

CARSON-NEWMAN

MUSIC EVENTS

FALL 2023



FALL 2023 MUSIC EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 21 | 7:30 P.M.

FACULTY & GUEST ARTISTS
DUO-PIANO RECITAL
Thomas Recital Hall

SEPTEMBER 29 | 9:00 A.M.

CHORAL VOCAL CLINIC
& WORKSHOP
Thomas Recital Hall

OCTOBER 19 | 7:30 P.M.

GUEST PIANO RECITAL
Dr. Steven Graff
Thomas Recital Hall

OCTOBER 28 | 10:00 A.M.

HOMECOMING MUSIC SAMPLER
First Baptist Church, Jefferson City

OCTOBER 26, 27 & 28 | 7:30 P.M.

LYRIC THEATRE MUSICAL
JANE EYRE
Gentry Auditorium

OCTOBER 29 | 2:30 P.M.

LYRIC THEATRE MUSICAL
JANE EYRE
Gentry Auditorium



NOVEMBER 6 | 7:30 P.M.

GUEST RECITAL

Christopher Scholl, Ellen Scholl,
& Kevin Bylsma

Thomas Recital Hall

NOVEMBER 7 | 10:00 A.M.

MASTERCLASS

Scholl & Bylsma

Thomas Recital Hall

NOVEMBER 11 | 7:00 P.M.

FALL ORATORIO

Handel's Messiah

First Baptist Church, Dandridge

NOVEMBER 18 | 10:00 A.M.

HIGH SCHOOL PIANO

MASTERCLASS

Thomas Recital Hall

NOVEMBER 28 | 6 & 7:30 P.M.

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

Tarr Music Center



FACULTY AND GUEST ARTISTS PIANO MUSIC OF RACHMANOFF

Katherine Benson, Eunsuk Jung, Chih-Long Hu, & Ryan Fogg

SEPTEMBER 21 | 7:30 P.M. @ THOMAS RECITAL HALL

Katherine Benson

Young American pianist Katherine Benson is quickly emerging as an important artistic figure of her generation through her “stunning” (ArtsKnoxville) performances and passion for arts leadership.

A native of Jonesborough, TN, Katherine has performed as a soloist across the USA and abroad in Spain, Italy, the United Kingdom, Canada, and New Zealand. Katherine has additionally garnered numerous triumphs in the competition sphere, having won top prizes in the Seattle, Kerikeri, Walled City Music, Teresa Carreño, and Thousand Islands International Piano Competitions, as well as the grand prize of the 2020 George R. Johnson Concerto Competition. Katherine was most recently one of only four finalists in the prestigious Heida Hermanns International Music Competition.



An avid chamber musician, Katherine is the Artistic Director and pianist for The Paramount Chamber Players (TPCP), one of the premier chamber music ensembles of the the Appalachian region and now in its eighteenth concert season. Since taking her role with TPCP in 2020, Katherine has organized and performed over a dozen concerts with the ensemble, including a professionally recorded and entirely virtual 2020–2021 concert season. Katherine’s recent performance highlights from the ensemble’s live 2021–2022 season include Shostakovich’s Piano Trio in E Minor, Brahms’ Piano Quintet in F Minor, and Tchaikovsky’s Sleeping Beauty Suite arranged for piano four-hands.

Katherine is deeply passionate about arts leadership and interdisciplinary collaboration, and her innovative projects have been sponsored by multiple grants from the University of Tennessee and Rackham College at the University of Michigan. As an exploration between the intersections of artistic media, Katherine recently commissioned seven new pieces of art from graduate and undergraduate visual art students, each new work created directly in response to a solo piano piece.

Katherine is currently pursuing her Doctorate of Musical Arts in Piano Performance at the University of Michigan, where she studies with Professor Arthur Greene and serves as a graduate student instructor of private and class piano. She also holds degrees from the Eastman College of Music, Northwestern University, and an Artist Certificate from the University of Tennessee Knoxville, and her teachers include Chih-Long Hu, Nelita True, James Giles, and Jerilyn Paolini. Katherine is on the faculty of the University of Tennessee Knoxville as Adjunct Assistant Professor in Piano.



Eun-Suk Jung

Eun-Suk Jung, a native of South Korea, holds an undergraduate degree from Korea and the Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in piano performance from West Virginia University, where she also studied organ and harpsichord. Her doctoral research project was studying university level of class piano curricula in the United State and Korea. The dissertation title was Promoting Comprehensive Musicianship in Keyboard Harmony Classes. The purpose of this study was to suggest a more standardized approach to class piano instruction and modifications to class piano curricula that widen the

focus of the course content, without sacrificing the development of the specialized keyboard skill that forms the core of the class. She has been teaching college level of class piano for many years as well as music theory, ear training, and applied piano.

She has won numerous competitions in the United States and in Korea, such as the Music Teachers National Association Yamaha Competition, WVU Young Artists Competition, the Pittsburgh Concert Society Major Music Competition and Young Artist Competition. She has performed solo piano recitals in Frostburg University and Allegany College in Maryland, West Virginia University and was invited to 14th Season Music at Penn Alps for a Solo Piano Concert, Grantsville, Maryland. In addition to her solo work, Jung is a collaborative artist, works with professional musicians with various types of formation on recitals. She continues to perform in a variety of venues.

Jung is a Coordinator of Class Piano at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville. She is Vice President of KMTA and organist/pianist at Sequoyah Hills Presbyterian Church in Knoxville.



Chih-Long Hu

A native of Taiwan, pianist Chih-Long Hu's performance career was launched after receiving honors including the Taipei National Concert Hall Arising Star, the Chi-Mei Artist Award, and prizes from the Mauro Monopoli International Piano Competition in Italy, the Concours International De Piano D'Escaldes-Engordany in Andorra, the Takamatsu International Piano Competition in Japan, and San Jose International Piano Competition in California.



An active performer, Hu performs extensively in Asia, Europe, and America appearing as a concerto soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician. His recent performance highlights include concerto performances of Rachmaninov's Paganini Rhapsody, Mozart Concerto No.9, Schumann's Concerto in A, Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue, solo and chamber recitals in China, Taiwan, Korea, Indonesia, Ireland, Canada, and throughout the U.S. Hu's performances have been broadcast in "Performance Today" through NPR stations across the U.S. as well as in Taiwan, China and Japan. His CD albums "Formosa Caprices", "Complete Rachmaninov Etudes-Tableaux", and "Goldberg Variations" have received critical acclaims.

Recipient of the UT Chancellor's Excellence in Teaching Award and named "Teacher of the Year" by Tennessee Music Teachers Association, Knoxville Music Teachers Associations, and Appalachian Music Teachers Association, Hu is a committed and passionate teacher. He strives to cultivate and inspire curiosity in human expressions and to help his students discover their individuality through the music. His students have won numerous prizes from international and national competitions, and have been accepted to prestigious universities and conservatories after studying with him.

Hu involves with the community and has served in various professional organizations and committees. He is frequently invited to give lectures and masterclasses in various venues, as well as to judge international and national competitions. Hu has served as the Artistic Director of St. Andrews Piano Academy and Festival International in New Brunswick, Canada.

Hu holds a Doctorate of Musical Arts in piano performance from the University of Michigan, a Master's degree from Taipei National University of the Arts, and a Bachelor's degree in civil engineering from National Taiwan University. His piano teachers include Arthur Greene, Hung-Kuan Chen, and Tai-Cheng Chen. Hu is currently the Sandra G. Powell Endowed Professor of Piano and the keyboard area coordinator at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville.



Ryan Fogg

Dr. Ryan Fogg is Professor of Music and Director of Keyboard Studies at Carson-Newman University. A native Texan, he holds degrees in Piano Performance from The University of Texas at Austin (DMA), The University of Houston (MM), and East Texas Baptist University (BM, with distinction). Dr. Fogg maintains an active performing schedule and has presented solo recitals in California, Michigan, Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, Kansas, Texas, Arkansas, Mississippi, Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, Virginia, Ohio, and Tennessee. In addition, he has collaborated with the Blair

String Quartet, appeared as concerto soloist with the Knoxville Wind Symphony, and recorded new works by American composers through Albany Records.

Dr. Fogg has been on the Carson-Newman music faculty since 2006 and has been recognized with the Teaching Excellence and Leadership Award and the Faculty Creativity Award. He currently serves as the Senior Piano Competitions Chair for the Tennessee Music Teachers Association, and he holds Permanent Professional Certification through the Music Teachers National Association. He is in high demand as an adjudicator for local and state festivals and competitions, and he is well-published, having written articles for *Clavier Companion*, *American Music Teacher*, and *Piano Pedagogy Forum* on various topics relevant to piano students and teachers alike. His former teachers include Gregory Allen, Danielle Martin, Robert Brownlee and Dr. Randall Sulton.

GUEST PIANO RECITAL

Dr. Steven Graff

OCTOBER 19 | 7:30 P.M. @ THOMAS RECITAL HALL



Since his concerto debut with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, with whom he has appeared nine times, the American pianist Steven Graff has been the recipient of numerous distinguished awards and glowing critical praise. Mr. Graff was born in Chicago where he began his musical training. A string of scholarships led to studies at The Juilliard School where he received Bachelor's and Master's Degrees as a Petschek scholarship awardee, and a Doctorate of Musical Arts from The Graduate School of CUNY.

Steven Graff is at home on stage, over the airwaves and in the classroom. His appearances on the Nickelodeon Channel and the QE2 enlightened audiences with his interpretive performances, and recent tours of China, Norway, Japan, Italy, Israel and in cities across the U.S. have thrilled music-lovers everywhere.

LYRIC THEATRE MUSICAL: JANE EYRE

OCTOBER 26, 27 & 28 | 7:30 P.M. @ GENTRY AUDITORIUM

OCTOBER 9 | 2:30 P.M. @ GENTRY AUDITORIUM



Charlotte Brontë's hauntingly beautiful gothic romance is a heart-wrenching journey of love.

Charlotte Brontë's great love story comes to life with music to lift your heart and set your spirit soaring. This beloved tale of secrets and the lies that secrets create, of unimaginable hope and unspoken passion, reminds us what it is to fall deeply, truly and completely in love. Nominated for five Tony Awards, Jane Eyre explores religion, sexuality and protofeminism, all while enchanting audiences with a timeless love story.

Jane's story begins in Gateshead, where she is in the unfortunate care of her cruel Aunt Sarah and cousin, John, as per her uncle's dying wish. The miserable young orphan is finally rescued when she is sent away to attend Lowood School for Girls. After six years, Jane leaves Lowood and is shortly after hired as a governess at Thornfield Hall. Here, she meets Mr. Edward Rochester, thus beginning her passionate and heart-wrenching journey of love, loss and the struggles of morality.

This intellectual period drama is a wonderful work of theatre. It provides an opportunity for the classically trained voice, not to mention an excellent chance for all aspects of technical theatre to bring this masterful piece to life.



GUEST ARTISTS RECITAL

Christopher Scholl, Ellen Scholl, & Kevin Bylsma

NOVEMBER 6 | 7:30 P.M. @ THOMAS RECITAL HALL



Christopher Scholl

Coordinator of voice faculty; returned to the United States in 1997 after 20 years in Europe, where he enjoyed a highly successful career in opera, oratorio and recitals; bachelor's degree from Ithaca College and master's degree from the Eastman School of Music; additional study at the Conservatory of Music in Luebeck, Germany; has performed throughout Europe in cities such as Munich, Mannheim, Kiel, Rostock, Paris, Marseilles and Trieste; collaborated with conductors such as Jiri Kout, Klauspeter Siebel, Wolfgang Sawallisch, Gerard Oskamp and Carlos Kleiber, as well as working with stage directors Klaus von

Wangelin, Uwe Schwarz and Jean-Pierre Ponnelle; operatic repertoire embraces music from the baroque to the 20th century and Broadway; roles include Anastasio in Vivaldi's *Guistino*, Tamino in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* and Frank in the world premiere of Bialas's *Auf der Matrazen Gruft* (On the Grave of Mattresses), an opera about the life of the German poet Heinrich Heine; in operetta he has portrayed such characters as Barenky in Johann Strauss's *Der Ziegeunerbaron* and Eisenstein in *Die Fledermaus*; has also performed numerous oratorios and song recitals throughout Germany and Europe; performed Haydn's *Maria Theresa Mass* at Bluffton College as well as Handel's *Messiah* with the Toledo Choral Society and with the Mennonite Choral Society in Bern, Indiana.

Ellen Strba Scholl completed her music studies at both Northern Illinois and DePaul Universities. During her time in Illinois she worked with numerous regional opera companies. Following her studies she moved to Germany and continued her career on the Opera stage in cities that include, Hagen, Kiel and the Bavarian State Opera in Munich as well as performing live on the radio, various concert venues in the German speaking realm and National Television broadcasts. Upon returning to the United States she continued her performing career in concerts and recitals around the country with groups that include the Greenbriar Consortium which is the chamber music ensemble of the Houston Symphony orchestra. She has been on the voice faculty of the Universität zur Kiel, Bluffton and Findlay Universities as well as Bowling Green State University.

Kevin J. Bylsma

With more than two decades experience as a vocal coach, collaborative pianist, choral conductor, and organist, Kevin J. Bylsma is a musician of impressive depth and ability, well known for his work in opera, art song, and oratorio. A longtime member of the Toledo Opera staff, Mr. Bylsma is currently the Head of Music Preparation and Chorus Master, and was recently named Co-Artistic Director with the company. He was formerly Music



Director of the Department of Community Programs for the Michigan Opera Theatre and vocal coach, accompanist, and chorus master for OPERA! Lenawee. In recitals and master classes he has collaborated with the great American singers Samuel Ramey, Diane Soviero, Marilyn Horne, Dawn Upshaw, Michelle De Young, Irina Mishura, Katherine Lewek, and Jennifer Rowley. He is the Co-founder and Artistic Director of the Ann Arbor Festival of Song, and, for the past twenty-eight years, he has served the historic Mariners' Church of Detroit as Associate Organist and Choirmaster.

Dedicated to the education and training of the next generation of operatic talent, Mr. Bylsma is Coordinator of Opera and Repetiteur at Bowling Green State University's College of Musical Arts, responsible for vocal coaching and serving as a collaborative pianist for the school's large body of young singers. Mr. Bylsma also served on the artistic staff of OperaWorks, an intensive opera training program, based in Los Angeles, CA.

A native of Grand Rapids, MI, Mr. Bylsma received his musical training at Calvin College, Bowling Green State University, and the University of Michigan—where he received the Robert Glasgow Organ Scholarship. He currently resides in Toledo, Ohio's Old West End historic neighborhood with his cats: Rex and Dickens!

HIGH SCHOOL PIANO MASTERCLASS

NOVEMBER 18 | 10 A.M. - 3 P.M.

High school students (grades 9-12) are encouraged to apply for a unique Carson-Newman masterclass opportunity. Led by Dr. Ryan Fogg and Dr. Mark Hussung, the Saturday class is free to both participants and audience members. It includes a boxed lunch and a Carson-Newman information session. It's a great chance for serious piano students to receive instruction and advice for festivals, recitals, and scholarship competitions.

For more information, email rfogg@cn.edu.

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

NOVEMBER 28 | 6 & 7:30 P.M. @ Tarr Music Center Lobby

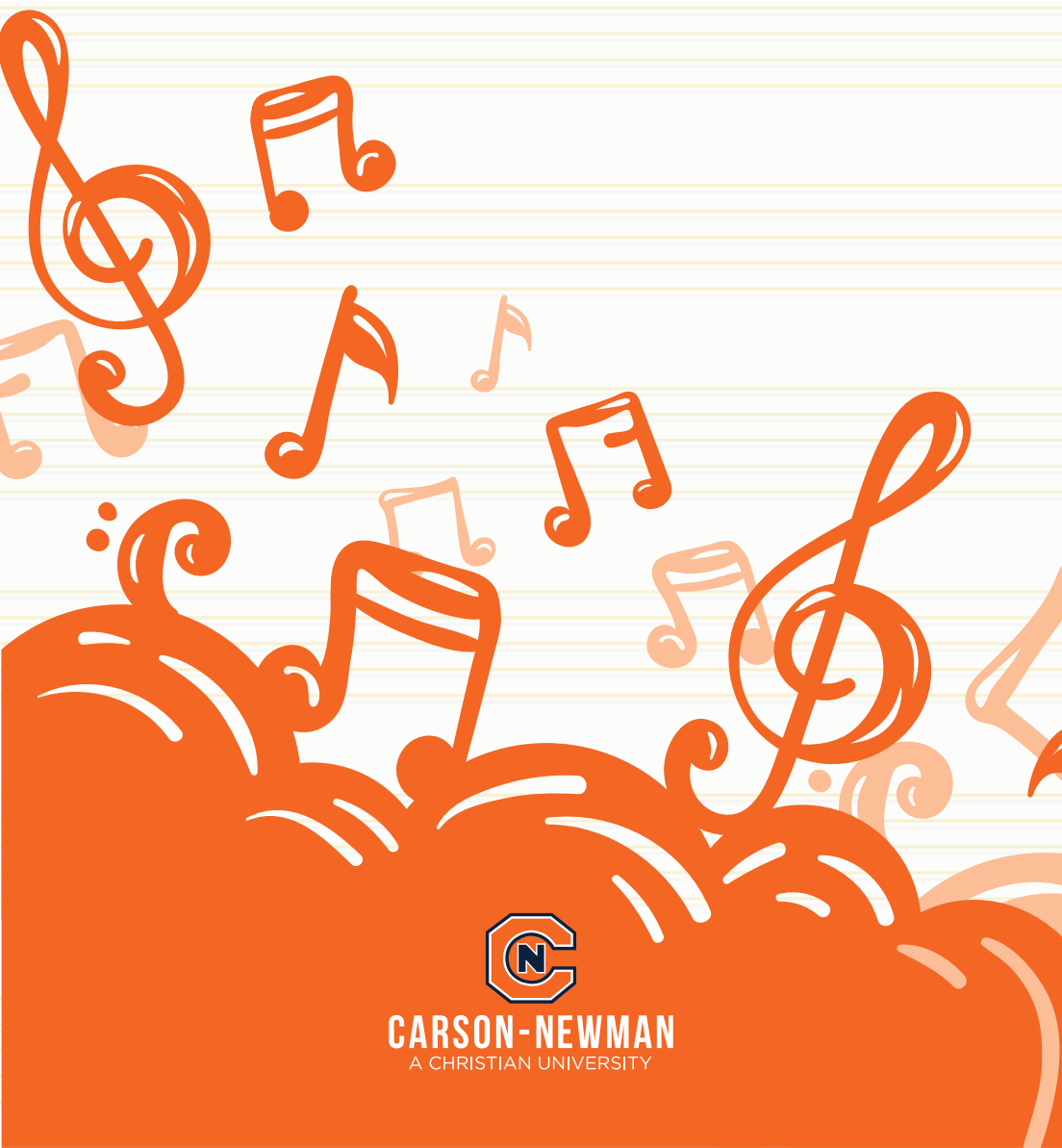


The Tarr Music Center Christmas Tree Lighting began in 1981, shortly after the new facility opened, quickly becoming a must-do for members of the Carson-Newman family and area music lovers. Various choral groups and instrumental ensembles usher in the Christmas season in the center's intimate lobby setting.

Please call 865-471-3328 for complimentary tickets.

SPRING 2024 MUSIC EVENTS

JANUARY 16 7:30 P.M.	FACULTY RECITAL: Dr. Ryan Fogg, piano <i>Thomas Recital Hall</i>
FEBRUARY 1 7:30 P.M.	WILLIAM DAWSON RECITAL <i>Thomas Recital Hall</i>
FEBRUARY 2 (<i>all day</i>)	2023-2024 TARR AUDITIONS WEEKEND <i>Tarr Music Center</i>
FEBRUARY 3 (<i>all day</i>)	2023-2024 TARR AUDITIONS WEEKEND <i>Tarr Music Center</i>
FEBRUARY 13 7:30 P.M.	GUEST ARTIST TWO-PIANO RECITAL: Jonathan Jung & Joo-Hae Kim <i>Thomas Recital Hall</i>
MARCH 14 7:30 P.M.	A CAPPELLA CHOIR HOME CONCERT <i>First Baptist Church, Jefferson City</i>
MARCH 26 7:30 P.M.	GUEST RECITAL: Dr. Serena Hill-Laroche, soprano & Dr. Catherine Garner, piano <i>Thomas Recital Hall</i>
APRIL 11 7:30 P.M.	LYRIC THEATRE OPERA <i>Gentry Auditorium</i>
APRIL 13 2:00 P.M.	LYRIC THEATRE OPERA <i>Gentry Auditorium</i>
APRIL 16 6:00 P.M.	REDEMPTION: NIGHT OF WORSHIP <i>Eyrie</i>
APRIL 18 7:30 P.M.	WOMEN SINGERS & MEN'S CHORUS CONCERT <i>Thomas Recital Hall</i>
APRIL 22 7:30 P.M.	SYMPHONIC BAND SPRING CONCERT
APRIL 23 7:30 P.M.	MUSIC HONORS CONCERT & AWARDS NIGHT <i>Thomas Recital Hall</i>



CARSON-NEWMAN
A CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY