

## 2017 IMTA State Conference Presenter Biographies

### Forrest Kinney, Conference Clinician

**Forrest Kinney** is an **educator** who has taught music for four decades. He is a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music (NCTM) as recognized by the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA). His goal is to help others become creative, whole musicians capable of enjoying the Four Arts of Music: improvising, arranging, composing, and interpreting.

Forrest is the **author** of thirty books and collections of musical compositions. This includes the original *Pattern Play* series on musical improvisation, the newer *Pattern Play* series published by Frederick Harris Music, and the *Chord Play* series on the art of making spontaneous arrangements at the piano. His book *Creativity—Beyond Compare* explores common misconceptions about creativity and artistic practice. In January of 2017, a new *Pattern Play*-based series called *Create First!* made its appearance.

Forrest is frequently a **presenter** at conferences and public events. He has given hundreds of presentations (speeches, workshops, master classes, concerts, teaching demonstrations, etc.) for music educators in the U.S., Canada, and Europe. He has been the Conference Clinician, Conference Artist, or Guest Artist at sixteen state and national music teacher conferences. This includes six straight years (2012-2017) as a Guest Artist at the Music Teachers Association of California conference. In 2015, he gave five presentations at the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy, including a Teaching Demonstration of the Four Arts. Though he usually speaks about the Four Arts, his topics have included performance anxiety, piano technique, songwriting, the history of music, and creative practicing.

Forrest is a **pianist** and performer. He has given many solo and collaborative concerts in the past few decades, many with vocalist Kevin Helppie, Ph. D., his collaborator on the *World Songs* project. At his engagements, he often begins by spontaneously composing pieces for audience members based on notes or themes given him. He also frequently improvises with audience members, some who have never played the piano before. Forrest played for the 25th time at the home of Bill and Melinda Gates in May, 2017. He also performed at many events hosted by the Seattle Symphony.

Forrest is professional **arranger**. His arrangements for the piano and a variety of instruments are included in 40 publications by Frederick Harris Music.

He is a **composer** who has composed hundreds of piano pieces and songs. He is the co-composer with Dr. Kevin Helppie of *World Songs*, two collections of 35 original arts songs based on ancient poetry from around the world, and *Drops of Silver*, a song cycle.

Forrest has written articles for such publications as *American Music Teacher*, *Clavier Companion*, and *Music Matters*. He was a columnist for *American Music Teacher*.

Forrest was awarded a U.S. Patent for inventing a new kind of computer key system that allows us to type all the letters of a word at once, just like playing chords on a piano.

Forrest lives amongst mossy trees in the mountains east of Seattle, generally preferring what he calls “a 19th-century lifestyle.” He is immensely grateful to be able to make his living by creating music and books, and by sharing his belief that creativity is a key to happiness.

### **Mark R. Hansen**

Mark R. Hansen is Professor of Music at Boise State University and a Steinway Artist. Dr. Hansen performs as both solo and collaborative pianist, having concertized abroad and throughout the United States. Research interest in Catalan piano literature and pedagogical methods inspires regular programming of Spanish composers’ works in performances. His broad musical interests also provide opportunities where he enjoys choral conducting, organ performance, and the composition and publication of sacred choral music. Mark’s teachers and coaches have included Joseph Banowetz, Alicia de Larrocha, Paul Pollei, Gladys Gladstone, Alan Ball, and Ricks Knudsen. He has played in the masterclasses of Lili Kraus, Adele Marcus, Illana Vered, Karl Schnabel, Joanne Baker, and Reid Nibley. An experienced pedagogue himself, successes of his own students are numerous—many now hold faculty positions at prominent national and international institutions and have completed advanced degrees with some of the world’s most respected pianists.

### **Arthur Houle**

Arthur Houle is Professor of Music at Colorado Mesa University, where he has earned five Exemplary Faculty Awards since his appointment in 2006. Dr. Houle is also founder and artistic director of the Festival for Creative Pianists ([www.pianofestival.org](http://www.pianofestival.org)), a unique annual competition open to all pianists up to age 19. Houle has written for Piano & Keyboard, Clavier, Clavier Companion, Piano Today, American Record Guide, Music Educator journals, American Music Teacher, and the newsletters of FJH, College Music Society, and the Colorado State Music Teachers Association. In 2008, Hal Leonard published his Cowboy Jazz, a collection of original compositions for intermediate students. Houle’s new publisher, Abundant Silence ([www.abundantsilence.org](http://www.abundantsilence.org)), has published Cowboy Jazz II as well as Houle’s scholarly definitive edition of the Sonatinas, Op. 36 (revised version, "With Considerable Improvements") by Clementi. Abundant Silence also honored Houle as their 2015-16 Featured Composing Educator. Houle is recipient of a 2011 MTNA Fellow Award and the only pianist invited to perform twice, to critical acclaim, in the 1995 International Chopin Music Festival. A private teacher since the age of thirteen, Houle taught previously at New England Conservatory, Boston Conservatory, the College of Idaho, and the Universities of Iowa, North Dakota and Texas-Austin.

### **Walden Hughes**

Dr. Walden Hughes was awarded the 1995 "Master Teacher Certificate" by the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA). Dr. Hughes has 75 publications in national and international music journals. He holds five degrees in music, including two in piano performance and one each in piano pedagogy, music history and literature, and music theory. Dr. Hughes teaches piano, music history, composition and counterpoint at Northwest Nazarene University, where he has served for the past 40 years. Dr. Hughes has written 100 piano ensemble compositions and arrangements for 1 piano 4 hands, 2 pianos 4 hands, 1 piano 6 hands, 2 pianos 8 hands, 2 pianos 12 hands, 4 pianos 16 hands, 4 pianos 8 hands, 4 pianos 24 hands and 8 pianos 16 hands, which have been performed widely by professional pianists, piano faculty and student ensembles in 65

different countries. Dr. Hughes was the 2007 recipient of the NNU Alumni Association Professional Achievement Award. The current chair of the Rank & Tenure Committee at NNU, he is on sabbatical this semester, performing duo piano recitals with his former student, Dr. Paul Christianson (of Trevecca Nazarene University - Nashville, Tennessee), recording piano solo repertoire (YouTube.com), and writing new piano ensemble arrangements.

### **Colleen Hunter**

Colleen Hunter, DMA, NCTM, teaches applied and class piano at Gonzaga University and maintains a private piano studio in her home in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, teaching a wide range of ages and levels from children to adults. Nationally and state certified with MTNA, she is active at the state level as an adjudicator and presenter. She serves on the nominating committee with IMTA and has served as chair of the College Faculty Forum and as Adjudicator Chair while on the WSMETA Board of Education. At the local level she is Immediate Past President of the North Idaho Music teachers and is a past president of the Spokane Music Teachers. Community involvement has included coordinating entertainment for Art on the Green, an annual summer arts festival in Coeur d'Alene, as well as, a winter lecture series and home concerts in the area. She has served as church pianist and director of a seasonal church choir in addition to collaborative work with area musicians. Dr. Hunter holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree and a Master of Music in piano performance from the University of Missouri at Kansas City where she studied with Richard Cass. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Seattle Pacific University where she studied with Marcile Mack. She studied with Margaret Saunders Ott for several years and worked with Dr. Bela Nagy of Boston University while in Sion, Switzerland. Dr. Hunter and her husband, Dr. Sam Hunter, have two children, Scott, a college senior, and Abby, a high school senior. Their home is filled with much music, conversation, laughter, and creative activity.

### **Morgan Kline**

Morgan Kline is a first-year graduate student at the University of Idaho, where she studies with Dr. Jovanni de Pedro. She has given performances at the Idaho Music Teachers Association conference (September 2016), the Student Chamber Music recital (November 2016), and the Palouse Chamber Music Workshop (January 2017), and in addition to completing her junior and senior undergraduate recitals at the Lionel Hampton School of Music. As a piano teacher, Morgan hopes to enhance each student's excitement for music, and give each one the opportunity to develop as a well-rounded musician. She teaches at the University of Idaho Preparatory Department, as well as teaching a private studio of over twenty students. She currently has nine years of teaching experience, both in her Alaskan hometown, and in Moscow, Idaho. Morgan also holds various research interests and was recently selected to give a solo workshop at the 2017 Piano Pedagogy Symposium at the University of North Florida. She currently serves as secretary for the university's MTNA Collegiate Chapter.

### **Svetlana Maddox**

Winner of the First Prize in the Bradshaw and Buono International Piano Competition in New York and as the recipient of the Grand Prizes in the Princeton Music Festivals, Dr. Svetlana Maddox had the honor to perform in Carnegie Hall in 2009, 2012, and 2013. In 2016 Svetlana performed at the Liszt & Russia Festival of the American Liszt Society at California State

University Northridge, Los Angeles. Previously, Svetlana gave a solo recital at the 15th Anniversary Chopin Festival in El Paso, Texas. Svetlana was one of the featured artists in the Stars of Steinway concert series in 2014 and 2015. Svetlana's numerous concerts across the US resulted in articles, interviews, and concert reviews that appeared in magazines and newspapers in New York, California, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Kansas, and Idaho. Svetlana's European concert tour included performances, master classes, solo and lecture-recitals at the International Pushkin Festival at the Chekhov Theater and National Organ Hall in Chisinau, Moldova, and at the Franz Liszt University of Music in Budapest, Hungary. In 2014 Dr. Mark Hansen and Dr. Svetlana Maddox formed a duo-piano Tesoro. This collaboration resulted in a number of successful concerts presented at the colleges and universities throughout Idaho.

### **Roger McVey**

American pianist Roger McVey has performed as a soloist and collaborative pianist throughout the United States, in Europe, Asia, Mexico, and New Zealand. He is currently an Associate Professor of Piano at the Lionel Hampton School of Music, of the University of Idaho. He holds degrees in Piano Performance from the University of Kansas, Indiana University, and East Carolina University. Additionally, he has studied at the Aspen Music Festival and the Chautauqua Institute. Dr. McVey was a top prizewinner in the International Beethoven Competition (U.S.A.), and was a Semi-Finalist at the International Franz Liszt Competition in Poland, where critics praised his "passionate artistry and electrifying virtuosity." His latest CD recording, from 2016, is entitled Ten Fingers and features music by Mozart, Chopin, Gareth Farr, Joaquin Rodrigo, and others. In addition to his solo performances, Dr. McVey was a founding member of the Trio St. Croix, and regularly collaborates as a chamber musician. An active clinician, Roger frequently gives master-classes and presentations at universities, music schools, and for music teacher associations. He is an adjudicator for the Washington State Music Teachers Association, and is a board member of the Idaho Music Teachers Association. For more information, please visit his website at [rogermcvey.com](http://rogermcvey.com).

### **Melody Morrison**

Melody Morrison is a second-year Master's student at the University of Idaho studying Piano Performance and Pedagogy. Melody studies piano under Associate Professor Rajung Yang and holds a graduate assistantship. She has been playing piano since the age of five and enjoys learning and teaching music to all ages. She currently teaches Class Piano to music majors and minors and also teaches privately through UI's Preparatory Division.

### **Jovanni-Rey de Pedro**

Filipino-American pianist Jovanni-Rey de Pedro travels the world as a performer, pedagogue, and speaker. He has received top prizes in competitions in the United States, Canada, Spain, Austria, and England. He has been invited to present for MTNA, CMS, the World Piano Teachers Association in Serbia, and has been featured in Australia as a keynote speaker and recitalist for the Australasian Piano Pedagogy Conference, and the Music Teachers Association of Queensland. Developing pianists and teachers who are intelligent, creative, disciplined, reflective, and communicative define Jovanni's mission as a pedagogue. Passionate about helping students develop professional skills, he is a founding member of the MTNA Piano

Pedagogy Symposium, the Young Professionals Track at the MTNA National Conference, and currently serves as Advisor of the University of Idaho's MTNA Collegiate Chapter. Jovanni holds a Diplom from the Vienna Conservatory in Austria, a masters degree from Trinity College of Music in London, and a doctorate in Piano Pedagogy and Performance from the University of Michigan. In 2014, he joined the faculty at the University of Idaho's Lionel Hampton School of Music as Assistant Professor of Piano and Piano Pedagogy, and Co-Director of the preparatory music program

**Megan Rich**

Megan Rich is a first-year graduate student, and president of the MTNA Collegiate Chapter at the University of Idaho. She is a certified Kodály Method instructor, and presents regularly at national pedagogy conferences.