

KMTA State Conference
June 11-12, 2011
Emporia State University

Tentative Schedule

Friday

8:00 Registration
9:00 Melody Bober, opening session
10:00 Natalie Wickham, session
11:00 Nancy Blockcolsky, session
12:00 Lunch & Exhibit time
1:15 KMTA Annual Business meeting
1:30 Virginia Houser
2:30 Betty Todd Smith, session
3:30 Melody Bober, session
5:45 Banquet
7:30 Piano Concert, Dr. Jane Solose

Saturday

8:00 Exhibit time
9:00 Jane Solose, session
10:30 Teachers' Panel Q&A Session:
Moderator, Nancy Blockcolsky
Jane Solose, Sylvia Coats, Virginia Houser
11:30 Lunch and Exhibit time
1:00 Concert of Melody Bober's music presented by:
Melody Bober, Martin Cuellar, Melinda Groves,
Tiffany Budke
2:00 Natalie Wickham, session
3:00 Master Class by Melody Bober
Selected students perform her music



Tentative Program for Friday night concert
Dr. Jane Solose, piano

15 Variations and Fugue in E-flat major, "Eroica", Op. 35..... Ludwig van Beethoven
(1770-1827)

Liszt Fantasie (1984) Mary Jeanne Van Appledorn
(b. 1927)

Intermission

Sonata in B Minor..... Franz Liszt
(1811-1886)

**For the latest Conference information,
please check out our website: ksmta.org**

Session Topics and Descriptions

Encouraging Creative Interpretations

By Dr. Sylvia Coats, NCTM

How do we teach emotional expression? Drawing from her book *Thinking as you Play*, Sylvia Coats offers ideas to get students actively involved in the creative process. Teachers can encourage a student's self-expression by teaching principles of creative thinking.

Off-the-Beaten Path Teaching Treasures

by Dr. Virginia Houser

Ever on the lookout for interesting not-so-well-known piano literature, Virginia Houser will share the results of her latest repertoire-sleuthing adventures. She will include commentary on leveling, characteristics, and teaching tips.

You Like to practice? Why?

by Betty Todd Smith, NCTM

We've all heard it: "I love to play (or sing, or perform), but I HATE to practice!" Why do our students feel this way? How can practice time become an exciting experience of discovery, growth, artistic expression and learning that our budding musicians will look forward to? From motivational ideas, to practice games, to specific practice techniques and suggestions, this session will explore several different approaches in training our students how to practice so that they can reach their full potential and experience the joys of music on a daily basis.

Images and Imagination

by Dr. Jane Solose

We as teachers need to find ways in which to keep our students' creative spark alive. "Images and Imagination" is a broad topic with many facets in the realm of teaching and performing. The workshop will relate imagery and analogies to a variety of musical examples from repertoire from the beginner to the advanced levels. Topics will include touch, tone color, physical freedom/technique, and interpretation.

Creative Collaboration: Making Every Lesson Come Alive!

by Natalie Wickham, NCTM

Whether you're teaching an individual student or working with a group, you can make every lesson a rich and rewarding musical experience. In this fast-paced session Natalie Wickham, NCTM will walk you through the process of cultivating, implementing, and infusing creativity. Then, she'll load you up with ideas to use in all sorts of scenarios: Fun with One, Friendly Duos, Family Favorites, and Groups Galore!

Technology Treasure Trove!

by Natalie Wickham, NCTM

With millions of places to travel on the web today, it can be overwhelming to navigate to the destinations that will prove the most beneficial for your studio. In this enlightening workshop, Natalie Wickham, NCTM, will help you discover some of the most exciting possibilities that are available at little or no cost. Whether you want to utilize technology to teach long-distance lessons, make CDs of your students' playing, create your own YouTube channel, learn to upload video clips on the fly, or live stream studio recitals so that friends and relatives around the world can tune in, you will leave inspired and equipped to make these dreams a reality!

Remediating Reading: Win, Lose or Draw

by Nancy Blockcolsky

At the first lesson, you realize your new transfer student loves to play piano but can't read a note. What do you do? Nancy Blockcolsky shares stories of some of her failures and successes and discusses her current approach to this dilemma.

Conference Presenters

Melody Bober

As a composer, she enjoys creating motivational piano pieces that foster her students' understanding and love of music.

Melody graduated summa cum laude from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana with a bachelor's degree in music education. She later received a master of arts degree in piano performance from Minnesota State University, Moorhead. Melody credits much of her success to her influential teachers who include Joel Shapiro and Andrew Froelich (piano), Mary Hoffman (music education), and Tony Caramia (jazz).

An active church pianist and accompanist, Melody has also held the position of church music director. In addition to teaching piano in her private studio, Melody's music-teaching experience includes 20 years of public school and two years at the university level.

A dynamic clinician and innovative composer, Melody is in great demand at conventions and workshops for piano teachers across North America. She resides in Minnesota with her husband Jeff.



Dr. Jane Solose

A native of Niagara Falls, Canada, Dr. Jane Solose is a graduate of the Royal Conservatory of Music, the University of Toronto, and the University of Western Ontario in Canada. She received her DMA from the Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester, where she was awarded their prestigious Performer's Certificate and was David Burge's first teaching assistant.

She studied with noted teachers David Burge, William Aide, Myrtle Guerrero and Patricia Parr, and also received private piano instruction from Guido Agosti, Damiana Bratuz and Peter Katin. She performed in master classes and summer festivals for Malcolm Bilson (fortepiano), Leon Fleisher, Grant Johannesen, Adele Marcus, Gyorgy Sebok, Abbey Simon and Rosalyn Tureck.

Dr. Solose leads an active career as a featured concerto soloist, recitalist, chamber musician, duo pianist and master teacher that has taken her to Korea, Japan, Austria, Hungary, Russia, Canada and around the U.S. She is a past winner of the CBC Canada National Radio Competition and received special commendation at the International Vienna Modern Masters Performers Recording Award Competition. The president of the

European Piano Teachers Association (EPTA)-Voyvodina invited her to participate in the 2009 and 2010 World Piano Conferences, Serbia.

Eroica Classical Recordings released two of her CDs, *Style Hongrois* and *Variations: Three Centuries of Solo Keyboard Variations*. Capstone Records released *Array*, which celebrates works by American composers. Her articles have been published in the journals *20th Century Music* and *Clavier*.

Dr. Solose is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Keyboard Division at the Conservatory of Music and Dance, University of Missouri-Kansas City, where she teaches undergraduate and graduate students and piano literature classes.

Virginia Houser

Dr. Virginia Houser is associate professor of piano, pedagogy and group keyboard, and director of the music preparatory program at Kansas State University. She holds a B.A. from Columbia College (SC) and a Master of Music degree and Doctor of Musical Arts degree in piano performance and pedagogy from the University of Oklahoma.

She is an active solo and collaborative pianist with concerts and workshops in many cities around Kansas and the United States. As a frequent adjudicator and clinician, she works with all levels and ages of students. In addition to her teaching duties at K.S.U., she maintains a precollege studio. Dr. Houser is a past president of Kansas Music Teachers Association.



Sylvia Coats

Sylvia Coats, NCTM, is active as a teacher, performer, adjudicator, and workshop leader. For 25 years she has been Professor of Piano Pedagogy and Class Piano at Wichita State University. The Kansas Music Teachers Association honored her as 2007 Teacher of the Year.

Dr. Coats was a member of the Sotto Voce Trio that crowned their 20-year collaboration with a set of CDs of their commissioned works. The unique trio, comprised of soprano Dorothy Crum, saxophonist Jean Lansing, and pianist Coats, performed at universities, recital series, and children's concerts in Texas, Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Virginia, Nevada, Nebraska, and Oklahoma. Coats also plays with the Wichita Symphony Orchestra and a Piano Duo with Judith Fear.

Coats' book, *Thinking as You Play: Teaching Piano in Individual and Group Lessons*, was published by Indiana University Press in 2006. She has presented sessions about the book for the International Society of Music Education in Bologna, Italy, Malaysia, Hawaii Music Teachers Association and Punahou School, the MTNA in Austin, and the Kansas, Arizona, and Missouri MTA conferences. She has also published articles in the journals *Clavier Companion*, *American Music Teacher*, *Keyboard Companion*, *The Piano Adventures© Teacher*, and *Piano Pedagogy Forum*, and numerous state journals and newsletters. She is in demand for adjudicating piano competitions and festivals throughout the Midwest.

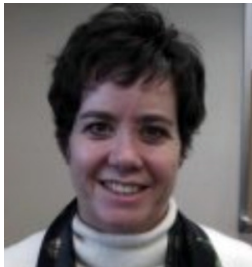
Coats holds a Doctor of Musical Arts in the Process of Group Environments from the University of Colorado where Dr. Guy Duckworth was her major professor, and bachelor and master's degrees in piano performance from Texas Tech University where she studied with Louis Catuogno.

She lives in Derby, Kansas with her husband, Casey. They have two children; Michelle, a CPA in Denver and Jason, a veterinary student at KSU.



Nancy Blockcolsky

Nancy Blockcolsky received her Bachelor Music Education from Baker University and her Master of Music in Piano Pedagogy from Kansas State University. A native of Kansas City, she now resides in Olsburg, Kansas (near Manhattan). She has held many offices in the



Manhattan Area Music Teachers Association and has served KMTA as District 3 President, Vice President for Associations, Outstanding Teacher and Service Awards Chair,

Music Progressions Chair, President-Elect and is the outgoing KMTA President. "Mrs. B," as her students call her, teaches piano, Music Appreciation, and Introduction to Music Technology at Manhattan Christian College while maintaining a private piano studio of around 20 students. She is the Minister of Music at Agape Family Church and is the concert mistress of the Community Chamber Orchestra (of Clay Center).



What drives you?

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Betty Todd Smith

Betty Todd Smith began her study of piano at the age of 8. Her teachers include Adah Coe, Rosalie Talbot, Miriam Spindler-Lynch, Ron Rathbun, and Eugene Pridonoff. She presented yearly solo recitals during her college years, and holds the Bachelor of Arts in Piano Performance from Abilene Christian University, and the



Master of Music in Piano Performance from Arizona State University. Betty taught class piano at Arizona State University and Tulsa Junior College. She founded and directed the piano and preschool music programs for Tulsa Institute for Music Education, Inc., a school based on the Suzuki philosophy of teaching music and offering instruction in piano, violin, cello, flute, guitar, fiddle, and preschool music. Betty provided the music program for Undercroft Montessori School in Tulsa, OK for 8 years, and has taught piano and Musikgarten at Agape Montessori, Small Beginnings, and Pembroke Hill in the Kansas City area. She is active in Suzuki and traditional piano instruction, and has obtained Suzuki training through all piano levels at various institutes in the United States and Canada. She is a Permanent Nationally-Certified member of the Music Teachers'

National Association, a state Board Member of the Kansas Music Teachers' Association, an active member of the Kansas City Music Teachers Association, and an adjudicator for the National Piano Guild, as well as a licensed Musikgarten instructor and area teacher-training coordinator. She is active in ensemble performances, lectures and workshops for teachers, and adjudicating piano auditions. Betty has trained in Kindermusik, Musikgarten, Music Mind Games, and has obtained a copyright for an innovative music curriculum designed to teach young children rhythmic concepts privately or in small groups, based on Montessori principles.

Natalie Wickham

Natalie has operated a private music studio in Derby since 1998. She teaches a wide range of ages in private lessons and loves dreaming up creative ways to motivate and inspire her students. Her motivation and inspiration stem from her love for the Lord and a desire to see Him glorified in all of her teaching and business endeavors.



Natalie is past president of South Central Kansas MTA and Wichita Metropolitan MTA and is currently serving as Technology Chairperson for KMTA. She also runs the popular Music Matters Blog, an online compendium of creative, practical, and up-to-date resources for the independent music teacher. When she's not teaching, Natalie can often be found sitting at her computer working on a project of some sort. From developing websites to writing and publishing her book, *Pajama School*, and her CD, *Journey to Self Publishing – 12 steps to successfully publish your book*, to designing materials for her students, each project encourages a fresh approach and presents an exciting opportunity to try new ideas!

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