

# Kodály Educators of Iowa

October 2012

## From the President ~ Kris VerSteegt



It is hard to believe that it is October already, and that's means it is MKMEA conference time again. I can still remember attending my first MKMEA conference in Milwaukee. I had an opportunity to take a two-hour class on dulcimer technique and tuning from Jill Trinka, and take a workshop where Brent Gault demonstrated his outstanding work with movement and masterworks.

My family came along, and while I learned from some of the best and brightest of our time, my boys walked by the lake, went shopping, and found delicious places to eat. It was a win-win for everyone.

You may be asking yourself, "Why should I go to MKMEA this coming weekend? I have seen Kris many times, I went to Penny and Kelly's Smartboard workshop already... what will I really get out of it?" As a frequent flyer of these events, let me tell you a few reasons why this opportunity is really worth your while.

- 1) Tom Michalek is the keynote speaker. I count Tom among the blessings in my life for his humor, his grace, and his dedication to the art of teaching music.
- 2) The networking opportunities are amazing. When you need advice, resources, or connections in your professional life, the people you meet at conferences will make a difference for you.
- 3) Let's face it, our districts can't provide the kind of professional development music teachers really need. At conferences, not only do you see the best people, but you also see the best from them. One could spend weeks or months with a great pedagogue and learn a great deal, but in an hour—everything they share is GOLDEN.
- 4) Vendors at MKMEA are vendors that support Kodaly-inspired teaching and every single booth will have something you can use in your teaching.
- 5) Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, one cannot overstate the power of having like-minded teachers together. The possibilities of affecting real change are extraordinary when people work together towards a common goal.

I will be at MKMEA Omaha this weekend. I hope to see you there!

---

## KEI at MKMEA

Don't miss the following presenters with KEI connections as they share their expertise at ***Do-Si-Do to the Big O*** October 5-7 in Omaha: ***Do-Si-Do Your Partner*** and ***Orff Schulwerk in a Kodály-Inspired Classroom*** with Andrew Ellingsen; ***Square Your Do and Circle Your So: Music Literacy Made Fun in the Choral Setting*** with Barbara Sletto; ***Methods and Materials for Intermediate Grades*** with Thomas Sletto; ***Keeping the Fundamentals FUN with Manipulatives*** with Kris VerSteegt; ***Using Technology to Include, Inspire and Inform*** with Kelly Janson and Penny Zaugg. Visit <http://www.pskor.org/mkmea2012/> for more conference information.

## KEI at IMEA

Join hundreds of music educators in Ames November 15-17 for the state convention. Sessions include: ***Traditional Movement for PK-1*** and ***Teaching Traditional Dances K-6*** with the New England Dance Masters; ***Putting the "Active" in Active Listening*** with Kodály Educators of Iowa; ***Singing Games for Upper Elementary*** with Kris VerSteegt; ***General Music's Role in the Fine Arts Iowa Core***, a panel including Thomas Sletto, Michelle Droe and Penny Zaugg; ***Help! I have to teach Pre-K Music!*** with Judy Panning. Visit [www.imea.org/](http://www.imea.org/) for more details.

---

## First Iowa Orff Workshop Update

The FIO workshops have been updated with a date change. Michael Chandler will present ***Putting it all Together: Effective and Efficient Teaching Using Orff Schulwerk*** on October 20. Jay Broeker will present ***Sing, Play, Move: Sequential Development of Enactive Understanding*** on April 13. Visit <http://firstiowaorff.org/brochure2012.pdf> for more details.

---

## This Worked for Me ~ Fall Fun

Looking for some fun fall books for your classroom? Try *Five Little Bats Flying in the Night* (Steve Metzger), *Barn Dance* (Bill Martin Jr/John Archambault), *One Little Two Little Three Little Apples* (Matt Ringler), *Dem Bones* (Bob Barner), *Who Killed Cock Robin* (Kevin O'Malley), *The Turkey Ball* (David Steinberg) *Ten Fat Turkeys* (Tony Johnston) and *I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Pie* (Alison Jackson).

Need a good video? Try *Barn Dance* from the *Reading Rainbow* series. Besides the delightful story narrated by Roy Clark, there is also footage of fiddle making, clogging and a barn dance.

Looking for a listening lesson? Try excerpts of Vivaldi's Autumn: Allegro (Ballo e canto) from the *Four Seasons* for steady beat, contrasting loud/soft or heavy/light or for form and marking phrases. (Ex: walk the beat and change direction when a new phrase begins. Add scarves for visual interest.)

Fall is all about apples and leaves, so try graphing the form of a song with cutouts of various colors of apples or types of leaves. Write note values on leaves or apples and use them for class composition or rhythmic dictation. Give students mini versions for individual composition and dictation.

---

---

## Congratulations to...

This fall Emily Chatfield began a new position at Clear Creek Elementary School in Oxford (CLear Creek-Amana).

Kris VerSteegt is the 2012 IMEA Conference Registration Chair, so you might catch her at the registration desk between presenting and attending sessions.

---

## Happy Birthday to You - Composers of the Month

Composers born in October: Domenico Scarlatti (1685), Franz Liszt (1811), Giuseppe Verdi (1813), Camille Saint-Saens (1835), George Bizet (1838), Heinrich Schutz (1585), Alexander Gretchaninov (1864), Paul Dukas (1865), Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872), Charles Ives (1874)

Composers born in November: Jean-Baptiste Lully (1632), Francois Couperin (1668), Leopold Mozart (1719), Carl von Weber (1786), Fanny Mendelssohn (1805), John Philip Sousa (1854), Paul Hindemith (1895), Aaron Copland (1900), Benjamin Britten (1913)

---

## OAKE Convention 2013

OAKE invites you to attend *The Nature of Music - Kodály in New England* March 21-23 in Hartford, CT.

---

KEI is an affiliate of the Organization of American Kodály Educators  
[www.oake.org](http://www.oake.org)

<https://sites.google.com/site/kodalyiowa/>

Kris VerSteegt, President • LeAnn Houlette, Vice-President • Carly Huhn, President-Elect • Molly Loftin, Secretary • Sonia Johnson, Treasurer • Mary Schmelzer, Membership Chair • Kelly Janson, Member-At-Large • Sara McCue, Member-at-Large • Lee Randall, Webmaster •

