Faculty Showcase

Piano Area Holiday Concert

Sunday, December 11, 2016
Libby Gardner Concert Hall
7:00 p.m.
Program
(Please hold applause until the end of each section and turn off all electronic devices that could disrupt the concert.)

Deck the Halls/It’s the Most Wonderful Time of the Year
Traditional/ Edward Pola (1907-1995) and George Wyle (1916-2003)
arr. Lenora Brown
Lenora Brown, Merla Little, Vedrana Subotic,
Gretchen Tanner, Cassandra Taylor

I Wonder as I Wander/The Christmas Song
John Jacob Niles (1892-1980)/Mel Torme (1925-1999)
arr. Jeffrey Price
Jeffrey Price

Fantasy on Joy to the World
George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)
arr. Robert D. Vandall

Ladies in Red
Ann Christensen
Ran Duan
Desiree Gonzales
Kate Poulton Webb

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen
Traditional English Carol
arr. Chip Davis

Piano Preparatory Faculty
Mio Cowden and Karlyen Tan

Oh Come All Ye Faithful
Traditional
arr. Melody Bober

Piano Outreach Program
Annette Jensen
Away in a Manger   
Traditional
arr. Jarrod Radnich
Andrew Staupe

Carol of the Bells/God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen   
Traditional melodies
arr. Matt Riley

Men in Black
Preston Alvey
Stephen Arroyo
Spencer Erickson
Carson Malen

Coventry Carol   
Traditional English Carol
arr. Igor Iachimciuc
Jie-Deng Lu and Ning Lu

Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring   
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
arr. Myra Hess
Vedrana Subotic

O Holy Night/Romance from Suite No.2
Adolphe Adam (1803-1856)/Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)
arr. Josh Wright
Josh Wright and Lindsey Wright

He is Born/Winter Wonderland/
White Christmas/We Wish You a Merry Christmas
Traditional/Felix Bernard (1897-1944)/Irving Berlin (1888-1989)/Trad.
arr. Lenora Brown
Lenora Brown, Merla Little, Vedrana Subotic,
Gretchen Tanner, Cassandra Taylor
Lenora Brown
A well-known teacher, concert pianist, recording artist, arranger, and composer, Lenora Brown has won first place in international piano competitions and has performed extensively in Asia and the United States. She is a four-time winner of the Utah Arts Council Performing Tour, a winner of the Best of State award, and performed at the 2002 Winter Olympics. Brown is a Steinway Artist, an ACME inductee, and a certified MTNA teacher.

Merla Little
Merla Little teaches in the University of Utah Preparatory Division. In 2010, she retired from full-time status, where she had worked since 1982, as the Director of the Piano Preparatory Division from 2000-2010. She is a member of the Little-Tanner Duo and performs in recitals, in addition to accompanying various vocalists and instrumentalists. Merla has served in numerous offices in UMTA and is an active lecturer and adjudicator. She is a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and a nationally certified piano teacher through MTNA.

Vedrana Subotic
Vedrana Subotic has received critical acclaim for her refined interpretations, rich tonal palette, and supreme levels of technical and musical mastery. She is active as a soloist and a chamber musician performing in dozens of concerts a year, combining concerto appearances, solo recitals, chamber music collaborations, and orchestral performances. She has collaborated in recitals with such artists as Joseph Silverstein and Paul Neubauer. Vedrana has also performed concerts in Bratislava, Prague, Belgrade, London, and Venice, as well as throughout the United States and Canada. She is a listed Steinway Artist.
Gretchen Tanner

Gretchen Tanner is the Director of the Preparatory Division. With a faculty of 21 teachers and over 300 students, the Preparatory Division offers classes and lessons in Piano, Strings, Guitar, Organ and Choir. She enjoys performing as part of the Little-Tanner Duo in local recitals and accompanies local choirs and instrumentalists. She is a member of the MTNA, Faculty advisor to the University of Utah Collegiate Chapter and member of the Youth Arts Committee, College of Fine Arts. The Division strives to bring all the Arts into the lives of children through out the Salt Lake Valley.

Cassandra Taylor

Dr. Cassandra Taylor served as the Director of the U of U Piano Outreach Program from 2008 to 2016, and was a co-founding member of the Ladies in Red. She received a BM (2005) and DMA (2013) from the University of Utah, and a MA from New York University (2007). She has been a featured artist with the American West Symphony, the Paradigm Orchestra, and the Utah Chamber Artists, and has competed and performed in New York, Washington DC, and St. Petersburg, Russia. Dr. Taylor is a strong advocate for arts education and local music programs and organizations, specifically those that provide musical opportunities for youth in the Salt Lake City community.

Jeffrey Price

Jeffrey Price serves as the musical director for the University’s Lyric Opera Ensemble. His versatile and multifaceted career has included voice coaching, accompanying, chamber music, conducting, music direction for opera, music theater and dance, solo performance, and composing. He has composed chamber and orchestral music, piano pieces and songs, including several works for stage in a variety of idioms. For twelve summers, he has been a member of the faculty at La Musica Lirica, a program in Italy for young American singers, where he has musically directed productions of nine full operas in Italian as well as scenes recitals. He is currently performing and recording all ten Scriabin sonatas.
Karlyen Tan
Karlyen Tan is on the faculty of the Preparatory Division at the University of Utah where she teaches piano lessons and musicianship classes. Karlyen is an active member in the music organizations in the State of Utah. She earned the National Professional Certified Teacher of Music award from the Music Teachers National Association and is Chair of the judging committee for Utah Federation of Music Clubs and an advisor for the festivals bulletin for the National Federation of Music Clubs. Karlyen maintains a private studio and is an adjudicator for many piano festivals throughout Utah.

Mio Cowden
Mio Cowden has performed throughout three different continents: Asia, Europe, and North America. Mio received her doctorate degree in piano performance at the University of Utah as well as piano performance certificates of achievement at the Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music in Budapest, Hungary, and piano performance degree in Japan, where she won a number of awards at numerous competitions. Mio is currently an associate instructor at the University of Utah, and an adjunct instructor at the Salt Lake Community College.

Annette Jensen
Annette Jensen began her piano studies in the University of Utah Piano Outreach Program six years ago, and has been studying with Karlyen Tan in the University of Utah Preparatory Division for the last three years. As a scholarship student, she has enjoyed many wonderful experiences during her time as a University piano student. She has been a guest performer on the Libby Gardner stage four times, and she has also performed in Dumke Recital Hall and Thompson Chamber Hall at the University of Utah.
Andrew Staupe
Hailed as an “immaculate” (Minneapolis Star Tribune) artist, pianist Andrew Staupe brings a distinctive voice as the newest member of the U’s piano faculty. As soloist, he has performed with many major orchestras across the United States, and toured extensively in Europe. He has performed in Carnegie Hall, The Kennedy Center, Steinway Hall in New York, and on Garrison Keillor’s “A Prairie Home Companion.” Andrew is also an avid chamber musician, and is passionate about performing new music, having performed numerous world premieres.

Jie-Deng Lu
Dr. Jie-deng Lu is a very active international recitalist and educator. Students, faculty, and lay audiences at Beijing Central Conservatory of Music and Nanjing Normal University in China have admired her virtuosity and interpretive skills. Recently, she was appointed guest professor at Nanjing University. In 2010 Jie performed as July’s featured artist at the Shanghai World Expo Music Festival in Shanghai, China. Jie is a Steinway Artist.

Ning Lu
Dr. Ning Lu was born in China, and made his professional debut and first commercial recording at the age of nine. After winning the first prize of the China National Piano Competition and the Piano Competition of the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing at the age of 18, he came to the US. Mr. Lu gave his first solo piano recital in the Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall in 1996. Since then, he has performed over 200 recitals throughout the world. He has also taught in more than 20 universities and music conservatories in the US and Asia.
The Ladies in Red
The Ladies in Red, a designated Steinway Artist group, is a diverse piano performance group of graduate students and alumni of the University of Utah School of Music. These women are committed to promoting and preserving music in young children’s lives, and they perform together to create awareness for the University of Utah Piano Outreach Program. (From L to R: Ann Christiensen, Ran Duan, Desireé González, and Kate Webb).

The Men in Black
The Men in Black is a Piano Area performing group that has performed on the University of Utah Piano Centennial Concert in Libby Gardner Hall in 2014 as well as other Piano Area concerts and events. In addition to their performances as a group, the Men in Black are active individually as soloists having performed with local orchestras including the Salt Lake Symphony and the University of Utah Philharmonia Orchestra. The Men in Black are cultural ambassadors for the School of Music performing for numerous university and community events. (From L to R: Preston Alvey, Stephen Arroyo, Spencer Erickson, and Carson Malen).
Josh Wright
Billboard #1 artist Josh Wright has delighted audiences throughout the United States and in Europe. The Washington Post described him as possessing “rarer gifts – touch, intelligence and the ability to surprise.” He was a prizewinner at the 2015 National Chopin Competition and also won the Mazurka prize. He recently completed his DMA at the University of Michigan. He has released seven CD’s, the most recent “Sleigh Ride for Two,” a collaborative project with his wife, pianist Lindsey Wright.

Lindsey Wright
Lindsey Wright started piano with U piano faculty Susan Duehlmeier at age five and continued through completion of her DMA in 2014. As a doctoral student, she developed the online piano curriculum, U Play Piano. As a founding member of the Ladies in Red, she has performed in New York City, Washington, D.C. and throughout Utah. She and her husband, pianist Josh Wright, perform as a duo and will release their second CD together in December.
Join the excellence

Pianists at the U pursue four distinct degrees: BA, BMus, MMus, and DMA.

Seven Steinway Artists are on the faculty, among the highest number nationally.

Students at the U consistently win or place high in prestigious national and international piano competitions.

Students generously reach out to the community, teaching piano lessons to youth in low-income schools.

The University of Utah was the first all-Steinway school in the Intermountain West.

Join us!
music.utah.edu/areas/piano
The University of Utah School of Music cordially invites you to attend these upcoming concerts:

**Harp Ensemble**  
December 13, 7:30 p.m.  
Thompson Chamber Music Hall

**Jazz Ensemble**  
December 13, 7:30 p.m.  
Fine Arts West Recital Hall

**Piano Area Presents: Concerto Competition Winners with American West Symphony**  
December 15, 7:30 p.m.  
Libby Gardner Concert Hall

**Chamber Music Society of Salt Lake City: The Lark String Quartet**  
January 19, 7:30 p.m.  
Libby Gardner Concert Hall

**Piano Area Presents: SummerArts Winner with American West Symphony**  
January 21, 7:30 p.m.  
Libby Gardner Concert Hall

**Fridays with Faculty**  
January 27, 12:00 p.m.  
Dumke Recital Hall

(All concerts in Libby Gardner Concert Hall at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted. For tickets, call 801-581-7100, or go to www.kingtix.com)

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