

## Conference Clinicians



**Svetlana Belsky**

Born in the Soviet Union, Svetlana Belsky began piano lessons at the age of seven, and was soon performing in the major concert halls of her native Kiev. Her playing has been critically acclaimed as "passionate," "impressive," "hypnotic" and "... (possessing) a high degree of musical maturity and sensitivity." Dr. Belsky received her Bachelor of Music summa cum laude and Master of Music degrees from the Peabody Conservatory of Music, where she studied with Ann Schein, a student of the legendary Arthur Rubinstein. She earned her Doctorate in Performance at the Manhattan School of Music while working under Mme. Nina Svetlanova, an heir to the tradition of Heinrich Neuhaus. Ms. Belsky has been active as a recitalist and chamber performer throughout the United States, in concert and on the radio. Dr. Belsky resides in the Chicago area, where she teaches, writes, lectures, and performs. She is on the faculty of the North Shore School for the Arts, and has recently been named Coordinator of Piano Studies at the University of Chicago.

**Kristin Elgersma**

Kristin Elgersma is a doctoral candidate in Piano Performance & Pedagogy at Northwestern University. She has been on the faculty at the Northwestern Music Academy for six years, and has also taught at the Merit School of Music in Chicago. She performs regularly as a soloist, collaborative pianist, and chamber musician and is a student of Sylvia Wang.



**Barbara Wirz Ellsworth**

Barbara Wirz Ellsworth is a European trained Dalcroze Eurhythmics instructor and pianist. In 1980 she earned a Masters in Dalcroze Eurhythmics at the State College of Music, Musikhochschule Köln, in Cologne, Germany, and in 2003 a Masters of Music at Northern Illinois University. She studied piano performance under Prof. Donald Walker and Dr. Theodore Edel.

Her music education career began in 1978, and over the years she has established extensive and profound teaching experience in piano and Dalcroze Eurhythmics with all ages in a wide spectrum of educational and therapeutic settings.

Currently, she offers Dalcroze programs nationwide, and has been employed as visiting faculty for Northern Illinois University and DePaul University in Chicago. She maintains a private piano studio and teaches piano and Dalcroze Eurhythmics at the Community School of the Arts at NIU. She is an active performer of chamber music, and author of the book, *The Golden Carousel- An Introduction to Classical Piano Music for Young Children*, published in 2001 for elementary schools in Germany.

**Christine Hermanson**

Christine Hermanson has taught piano students ages 3 through 87 as an independent music teacher, in her own fine arts academy, and world-wide through the award-winning MIDI piano instruction software published in the 1990's. She is the author of thirteen software titles including *Piano by Musicware*, *PianoWorks* by Temporal Acuity Products and the *Alfred Adult Piano Course for Windows* by Alfred Publishing. Christine served as MTNA Technology Coordinator and designed and conducted the MTNA Symposium on Technology in Music for 16 years. Currently, music students from all over the world are developing music theory and ear training skills by playing over 350 learning games on her innovative website, [MusicLearningCommunity.com](http://MusicLearningCommunity.com).

B. M. in Piano Performance and Music Education—University of Michigan  
M. S. in Education—Instructional Technology—Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville

