

EPHATHA

NEWSLETTER FOR THE ALBERTA KODÁLY ASSOCIATION



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President's Message - Fall 2010

Welcome to a new School year. I am hoping that your year has gotten off to a sunny start. In many ways September is the beginning of new learning for our students and us. We all approach the coming year with anticipation, hope and enthusiasm.

AKA is also looking forward to a fine offering of music development activity. We begin with **Music Conference Alberta on November 4 – 6 in Red Deer**. The conference is a collaboration of the Alberta Kodaly Association, Alberta Choral Federation, Alberta Band Association, the Alberta Music Education Foundation and Alberta Guild of English Handbell Ringers. There will be several sessions offered specifically for elementary music teachers.

Jan Dammann and Jan Taylor-Bilenki will be presenting sessions at Music Conference Alberta on behalf of the Alberta Kodaly Association. Both clinicians have much to offer. They are seasoned music educators and bring a wealth of expertise to their students and music education every day. We are fortunate in Alberta to have educators who demonstrate excellent teaching using Kodaly methodology. Please take this opportunity to gain much through these sessions and the elementary stream at Music Conference Alberta. For conference details, go to www.albertachoralfederation.ca.

Dr. Kathy Robinson will be offering a full day workshop at **Singposium 2011**. It is in Calgary at Mount Royal College on Saturday, January 29, 2011. Registration is open on-line through our website at www.albertakodaly.ca. We look forward to seeing all of you in Calgary in January. AKA will hold our AGM at Singposium. This is an opportunity for your input and suggestions for AKA. We always welcome new board members. Please contact me if you are interested in participating on the development of music education in Alberta.

While we were all disappointed that the **Kodaly Level 1** course at the University of Alberta did not run this past summer, we are very pleased that it **will be offered in 2011**. The course has been modified somewhat from the offering in 2010. AKA is offering scholarship support for this course. We will be forwarding details to our membership as soon as it is available. Remember our website is an excellent source of information on AKA activities.

At this time there are no new developments concerning the music curriculum from **Alberta Education**. Information may be forthcoming in the spring of 2011. Do continue to check http://education.alberta.ca/teachers/programs/finarts/program_updates.aspx. Please read the documents and the program updates, listed there.

I wish each of you "all the best" as the busy season for musicians and especially music teachers approaches.

Always have a song on your heart,

Betty Radford, President
Alberta Kodaly Association

**Music Conference Alberta,
Red Deer
November 4 – 6, 2010**

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ORAL HYGENE & LITERACY

Friday, November 5 Jan Dammann

Brushing your teeth is a daily habit that provides great results. Implementing literacy into each music lesson also provides great results. Jan will lead you through short, physical, thoughtful, challenging activities that prevent 'brain cavities' while promoting good music literacy.

Jan Dammann is a K – 6 music specialist in St. Albert. She has taught Junior High Bands, Elementary Choirs, and classroom music. Jan is a certified Kodaly teacher and past president of the Alberta Kodaly Association. She has mentored many student teachers and enjoys sharing music pedagogy with others.

Mark Your Calendar!

**Music Conference Alberta
November 4-6**

Red Deer College, Red Deer
www.albertachoralfederation.ca

**Singposium 2011
January 29, 2011**

Mount Royal College, Calgary
www.albertakodaly.ca

“Acorn to OAKE:
Nurturing Musical Growth”
**Organization of American Kodály
Educators National Conference
March 17-19, 2011**

Minneapolis, MN
<http://oake.org/conferences/default.aspx>

“Music, a Common Language in
Multicultural Education”
**20th International Kodály Symposium
June 25 - July 1, 2011**

Pyeongtaek City, Korea
www.iks.hu

**Kodaly Level1
July 4 - 15, 2011**

U of A, Edmonton
[http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/
elementaryed](http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/elementaryed)

**“TOOT SWEET”
TEACHING RECORDER WITH STYLE
AND GRACE**

Saturday, November 6 Jan Taylor-Bilenki

This session focuses of how to plan and teach recorder techniques for upper elementary students. Topics will include:

- using beginning recorder repertoire
- developing recorder technique
- reading recorder repertoire
- composing songs for sight reading
- students compositions
- assessment

Jan Taylor-Bilenki
BEd (Music), Dipl. Fine Arts (Kodály)

Jan Taylor-Bilenki earned her Bachelor of Education (Music Major) from the U of A in 1980, and in 1983, she received a Diploma of Fine Arts (Emphasis on Kodály Music Pedagogy) from the University of Calgary. Jan has taught as a K-6 Music Specialist in Alberta throughout her teaching career, including eighteen years in St. Albert, and in Calgary since 1998. Jan is currently teaching music at River Valley School; and at Mount Royal University in the Kodály Musicianship Program.

Jan has also served as a professional development clinician for many organizations including teachers' conventions, the Alberta Assessment Consortium, the Northwest Regional Learning Consortium, the Central Alberta Regional Consortium, the Early Childhood Education Council, Singspiration at Concordia University, the University of Calgary Kodály Summer Program, the Kodály Society of Canada and the Alberta Kodály Association. During the summer session 2001, Jan was on the faculty at the University of Calgary as instructor for the Graduate Kodály Diploma Program (second year pedagogy).



4-6 NOVEMBER 2010 | RED DEER

Music Conference Alberta is a proud collaboration between the Alberta Choral Federation, the Alberta Band Association, the Alberta Music Education Foundation, the Alberta Kodaly Association, and the Alberta Guild of English Handbell Ringers.

MCA is an opportunity for conductors, choristers, studio teachers, music teachers, and other music enthusiasts to attend sessions and workshops on a wide variety of topics related to music and music education. In addition, conference delegates can attend concerts, master classes and social events designed to renew and inspire.

Full Registration (CRN 1669) \$325

Friday Registration (CRN 1670) \$165

Saturday Registration (CRN 1671) \$165

Student Registration (CRN 1672) \$50

(includes Student Membership in the ACF)

[REGISTER ONLINE!](#)

Singspiration

Music Camp for Youth and Inspiration for Teachers

Concordia University College of Alberta
2010

by Jody Stark

*What I loved the most about
Singspiration is making
wonderful choir noise with
wonderful people.*

-Youth Choir Member

From August 9-14, Concordia's campus was abuzz with youth and music making as 69 youth and 18 music educators congregated on campus for our annual music camp and music education program, *Singspiration/ Inspiration for Teachers*.

*I can't choose just one best thing
from this week!*

-Junior Choir Participant

Youth participants were treated to the talents of youth conductor Dr. John Brough from Edmonton, while junior choir members worked with the delightful Judy Pearson Hafso of Spokane, Washington. Campers also were part of art, drama, handbells, and/ or dance classes for part of each day.

6 student counselors and many volunteers were on hand running activities, overseeing the residence program, and ensuring that the campers had a positive experience. It is interesting to note that several of the counselors were *Singspiration* campers themselves in the past. They come back to give younger singers the experience they themselves had.

*What I enjoyed the most was
being able to immerse myself
within so much musical talent/
power. It was such an uplifting,
inspiring week.*

-Teacher Participant

Along with our young guests, we also welcomed 18 music educators to campus to observe the conductors working with the choirs and to attend sessions to better their music teaching practice. This program was born of a desire to serve Alberta's communities by providing training and support for music teachers from all over the province. "*Inspiration for Teachers* is a natural extension of *Singspiration*. We have the chance to impact the lives of seventy youth each year, but these music educators are involved with thousands of kids over their careers. If we can support them in the important task of giving kids a richer life through music, we are making a tremendous impact on the community. This is why we do what we do," says *Singspiration* Executive Director Jody Stark.

Inspiration for Teachers participants can attend for a day, part of the week, or the whole week, and may also choose to do assignments for university credit. Many of them had students from their music program in attendance, and all appreciated the discussion times led by program coordinator Gerhard Kruschke. Gerhard and his volunteer assistant Cheryl Bosgoed did a tremendous job at making the teachers feel welcome and appreciated, and in helping these educators to get the most out of their experience, as did the teacher clinicians who gave sessions in between rehearsals

including Kodaly music educators Anita Perlau and Jody Stark.

What I appreciated the most was the discussion with such great people. It was great forming this special community of professionals.
-Teacher Participant

“What makes *Singspiration* so special is its unique emphasis on process over product,” says *Singspiration* Artistic Director Dr. Joy Berg. “Singers and educators are non-auditioned and welcomed from all backgrounds. This really helps lay the foundation for a safe community that hopefully continues well beyond the week of camp. *Singspiration* is about community on every level: not only do we have kids and teachers on campus who are encouraged to be a cohort for each other, but we also invite community members from all walks of life to come and sing with an adult choir in the evenings for the week.”

Like with the choirs for the youth participants, these adult singers had the chance to work with world-class talent in conductor Dr. John Brough and accompanist Dr. Ping-Shan Liao. This year’s adult choir was our most successful ever with 45 choristers representing many different church and community choirs. The adult choir put on a great performance Friday night for the

Have you done some research lately?

Been to any interesting conferences?

Have you come across some great new teaching materials to share with your colleagues?

Are you having some challenges preparing, presenting and practicing a particular concept?

Let Ephatha know!

Contact C.D. with your thoughts or questions for Ephatha!

cdsaint82@hotmail.com

students who were staying in residence and members of the community. It was a lot of fun!

Everyone had such JOY for music. It was inspiring!
-Teacher Participant

Why do we do what we do? It is not only about giving kids, teachers, and members of the community a wonderful chance to grow as musicians. *Singspiration* is intended to inspire participants and better their lives through a safe and vibrant musical experience. Our orientation is towards allowing those who participate to have a rich

To register, or for more information about the Alberta Kodály Association go to

www.albertakodaly.ca

encounter with the arts. “And,” says Executive Director Jody Stark, “that is an experience that is invaluable to the quality of life of those that participate.”

Thank you. I loved the whole experience!

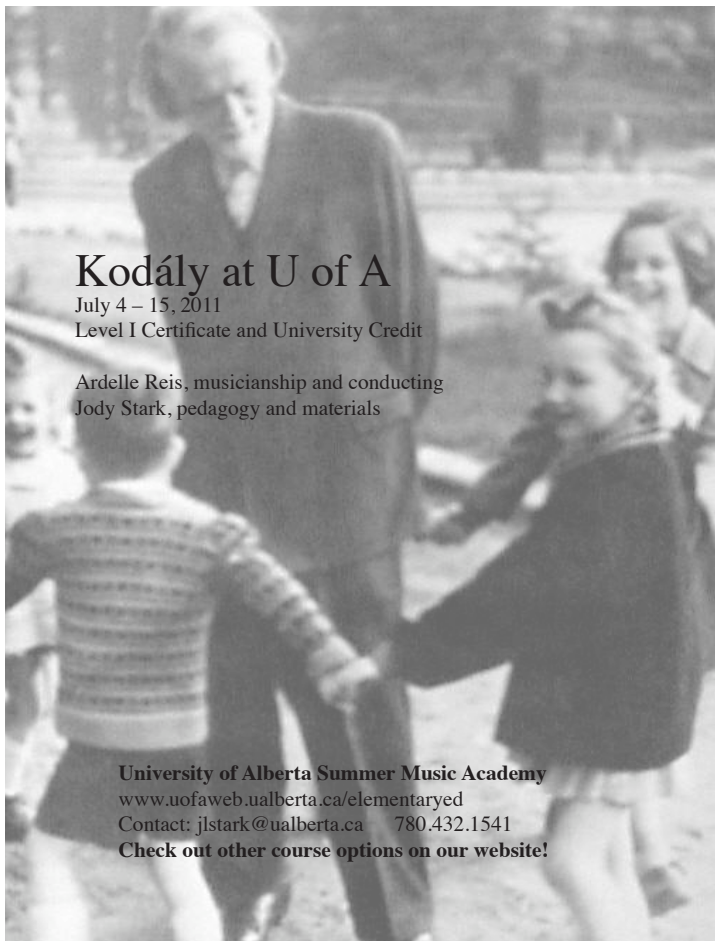
-Youth Choir Participant

Many thanks to the Alberta Foundation for the Arts and Concordia University College of Alberta for your invaluable support of this program. Your contribution makes a huge difference in Alberta’s music community and to our program. Singspiration 2011 will take place August 8-14, 2011.

Meet your Board: Joanna Dick

One of my earliest memories from my childhood was when I was performing at an assembly at my elementary school. I was very fortunate to have parents who believed in fostering the love of music in their children. Growing up I was involved in many different music lessons – piano, voice, flute, oboe, and musical theatre...the list When I was in grade 4 my mother, who was a teacher for Edmonton public schools, lost her voice in November and couldn’t sing. This was an obvious problem as she was preparing for a Christmas Concert. One Friday I did not have school because of PD and I went to school with her to be her voice and sing her songs. It was then I wondered about being a teacher. I decided it was not for me because it was a lot of work.

All these experiences eventually led me to the music program at the University of Alberta. I started my degree in the Music Faculty majoring in vocal performance. A few years into the program I decided to switch to the Education faculty. While I was going to school I taught piano lessons from my home. I was also introduced to the Kindermusik program, and started teaching young children in group settings. I loved working with the young children. It was very exciting to watch them discover movement, instruments, and most importantly, their singing voices. I graduated with an Education degree with a minor in Elementary music. 17 years after helping my mother teach, I find myself a teacher, and yes, it is a lot work. I have been teaching music for Edmonton Public Schools for 3 years. What other job do you get to sing and dance while teaching children? Teachers are a lucky lot. I decided to become involved with the AKA because I feel it is important for educators to have a focus in their teaching. I love singing and I hope to instill that love in my students.



Kodály at U of A

July 4 – 15, 2011

Level I Certificate and University Credit

Ardelle Reis, musicianship and conducting
Jody Stark, pedagogy and materials

University of Alberta Summer Music Academy

www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/elementaryed

Contact: jlstark@ualberta.ca 780.432.1541

Check out other course options on our website!



A World of Song in Your Music Classroom

Saturday, January 29, 2011
Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta

Dr. Kathy Robinson presents a full-day workshop

Songs from South and West Africa, Eastern Europe, Native America, the Spanish diaspora, the Middle East and areas bordering the Pacific Ocean will serve as points of departure in this highly participatory workshop. Teachers will experience the role and power of music in people's lives as we sing their songs, dance their dances, listen to their music, and become part of their communities. Detailed notes including specific strategies, curricular goals and resources will be distributed to participants at the workshop.

Kathy M. Robinson is Associate Professor of Music Education at the University of Alberta and the director of Umculo! Kimberley, a professional development program for in-service general and choral teachers featuring immersion in Galeshewe, South Africa. She has presented and published research focusing on world musics in education, Ghanaian and South African musics, culturally relevant pedagogy and urban music education and is an active clinician with more than 90 presentations given on five continents.

[REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!](#)

