

Kodály Educators of Iowa

October 2009

Notes from the President — Welcome back!



I hope that you have had a great start to the new year of teaching. Now it's time to gear up for an exciting year of KEI workshops! We are excited to offer something new this year. We heard from several attendees that they would appreciate credit for attending workshops. There is a link on the website workshop page that will supply you with all the information necessary to receive either graduate credit or licensure credit. It is necessary to attend all three workshops to receive credit. Additional details will be given at the first workshop. Please note that each workshop is in a different location, so check the website for directions.

On October 10, Kris VerSteegt will present *Making Connections: Using manipulatives to keep the fundamentals fresh and fun*. I was able to see Kris present at First Iowa Orff in August, and she was fantastic! If you saw her present a couple of years ago in connection with Artie Almeida, come and see her again because she's got new stuff she wants to share!

On January 23, 2010, we will be fortunate to hear from Dr. Sylvia Munsen who will present *Planning the Music Experience* from 9-noon. This will be based on singing and playing songs/games appropriate to K-2. Topics addressed will include helping students experience/develop independent musicianship skills, planning lessons, identifying basic folk song forms, giving strategies for success and learning to teach vertically and horizontally. From 1-3pm, Mary Newton will share her fun activities and visuals for K-2 students. Mary presented at IMEA

two years ago and was a big hit! We will be working with Mary on a "make and take" that you'll be able to take home to use with your students.

Join us on March 6 as we welcome Sr. Lorna Zemke to UNI to share with us about using jazz, America's true art form, with our students. I was able to attend her session on this topic at the MKMEA conference in Witchita, and it was great! Sr. Lorna takes classic jazz pieces and demonstrates how they fit into a Kodály curriculum.

KEI will again be presenting at IMEA on Saturday morning, November 21. Please come and support IMEA! KEI's session will have great ideas for keeping music joyful. The activities will be educational ideas to make you and your students smile and really look forward to the next class. Look for information on getting together to have lunch on Saturday.

We have a few new officers in KEI. Congratulations to our Vice President LeeAnn Houlette, Members-at-Large Marsha Fries and Sara McCue, and Membership Chair Mary Schmelzer. We are so fortunate to have wonderful, devoted members to fill these positions. Thanks to all new and returning board members! There will be a meeting following our first workshop on October 10, and all members are invited to attend.

KEI looks forward to an exciting and enriching new school year. I hope that you are all off to a great start, and I look forward to seeing you in one week at our first workshop ~ Shelley Droe

KEI Fall Workshop



Mark your calendars for October 10 for ***Making Connections: Using manipulatives to keep the fundamentals fresh and fun***, featuring Kris VerSteegt. Folk dances, singing games and other activities will be punctuated with more than 30 fun ways to practice absolute pitch names, rhythm syllables, note values, inner hearing, instrument families, numerical counting, dictation, and solfege. Participants will receive a fabulous handout complete with masters for the manipulatives. Cost of the workshop is \$20 for members, \$25 for non-members and \$5 for students. Lunch is provided. Visit www.kodalyiowa.org for registration information. Come join us for a fresh and fun way to kick off the school year!

Note, the workshop is at a **new location - Ashland Ridge Elementary in Ankeny**. Take I-35 to exit 96. Head west. At the stop sign, head south on Hwy 69 (Ankeny BLVD). At the stop light (by Casey's), head west on 36th street. At the stop sign, head south on Ash Dr. Ashland Ridge is on your right. Please enter through the southern most door, on the façade of the building, but near the gymnasium.

MKMEA

Come celebrate Oktoberfest in Milwaukee on October 16-18, 2009. ***Brewing up Kodály*** features Sr. Lorna Zemke as keynote speaker, and Dr. Ruth Dwyer will conduct the conference honor choir. Don't miss this opportunity to jumpstart your fall!

IMEA Convention Nov 19-21

This year's KEI presentation is ***Keeping it Joyful!*** on Saturday November 21 at 11am. This session is designed to do just what it says - to provide tips and ideas for joyful music-making and to help teachers avoid getting swallowed up by the many things that do need to be done, such as teaching music literacy, doing assessment, managing the music classroom, the list goes on... Come and enjoy a session that reminds us about the **FUND**amentals.

Tom Sletto will present ***Assessment in the Music Classroom? How and Why*** on Saturday at 2pm. This session will discuss various methods of assessment throughout your district-wide music curriculum. The importance of reporting and assessing what "we do naturally each day" continues to provide a platform to save music curriculum offerings in the public schools. A panel of music teachers will share their assessment tools. Come with questions and ideas!

IMEA Spring Workshop

On Friday, May 14, Tom Sletto will present ***Movement with Meaning*** from 6-9pm. On Saturday, May 15, Dr. Artie Almeida will present ***Recipe for Success***. The workshop will be held at Drake. AEA and Drake credit will be available for those attending both sessions. Thanks to West Music, Des Moines Public Schools, Heritage Music and Drake University for sponsoring this great event!

KEI Upcoming Events

Make plans now to attend the other events that we have scheduled for the 2009-10 school year. Join us on January 23 for **Best in Class**, featuring Dr. Sylvia Munsen and Mary Newton. Location TBA. On March 6, KEI presents Sr. Lorna Zemke at UNI. Check the website for more details.

OAKE 2010 National Convention

Make plans now to join hundreds of Kodály educators in Dallas, Texas on March 18-20 for **The Arts are Key: Deep in the Heart of Kodály**.

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 Schütz, 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)

Great Game Resource!

Looking for computer games for your classroom? Visit The Music Interactive website at <http://www.themusicinteractive.com/> to find music games, activities and software for your students. Games include Staff Wars (think Star Wars) to practice note reading skills, Rhythm Adding to challenge music and math skills, and Rhythm Blocks for rhythmic dictation.

Food for Thought

We never touch people so lightly that we do not leave a trace~Peggy Tabor Milin

KEI is an affiliate of the Organization of American Kodály Educators

www.oake.org www.kodalyiowa.org

Michelle Droe, President • LeeAnn Houlette, Vice-President • Molly Loftin, Secretary • Sonia Johnson, Treasurer • Mary Schmelzer, Membership • Marsha Fries, Member-At-Large • Sara McCue, Member-at-Large

