

EPHATHA

NEWSLETTER FOR THE ALBERTA KODÁLY ASSOCIATION



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE DANICA HOFFART

Hello AKA members! I hope that you are doing well as you wrap up the school year and prepare for some much deserved holiday time. As you finish up with your teaching, concerts and end-of-the-year organizing, I hope that you mark your calendars for some exciting professional development opportunities for next year.

Once again, the AKA will be sponsoring sessions at this year's Music Conference Alberta. This joint meeting of the Alberta Choral Federation, the Alberta Band Association, the Alberta Music Education Foundation and the Alberta Kodály Association conference takes place at the Capri Hotel in Red Deer, October 30-November 1, 2008. This year's AKA clinicians are Singposium 2008 presenter, Anita Perla and newcomer to the AKA board, Jorgianne Talbot.

Then, after Christmas, gear up for Singposium 2009 taking place on January 30 and 31. This year's event promises to be an exciting one as it is a regional conference, offering a variety of sessions with several different clinicians. Also, the Kodály Society of Canada will be holding their annual meetings in conjunction with our conference, giving it a national profile.

Have a wonderful summer and we'll see you in the fall!



The AKA celebrated its 25th anniversary at Singposium 2008.

SPRING 2008
info@albertaKodály.ca
www.albertaKodály.ca

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

OAKE (Organization of American Kodály Educators) Kodály Summer Certification Programs.

The OAKE has a comprehensive list of institutions offering upcoming Kodály courses and workshops. Please visit them on the web at <http://oake.org/php/summerprograms.php> for more information.

AKA Sponsored Presenters at the Music Conference Alberta, October 30—November 1, 2008, Red Deer, Alberta. For more information, visit www.albertachoralfederation.ca.

Division Two Music: Activities to Keep Them Singin'. Anita Perlau

Are you discouraged by your grade sixes' attitude about singing? Have they turned from soprano wonders in grade three to moaners and droners? Help is on the way! In this session, Anita will present activities that both you and your division two students can enjoy. AND each activity purposefully teaches concepts and skills found in the Alberta Music Curriculum. Come prepared to sing, move and play your way through this action packed session.

Anita Perlau was an elementary music specialist for 12 years before joining the Mount Royal College Conservatory in 1997. Anita teaches in the Early Childhood Kodály Musicianship Program for children ages three to nine and loves it!!! Anita also has an extensive choral background. She directed the children's choirs of Mount Royal College for nine years. Presently she directs the "Alleluia Chorus" an ecumenical children's choir.

Purposeful Play: Experiencing Music through Active Play in the Early Years. Jorgianne Talbot
Children in the early years (K-1) first internalize musical concepts through active play. This session will provide ideas, songs, and games for early years music educators.

Jorgianne Talbot was born and raised in Edmonton, Alberta. She holds a Master of Music in Music Education with a Kodály Emphasis from Capital University (Columbus, OH), three diplomas from the Zoltan Kodály Pedagogical Institute of Music (Kecskemet, Hungary), an After-Degree in Elementary Education and a Bachelor of Music Degree from the University of Alberta. Jorgianne currently teaches music in the elementary setting.



Singposium 2009 Sound Progression

Through joyous repetition of favourite songs and games, children learn music concepts. Activities that are creative merge music performance with literacy.

Sessions will focus on classroom songs, games and activities that help to build a
Sound Progression!

EDMONTON
January 29-31, 2009
www.albertakodaly.ca



BOOK REVIEW

MUSIC, A WINDOW TO THE SOUL, by Lorraine Kneier

REVIEWED BY LOIS CHOKSY, D.F.A.
Professor Emeritus, University of Calgary

In *Music, A Window to the Soul*, Lorraine Kneier has produced an interesting book that could be a useful resource for both classroom teachers and music specialists. She offers the reader a collection of ten compositions, from every period of music, ranging from Gregorian Chant to Bartok, with both biographical information about each of the composers whose music she has selected, and a discussion of the elements of musical style for each period in terms of characteristic treatments of rhythm, melody, harmony, form, and expression. Excerpts of notation are given along with suggestions about what to listen for in the music. She suggests listening to each musical example four or five times, each with a different focus. Early experiences are designed simply to evoke feelings about the music and one's reactions to it, while the later "encounters" are focused on directed listening, in a more musically analytical manner.

Kneier has, interestingly, chosen only slow movements or examples for this study, her rationale being, in her words, that "their heartbeat tempo leads us gently into becoming one with the music".

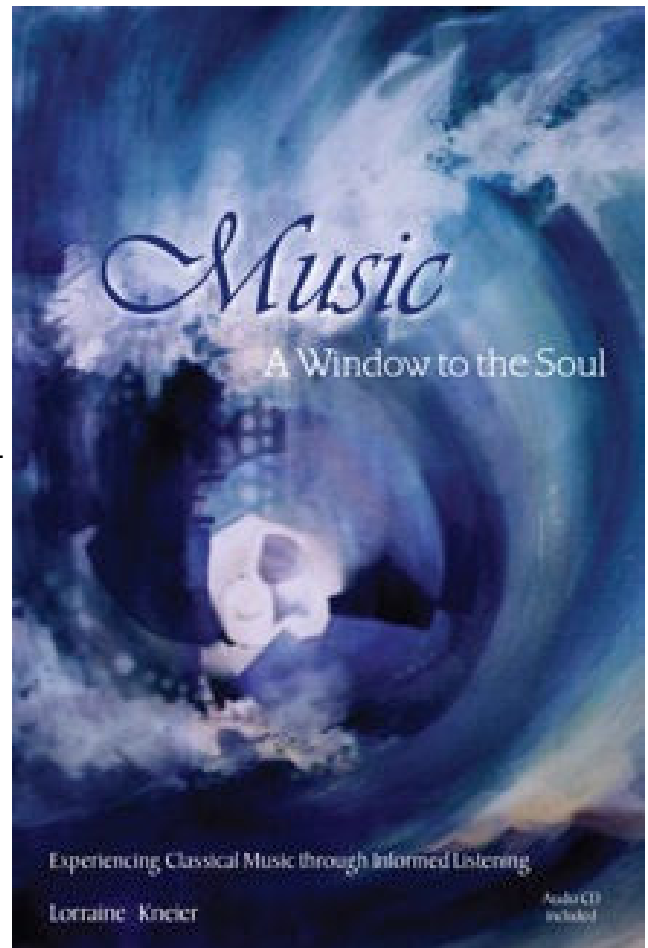
The book comes with a CD containing excellent performances of every work discussed. The Vienna Philharmonic, Sir Neville Marriner, Andras Schiff, and other performers of equal stature are included on the CD. This feature alone would make this small volume valuable, but Kneier has additionally offered the reader information about all the artists, and a useful musical glossary.

Kneier writes in an accessible and literate style. Her prose is easy to read and highly informative. Special mention must be made regarding the translation of texts from Latin and French. They are not simply translations, but have captured the poetic quality of the originals.

The volume is beautifully put together, with exceptional artwork both in the cover design, by Calgary artist, Joan MacLeod, and in the fine colour plates of composers introducing each section of the book.

I recommend this book to any teacher searching for music listening repertory or to any reader who simply wants an introduction into the world of classical music.

It may be purchased online at www.awindowtothesoul.ca for \$29.95 or by calling 403-860-4463.



WORKSHOP REVIEW

Singposium 2008: "The Primary Years – Primary Importance"
Enriching the lives of 4-8 year olds with a quality music program with Anita Perlau

JAMIE POPOWICH & HEATHER WALTON

We were fortunate to have local Kodály music specialist, Anita Perlau as our guest clinician for Singposium 2008. It was an enriching and inspiring workshop and it's wonderful to know we have such talent in our very own province!



Anita gave us a wonderful list of resources for use in the classroom. She shared many songs and games, as well as great books to supplement the music program with. We were able to watch Anita teach a sample lesson plan to a four-year-old class, and then discuss the purpose of each activity. In the afternoon, Anita talked about challenging our own musicianship, and gave ideas for Primary school.

Not only is she a wonderful singer, but Anita was an excellent presenter. She was fascinating to watch and she made everyone feel calm and comfortable. She has a great rapport with her own students and has so much knowledge to share!

Supplementing the Music Program with Great Books:

Old MacDonald - Jessica Souhami (0-7112-1024-1)
Itsy Bitsy Spider - Iza Trapani (1-58089-014-8)
Teddy Bear - Michael Hague (0-06-073304-7)
Hickory Dickory Dock - Robin Muller (0-439-95186-0)
We're Goin on a Bear Hunt - Michael Roser (0-7445-2323-0)
Peter and the Wolf - Michele Lemieux (1-55074-174-8)
There Were Ten in the Bed - (0-439-71053-7)
All the Pretty Horses - Linda Saport (0-618-55162-x)
Down at the Station - Jess Stockham (0-85953-942-3)
Wheels on the Bus (0-85953-136-8)
Good Night Moon - Margaret Wise Brown (0-694-00361-1)
Carnival of the Animals - Sue Williams (0-333-72305-8)
Frog Went a Courtin' - John Langstaff (0-15-633900-5)
Five Little Ducks - Raffi (0-517-58360-7)
Alligator Pie by Dennis Lee (0-7715-9566-2)



Other Valuable Resources:

- 120 Singing Games and Dances
Lois Choksy and David Brummit
- The Kodály Method
Lois Choksy
- The Kodály Context
Lois Choksy
- Kids Make Music & Babies Make Music Too
Lynn Kleiner
- The Book of Bounces
John Feierabend
- The Book of Children's Songtales
John Feierabend
- The Book of Fingerplays and Action Songs
John Feierabend
- The Book of Lullabies
John Feierabend
- The Book of Echo Songs
John Feierabend
- The Book of Simple Songs & Circles
John Feierabend
- Teaching Kids to Sing
Kenneth Phillips



CHANGES TO CBC RADIO 2

Many of you may be aware of the restructuring at the CBC that has resulted in the end of the CBC Radio Orchestra and programming cuts. Please see the Stand on Guard for CBC website: www.earsay.com/standonguardforcbc/ for more information. You can also download the complete Ivars Taurins speech that has been widely distributed lately, to sign a petition, or to find out how you can write to the CBC.

You can also visit the Facebook site to become a member of the *Save Classical Music at the CBC* group to help show your support for classical music at the CBC. Below is an excerpt from this group's site. You will need to be a member of Facebook to view it, visit www.facebook.com for more information.

CBC PROPOSES OVERHAUL OF RADIO 2

In early March CBC Radio 2 announced that they will be overhauling the station's programming. They plan to remake their weekday schedule entirely, relegating Classical programming to a weekday slot between 10am and 3pm. Gone are Music & Company - Tom Allen's morning show, Here's to You - Catherine Belyea's (Formerly Shelley Solmes') all-request show, Studio Sparks - due to the venerable Eric Friesen's "retirement", and Disc Drive - Jurgen Gothe's popular drive-home which has been on the air for almost 30 years. These changes come on the heels of last year's round of cuts to vital programs such as Danielle Charbonneau's much-loved Music for Awhile; Larry Lake's new composer showcase Two New Hours; Symphony Hall - Canada's live orchestra recording showcase; The Singer and the Song - Catherine Belyea's excellent Classical vocal program; and Northern Lights - the overnight Classical program beloved by Night Owls everywhere. (information adapted from the Facebook "Save Classical Music at the CBC" page).

WEDDING BELLS FOR AKA BOARD MEMBER

Our secretary Heather Walton has recently become engaged to her longtime boyfriend Phil. Congratulations Heather!

NEW ADDITION TO THE BERKO FAMILY

On November 7, 2007, Pearson Francis Berko was born to Kathryn and Andreas. Kathryn is a former member of the AKA board and Andreas currently serves as the newsletter editor.

KSC GOES GREEN!

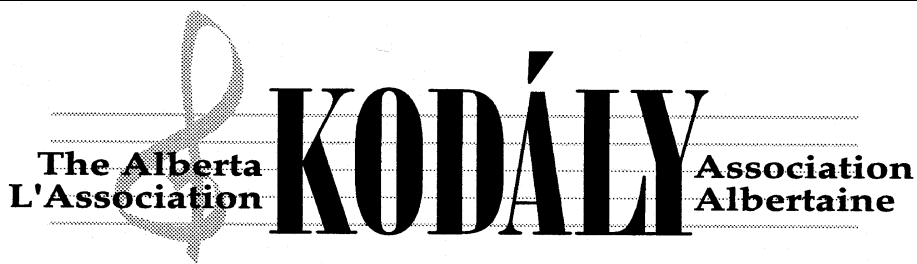
The Kodály Society of Canada is investigating the distribution of its publication *Alla Breve* in electronic format. Digital options include: .pdf format as email attachment, or .pdf format downloadable from a members-only area of a website. If you have a preference for one of these digital formats, or for continuing to receive a printed copy, please contact AKA and KSC board member Dr. Eila Peterson at eila@audigraph.ca. Please include a brief statement of reasons for your preference, to help with our decision-making.

The Alberta Kodály Association (AKA) was started by Alberta music educators who follow the teachings of Hungarian composer and music educator: Zoltán Kodály (pronounced "koh - dye").

The AKA provides professional development support and training for music teachers.

*The AKA is affiliated with the Kodály Society of Canada
(www.kodalysocietyofcanada.ca) and the International Kodály Society
(www.iks.hu).*

*Visit us on the web at
www.albertakodaly.ca*



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Date: _____

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____

Postal Code: _____ Home Phone: _____

Email: _____

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

Please check one of the following:

- Regular Member (\$40.00)
- Post-Secondary Student (free)
Graduating Year: _____

Please send this registration form along with your cheque payable to the:

ALBERTA KODÁLY ASSOCIATION

Alana Moran
AKA Registrar
#402, 12205 111 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
T5M 2N2



Alberta
Foundation
for the **Arts**