. I was impressed by the speed of instruction and accuracy of the students following it. Susan's literature was fantastic—very high quality folk song arrangements that are appropriate for elementary choirs. In addition to conference sessions, the ROCKE board had several meetings to attend. As the ROCKE president, I felt great pride in our chapter's accomplishments this year. I presented our website (kudos to ROCKE secretary, Jenny Authier), spotlighted our 3 fantastic presenters, and shared other wonderful successes of our year. The OAKE national conference was a great way to meet new people from around the country who share my philosophical beliefs and "speak my language." I appreciate the leadership and organization of the conference board and OAKE national board, and am looking forward to next year's national conference! This conference was the perfect remedy to spark my creativity, refresh my memory, and give me new ideas to share in my classroom and with my students until the end of the school year!"
- **Susan McCollum** says "Henry Leck's opening session reminded me of the "luxurious breath." The luxurious breath is where students breathe through their noses during introductions and interludes, keeping their throat and vocal cords moist. I had my 2nd graders employ this for their program last week!
- **Crystal Schlieker** presented a session about creativity. Really useful ideas included: have students create a dance to show rhythmic form, rearrange a reading exercise such as *333 Reading Exercises* by Kodály, allow students to practice the exercise in multiple ways (student suggests a different form, student moves either complete phrases or changes solfa to make a new form, student reverses the order of cards and sings the exercise in retrograde); students create spatial movement for specific solfa. Other useful suggestions: include one element of student choice in each lesson, give students a choice of the next song in the lesson; the teacher then uses the other song for the next lesson!
- **Tanya LeJeune** presented a session about SMART board assessments in the classroom. Lots of wonderful ideas, and ways of using the SMART board. To download a few of these files, and see some videos of her students in action, visit www.kodalyaspiringmusicclassroom.weebly.com. For grading and seating she uses a program called Gradekeeper which allows you to customize everything and transfer a class roster to a seating chart. Visit www.gradekeeper.com for details.
- **Nyssa Brown** presented a session about divergent thinking. Nyssa is amazing at getting attendees to think "out-of-the-box" about their own teaching and learning experiences. Like Crystal, Nyssa discussed offering students choices, and encouraged attendees to offer questions with more than one answer, to honor the student as a creative individual. Some specific ideas include using name games like "A my name is Alice" for students to share their individuality, doing arranging projects in which students rearrange a known song, and posting sentence starters such as "I notice..," "I observed...," "Why do you think...," etc. to create a more collaborative environment. I loved how she had the students arrange how they would want the specific parts (melody, harmony, descant, bass) to enter.
- Musical Heritage in the High Tech Age by **Dr. David Gadberry & Mrs. Kathy Kuddes**. Free on line resources so check out their download at www.kuddesmusic.com Their goal was to bring authentic culture bearers into our classroom through technology so we can infuse the true sense of folk melody styles."

A SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS TO **DR. RYAN OLSEN** WHO HAS BEEN APPOINTED THE ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF CHORAL MUSIC EDUCATION AT COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY!

Colorado State University Instructors



Dr. Bonnie Jacobi - Music Education (Elementary) and Director of the Colorado Kodály Institute

Bonnie S. Jacobi was appointed in 2010 as Assistant Professor of Music Education at Colorado State University. Dr. Jacobi has taught on the faculties of Southern Methodist University and the University of Houston. She has been a music education specialist for twenty-one years teaching students of all ages throughout Florida, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Texas and has directed thirteen children's choirs. Dr. Jacobi holds a B.A. in Music from Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts, a M.M. in Piano Performance from the University of Texas at Austin, and a D.M.A. in Music Education from the University of Houston. Additionally, she holds Kodály Certification from Indiana University and McNeese State University and has completed rigorous training programs at Carnegie-Mellon University's International Dalcroze Institute, The Juilliard School's Abramson-Dalcroze Institute and the TCU/ Van Cliburn Piano Institute in Fort Worth, Texas. In addition to presenting actively as a clinician and lecture-recitalist, Dr. Jacobi is a published author and presently serves on the Advisory Board for MENC's Music Educators Journal. At CSU, Dr. Jacobi teaches coursework in Music Education, directs the Colorado Kodály Institute and serves as a Faculty Advisor for CSU's Collegiate MENC Chapter. Bonnie.Jacobi@colostate.edu, (970) 491-3106



Dr. Ryan Olsen - Music Education (Choral)

Ryan Olsen has been active in all levels of music education in Kansas, Missouri, Arizona, and Texas. A native of Kansas City, Dr. Olsen holds a D.M.A. in Choral Conducting with a cognate in Music Education from Arizona State University, where he helped found the Early Music Chamber Choir. A native of Kansas City, Dr. Olsen received his M.A. in Music with an emphasis in Music Education from the Conservatory of Music and Dance at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and his Bachelor of Music Education from the Conservatory of Music and Dance at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. While in Kansas City he taught middle school and high school choral music, music appreciation, music theory, and served as music director in various musical theater productions around Kansas City, including a production at the International Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland. Prior to moving to Colorado, Dr. Olsen served on the music faculty at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, Texas. Ryan.Olsen@colostate.edu, (970) 491-3504



Steve McNeal - Music Education (Orchestra)

Since 1962 until his retirement in 1997, Steve McNeal taught orchestra with Poudre School District in Fort Collins, Colorado. Under his direction, the Fort Collins High School Symphony Orchestra consistently received superior ratings at state contests, and was selected for numerous performances at the CMEA Clinic Conference, as well as the National Convention of High School Activities Association held in Denver the summer of 1986. In the 1987-88 School Year, he was selected as National Music Educator of the Year by MENC. 1997-98 ASTA chose him National School Orchestra Director of the year. The music drama wing of the new Ft. Collins High School building is named the "McNeal Performing Arts Center". Mr. McNeal is currently the interim conductor of the Fort Collins Wind Symphony, a 45 member select ensemble of area professional musicians. His most important achievement may be the many students who have chosen to make music their vocation or avocation, and the many more whose lives have been enriched by the quality and vast variety of music they have been enabled to perform. Mr. McNeal serves as guest lecturer, clinician, conductor, and adjudicator throughout the United States. punknsteve@juno.com, (970) 491-3178



Linda Hall - Music Education Coordinator

A Colorado native, Linda Hall holds a Bachelor of Music in Music Education from Colorado State University as well as Level I, II Orff and Level I Kodály certification. Ms. Hall began her teaching career as the music specialist at Irish Elementary School in Fort Collins in 1977. In 1990, she accepted the position of Vocal Music/Music Theater Director at Webber Junior High School in the Poudre School District until her retirement in 2008. Ms. Hall was the middle level vocal music and honor choir coordinator and served on the Music Instruction Improvement Committee. She also served as accompanist and assistant director with Centennial Children's Chorus for over 17 years. She has served as Director of the PSD Elementary Honor Choir, the Arkansas Valley Middle School Honor Choir, and the South Dakota Regional Elementary Choir Festival. An active member of NAME, Ms. Hall continues to adjudicate for CHSAA solo and ensemble festivals. Her awards include PSD Teacher of the Year, Rotary International Teacher of the Year and recipient of a Paul Harris Fellowship. Linda.Hall@colostate.edu, (970) 491-0588