

Piano Teaching Staff *continued*

Vicki Diefenbacher began teaching in the Preparatory and Community Piano Program in 2000. Prior to this she served on the faculties of the Piano Academy of North Central College and the Oakbrook Academy of Music and Art. Diefenbacher holds a B.Mus degree in piano performance and pedagogy from Roosevelt University where she studied piano pedagogy with Bruce Berr. She also holds a B.A. degree in English from DePaul University. She is a member of MTNA, ISMTA and CAMTA.

Billie Howard joined the Preparatory and Community Piano Program full-time faculty in 2004. She holds a M.Mus degree in piano and piano pedagogy from Northwestern University where she studied piano pedagogy with Marcia Bosits and piano with Sylvia Wang. She received her B.A. in piano and violin from Montana State University. As a performer she has won several competitions and appears regularly as a solo and collaborative performer. She performs frequently with Accessible Contemporary Music's new music ensemble, *Palomar*. She also plays electric violin and keyboards in the Chicago-based rock band, *The Paver*. She is a member of Pi Kappa Lambda, MTNA and ISMTA.

Concordia Music Achievement Examinations

All children who study piano in the Preparatory and Community Piano Program for at least one year participate in the Concordia Music Achievement Examinations (CMA). This program gives students clear goals in performance, technique and theory and also provides parents and teachers with an independent evaluation of student progress.

Videotaping

Lessons in the Preparatory and Community Piano Program are frequently videotaped. These videos are used for the educational advancement of teachers. They may be used in private conference or in professional presentations on the subject of piano pedagogy.

Observations/Teaching Assistants

The Preparatory and Community Piano Program serves as a model of teaching excellence for students enrolled in the University course in piano pedagogy. These aspiring teachers frequently observe our lessons. Some pedagogy students serve as teaching assistants under the direct supervision of the program director.



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Preparatory and Community Piano Program

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Study Programs in Piano

Through its Preparatory and Community Piano Program, Concordia University Chicago offers piano study plans for children and adults. Students at any level, from beginning through advanced, are eligible for lessons.

Piano Study for Children

*Private Instruction plus
Monthly Group Lesson*

This plan is available for students of all levels, from beginning to advanced. The private lesson emphasizes individualized instruction in repertoire, technique, and musicianship. The monthly class promotes performance as well as additional training in theory, music history and literature, sight-reading and practice skills. (There are no private lessons during group lesson weeks.)

Piano Study for Adults

Traditional private lessons are available for adult students.

Making Music Together Classes for Adults

Designed for the older adult with little or no piano experience, these recreational music-making classes promote musical learning and enjoyment in a fun, stress-free social environment. Each eight-week session includes playing the piano, singing, musical movement, drumming and listening activities. For more information on these offerings, contact Craig Sale at (708) 209-3141.

Pre-School Music Classes

Weekly pre-school music experiences are offered in our Musikgarten classes. These classes provide movement and music activities proven to enhance all spheres of development in the pre-school child. For prices and class times, contact Fionna Bezaire at (708) 209-3618.

To Arrange for Lessons

New students are interviewed prior to enrollment (with at least one parent accompanying children). The first term's tuition is payable at the time of enrollment. All subsequent fees will be billed at the end of one term for the following term. All bills must be paid before lessons begin.

For further information, or to schedule an interview, call (708) 209-3141.

Philosophy

Concordia's philosophy is that there is music in every child, and that all children, through music, can become more confident, creative, and happier human beings.

Our goal is to provide a warm and supportive environment in which children can explore the world of music, develop positive attitudes about themselves and the arts, and grow in their ability to understand their feelings and express them. Music is a child's second language. Learning to read and "speak" it should be included in every child's education. In addition to developing new physical skills and affording the pure pleasure of learning to play the piano, music study can contribute greatly to a child's intellectual and emotional growth. A student experiences the joy of active participation in the arts and develops the ability to learn independently and make efficient use of study time.

Our innovative approach combines the best of traditional methods with the latest thinking and techniques in music education. It is a creative approach that helps all students realize their greatest potential and musical growth.



Piano Teaching Staff

Craig L. Sale has served as director of the Preparatory and Community Piano Program since its inception in 1986, and teaches university courses in piano pedagogy. He is an Associate Editor for *Clavier Companion* magazine and the co-author of *The Music Tree 3: Activities* and *The Music Tree 4: Activities*. Sale holds a B.Mus. degree summa cum laude from Northwestern University, a M.Mus. degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and a Professional Teaching Certificate from the New School for Music Study in Princeton, N.J., where he studied piano pedagogy with Frances Clark and Louise Goss. Sale has presented workshops for piano teachers throughout the U.S. and is a member of Pi Kappa Lambda, Music Teachers National Association (MTNA), Illinois State Music Teachers Association (ISMTA) and Chicago Area Music Teachers Association (CAMTA).

Annie Artinian has taught in the Preparatory and Community Piano Program since 2006. She maintains a home studio and taught for many years at the Piano Academy of North Central College in Naperville. She holds a B.Mus degree in piano performance and pedagogy from Roosevelt University (Chicago Musical College) where she studied piano pedagogy with Bruce Berr. She also holds a degree in business administration from Haigazian College in Beirut, Lebanon. She is a member of MTNA, ISMTA and CAMTA.