



## UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

June 5, 2021

NMTA State Conference

Notes from the editor: This newsletter goes out as pdf, which can be enlarged for easier viewing.

**\*\*\*\*Additional emails from NMTA now go out via mailchimp,** which, if you have a gmail sorter, may go into your trash folder, so you'll need to change your gmail settings to accommodate.

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# NEVADA *Notes*

## From the President . . .

Suzanne Clayson

Dear Colleagues,

What a year we have all had in 2020! As I reflect on the challenges and accomplishments of the teachers and students in Nevada this year, I am truly amazed! You have demonstrated resiliency, creativity, persistence, and kindness. It's a gift to be part of such a force for good in our community! Many of you have experienced loss and hardship during this pandemic. I extend my sincere sympathy and concern to you! Hopefully, as an association, we can help each other not only professionally but personally. Friends and colleagues have helped me celebrate the good times and find peace in the hard times this year.

Some of the outstanding accomplishments of 2020 were the Nevada MTNA competitions and the Silver State competition. Our chairs did wonderful work converting these competitions to online events! It was a lot of work! Teachers and students also stepped up and submitted amazing performances, navigating new submission platforms. Thank you to all those who organized and participated in these events! You can read more details about each competition later in the newsletter. Congratulations to the winners, teachers, and to all participants, for continuing to work hard. As I communicated with judges, they commented repeatedly how pleased they were that students were continuing to participate, and how impressed they were with the performances.

Our local associations also adapted well to new challenges, reaching out to include as many students and teachers as possible through online, hybrid, or carefully structured in person events. Our community, at the local, state, and national level, has been able to provide new opportunities and continued growth for our students. MTNA continues to offer many resources to support us in the teaching challenges of our day.

At this time of year, my thoughts turn to gratitude. I'm grateful this year to belong to the NMTA community and for the support it has given me in my teaching.

I'm grateful for the many friends and mentors I have found in this organization. This year, I am especially grateful to the absolutely wonderful NMTA board! They are incredible! The board members volunteer countless hours to provide quality programs in our state. Not only are they hard working, they are smart and fun. It has been a joy and a privilege to serve as your president for the last 2 years. Thank you for this wonderful opportunity! Best wishes to the new board.

May you find joy and stay safe going into this holiday season!

## Silver State Competition

Dear NMTA members:

Thank you very much for entering your students in the 2020 Silver State Competition.

We are delighted that over 260 entries participated. We thank you for your dedication and hard work in music education even in the midst of pandemic.

At this moment, our judges are evaluating entries to pick the winners. The result will be announced around November 15th. Please check the NMTA website for the results. ([www.NVMTA.com](http://www.NVMTA.com))

We are proud and thankful to have such amazing judges. Please see the bios of the 2020 Silver State Competition judges. You can also find it on NMTA website.

Congratulations to everyone for your hard work!

Sincerely,

Cindy Lee and Damaris Morales

Silver State Competition co-chairs

Cindy Lee

Pianist / Artistic Director / Educator

LVMTA Vice President of Membership Silver State Competition Co-Chair

NSA Faculty

[415-794-0560](tel:415-794-0560)

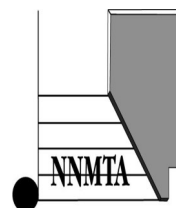
[klavierjh@gmail.com](mailto:klavierjh@gmail.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/leepiano>

**\*\*Editor's Note:** Please see .pdf attachment to this newsletter to see Judges' Photos and Bios.



## Local Chapter Updates



### News from the South: Amy Smith, President

Hello, from Las Vegas! I'm very happy to report that LVMTA has thrived through the start of our "new normal," having completed two events successfully, and we are looking forward to our next upcoming adventures.

In September, we had our very first hybrid Jazz Rags and Blues Festival. We were very excited to combine with students of Northern Nevada, and give the students the option of performing one of two ways, either in person, live in front of a judge, or by video submission. The whole experience was new and different, as far as the virtual part goes, but Chairperson and LVMTA Past President, Marlene Meagher did an outstanding job, creating a system that allowed the event to run really smoothly, for which we are really grateful.

Our most recent event was Ensemble Festival. This was held entirely virtual, under the leadership of Michelle Lee, Allison Olson, and Kathleen Waite. I understand that this was also a success, and awards were mailed out to the teachers, to give to their students. What a world we live in, right now! Who knew that we would be able to have successful competitions and festivals, all online? All of these Chairpersons deserve a round of applause for their dedication to make sure their events not only happen, but create a memorable experience for all student performers.

Fall has really flown by, and many students are preparing to participate in our annual Play-a-thon, at the Galleria at Sunset Mall, next month. Chairperson Allison Olson has been diligently preparing for this annual Holiday event, making sure all the details are in place to make this year's event is a wonderful experience for all students and teachers involved.

That's it for now, but before I end this article, I came upon a quote that seems fitting today, and I would like to share, in the spirit of Thanksgiving:

"Thanksgiving reminds us that no matter what befalls us in life, we can take the charred remnants and we can reconstruct a life unimaginably richer than that from which the shards and pieces fell."

-Craig D. Lousbrough

Have a safe, and Happy Thanksgiving, everyone!

### News from the North

#### Amy Jahn, Acting President

NNMTA is chugging along as we wind up this crazy year! Many of our events and activities have been canceled due to Covid-related issues, but we did manage to hold a member appreciation luncheon back in September with 11 members in attendance and a small, in-person Halloween recital on October 31. Sadly, we've had to cancel our upcoming Play-a-Thon that would have been held in December at Scheels. Due to Covid restrictions, they were not able to host us this year and rather than attempt to hold an under-whelming event, we've opted to cancel and set our sights on 2021.

As some of you know, NNMTA President Erika Paul has resigned, putting me back in the position of Acting President once again. While I'm comfortable in the role after six years on and off, I would definitely like to hand it off to someone else eventually! We are actively looking for someone to be President Elect but are happy to have filled our other open board positions of Caring Chair and Hospitality Co-Chairs.

I'm so excited that Northern Nevada student Adrian Lin (teacher Tamara Saakyan) won the MTNA NV State competition, Junior Piano Division this year! I'm also thrilled that two other Northern Nevada students (teachers Tamara Saakyan and Mayu Nomura) received Honorable Mention in the Junior and Senior Piano Divisions. Keep up the good work, students and teachers!



## YOUR STAGE IS WAITING!



Department of Music  
College of Liberal Arts | School of the Arts

We invite you to audition for the Department of Music at the University of Nevada, Reno

- Deadline to submit audition video and music scholarship application is February 1, 2021
- For more information, visit: [www.unr.edu/music/admissions/undergraduate-admissions](http://www.unr.edu/music/admissions/undergraduate-admissions)
- If you have questions, contact Mary Miller: [mvmiller@unr.edu](mailto:mvmiller@unr.edu)

*From Dr. James Winn:*

*We invite your graduating students, who might be interested, to audition for the Department of Music at the University of Nevada, Reno.*

*It would be helpful if the student pianists would fill out the form, below.*

<https://admissions.unr.edu/register/musicinquiry>

This form is the equivalent of the paper "student information sheet" that we used to use. It goes directly to SLATE, which is the University's collection source of prospective students. From that Reed Chamberlin can provide me with a report of prospective students who have indicated "music" and "piano" as areas of interest or as a choice of possible major.



#### NMTA OFFICERS 2019-2020

President: Suzanne Clayson-- [dsclayson@gmail.com](mailto:dsclayson@gmail.com)

Immediate Past President: Lynette Cook--[lynbcCook@gmail.com](mailto:lynbcCook@gmail.com)

President-Elect: Cheryl Thornton-- [cherylthorntonstudio@gmail.com](mailto:cherylthorntonstudio@gmail.com)

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (Membership/Foundation Fund): Allison Olson-- [olsonfam5k@cox.net](mailto:olsonfam5k@cox.net)

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Local/College Associations): Spencer Baker-- [spencer.baker@unlv.edu](mailto:spencer.baker@unlv.edu)

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President (Competitions): Jee Wong-- [jeekwong@aol.com](mailto:jeekwong@aol.com)

4<sup>th</sup> Vice President (Social Media/Publicity): Marie Lee-- [marielee42.ml@gmail.com](mailto:marielee42.ml@gmail.com)

Secretary: Heather Potter-- [mrsheathererickson@gmail.com](mailto:mrsheathererickson@gmail.com)

Treasurer: David Skouson-- [skouson@cox.net](mailto:skouson@cox.net)

NNMTA Representative: Amy Jahn-- [amyjahn@charter.net](mailto:amyjahn@charter.net)

#### NMTA BOARD MEMBERS

Certification: Laurie Swain-- [lsplano@cox.net](mailto:lsplano@cox.net)

Woodwind Chair: Lindsey O'Connor-- [lindsey.oconnor@csn.edu](mailto:lindsey.oconnor@csn.edu)

Strings Chair: Jennifer Jackson-- [Jennyjackson1153@gmail.com](mailto:Jennyjackson1153@gmail.com)

Silver State Co-Chairs: Cindy Lee-- [klavierjh@gmail.com](mailto:klavierjh@gmail.com)

Damaris Morales--[damaris@damarismorales.com](mailto:damaris@damarismorales.com)

Newsletter: Karen Hudson-- [karena.hudson@gmail.com](mailto:karena.hudson@gmail.com)

LVMTA President: Amy Homer-Smith-- [am3z77@yahoo.com](mailto:am3z77@yahoo.com)

NNMTA President: Amy Jahn-- [amyjahn@charter.net](mailto:amyjahn@charter.net)

Hospitality:

JUNE



SAVE THE DATE

5



NMTA STATE CONFERENCE

Las Vegas

[www.nvmta.com](http://www.nvmta.com)

# MTNA 2020 – 2021

## Competition Results

### Piano

#### Junior Piano Performance Contestants

No.	Name	Teacher	Result
JP01	Roslyn Lee	Cindy Lee	
JP02	Nathan Taylor	Amy Homer-Smith	
JP03	Rachell Son	Yealee Kim	
JP04	Adrian Lin	Tamara Saakyan	Winner
JP05	Matthew Cacci	Patricia Lee	
JP06	Yueshi Lu	Long Ma	Alternate
JP07	Samuel Chen	Polya Banko-	
JP08	Chloe Wang	Michelle Lee	
JP09	Ginger Tie	Long Ma	Honorable
JP10	Claire Lin	Tamara Saakyan	Honorable Mention



## Senior Piano Performance Contestants

No.	Name	Teacher	Result
SP01	Raymond Zhang	Long Ma	Honorable Mention
SP02	Christina Pis-	Patricia Lee	
SP03	Alexander	Jiyang Chen	
SP04	Pearl Sung	Patricia Lee	
SP05	Daniel Chong	Patricia Lee	
SP06	Jennifer Hsu	Long Ma	Honorable
SP07	Riley Gills	Mayu Nomura	Honorable Mention
SP08	Liron Jariv	Yealee Kim	
SP09	Lawrence	Long Ma	
SP10	Jayden Kim	Patricia Lee	
SP11	Alexander	Long Ma	Winner
SP12	Irene Yoo	Patricia Lee	Alternate



## Senior Piano Duet Performance Contestants

No.	Name	Teacher	Result
SD1	Yuechu Lu	Long Ma	Alternate
	Yueshi Lu		
SD2	Raymond Zhang	Long Ma	Winner
	Jennifer Hsu		

## Young Artist Piano Performance Contestant

No.	Name	Teacher	Re-
YA1	Abigail Varghese	David Kansar	Winner

## String

### Junior String Performance Contestants

No.	Name Instrument	Teacher	Result
JS1	Alice Kim Violin	Hyelin Jung	Honorable Mention
JS2	Thomas Bybee	Christian Garcia	
JS3	Aaron Lee	De Ann Letourneau	
JS4	Christopher Lee	Mary Straub	Alternate
JS5	Chloe Lim	Shakeh Ghoukasian	Winner

## Senior String Performance Contestants

No.	Name	Teacher	Result
SS1	Phillippe Kosayagin	Mary Straub	
SS2	Alyssa Saito	Shakeh Ghoukasian	Winner
SS3	Audrey Lim Viola	Stephanie Sant Ambro-	Alternate
SS4	Jayden Kim	Hyelin Jung	Honorable Mention
SS5	Isabel Pinney <i>Violin</i>	Jennifer Hellewell	Honorable Mention
SS6	Minwoo Cho	Hyelin Jung	

## Young Artist String Performance Contestant

No.	Name	Teacher	Result
SS1	Joel Shimada <i>Cello</i>	Yoshika Masuda	Winner

## Woodwind

## Junior Woodwind Performance Contestants

No.	Name	Teacher	Result
JW1	Chantel Lee	Lindsay O'Connor	Winner

## Senior Woodwind Performance Contestants

No.	Name	Teacher	Result
SW1	Jennifer Holstead	Lindsey O'Connor	
SW2	Sarah Phillips	Cynthia Man	Alternate
SW3	Grace Hwang	Cynthia Man	
SW4	Lily Bybee <i>Flute</i>	Bonnie Buhler-	
SW5	Elizabeth Hebing	Carmella Cao	Winner
SW6	Jaimee Yoon	Cynthia Man	
SW7	Hailey Shin	Minji Wu	Honorable Mention
SW8	Declan Pastorino	Lindsay O'Connor	Honorable Mention

## Young Artist Woodwind Performance Contestants

No.	Name	Teacher	Result
SW1	Zachary Arthur	Shawna Pen-nock	Alternate
SW2	Sebastian Carlson	Lindsey O'Connor	Winner

## Voice

### Young Artist Voice Performance Contestants Checklist

No.	Name	Teacher	Result
YV1	Claudia Affan <i>Soprano</i>	Linda Lister	Winner

## Composition

### Senior Composition Contestants

No.	Name	Teacher	Result
SC1	Stone Ran	Lindsay	Winner

# Adjudicators for 2020 – 2021 MTNA Competition

## Piano/Composition Adjudicators



**Dr. James Winn**

Junior Piano Competition.

Senior Piano Competition.

Senior Piano Duet Competition.

Young Artist Composition Competition.

James Winn, piano and composition professor at the University of Nevada, Reno since 1997, made his professional debut with the Denver Symphony at the age of 13 and has been performing widely in North America, Europe and Asia ever since. With his duo-piano partner, Cameron Grant, he was a recipient of the top prize given in the two-piano category of the 1980 Munich Competition (*Musical America* wrote about the team, "Not since Josef and Rosina Lhevinne regaled us in the 1930s have we heard such technical prowess paired with such genuine musical values").

Winn has been a solo pianist with the New York City Ballet, a member of the New York New Music Ensemble, of Hexagon (woodwind quintet plus piano) and the pianist and resident composer of the Telluride Chamber Music Festival, as well as a frequent guest with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Speculum, the Group for Contemporary Music, Cactus Pear Chamber Music Festival, La Musica International Chamber Music Festival and Bargemusic. Well-known as a specialist in new music, he has been involved in numerous world premieres and premiere recordings by many renowned composers, among them 13 Pulitzer Prize winners. He is currently a member of Argenta, the University of Nevada, Reno's resident piano trio, a founding member and regular participant in the Nevada Chamber Music Festival and performs regularly in recital with internationally acclaimed New York-based violinist Rolf Schulte. An active recording artist,

Winn has been featured in more than three dozen CDs as soloist, chamber musician and composer. He has received numerous career recognitions including an artist fellowship from the Nevada State Council of the Arts and the Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts.



**Dr. Edward Neeman**

#### **Junior Piano Performance Competition**

#### **Senior Piano Performance Competition**

The Australian-American pianist Edward Neeman has performed across five continents. Critics have lauded him as a “true artist” with “an excellent technique” who “isn’t afraid to put a distinctive stamp on whatever he touches, without resorting to mannerism.” A top prizewinner of numerous international piano competitions, including first prize in the Joaquín Rodrigo Competition in Madrid, second prize in the Southern Highlands International Piano Competition, and third prize in the World International Piano Competition, Dr. Neeman has appeared as a soloist with the Prague Philharmonic, Sydney Symphony, Melbourne Symphony, Kentucky Symphony, Symphony of Northwest Arkansas, and the American West Symphony with conductors including Andrey Boreyko, Alan Buribayev, Chen Lin, Ruben Gimeno, Enrique Perez Mesa, Nicholas Milton, Pascual Osa, and Vladimir Verbitsky.

Dr. Neeman’s debut album, *Rachmaninoff & Sitsky*, was released to wide acclaim in March 2016. The album includes a premiere recording of the Piano Sonata No. 1 by Larry Sitsky, written especially for him. Dr. Neeman also has released a live recording of the *Concierto para piano* by Joaquín Rodrigo on the Rodrigo Foundation label, and as a collaborative CD with trumpeter Jason Dovel which was lauded for the players’ “nuanced, stylistic interpretations and technical mastery” by ITG Journal. An enthusiastic collaborative artist, he has performed with musicians including Itamar Zorman, Abigail Fischer, Ben Capps, and members of the JACK quartet. Dr. Neeman has made numerous piano duet arrangements for the Neeman Piano Duo, in which he performs with his wife, the Indonesian pianist Stephanie Neeman. He also enjoys accompanying ballet and performed with the American Ballet Theater in their 2014 tour of Japan.

Dr. Neeman’s published research includes his doctoral dissertation on free improvisation and graphic scores, an article on the chamber music of Larry Sitsky, published by ANU E Press, and pedagogical articles in STACCATO, an Indonesian music magazine. He has developed an innovation in the mechanism of the piano’s sostenuto pedal that allows the sostenuto and damper pedals to be combined in new ways, and has given presentations on its ramifications for pedaling technique at the MTNA National Conference in the United States and the Australian National Academy of Music.

Dr. Neeman’s interest in microtonal music has inspired him to transcribe quarter tone works by Charles Ives, Ivan Wyschnegradsky, and Alois Hába for MIDI keyboard. Originally written for a specially designed quarter tone piano, these works can now be performed by a single pianist as intended by the composers.

Dr. Neeman holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the Australian National University, a Master of Music from the Manhattan School of Music, and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from The Juilliard School. His teachers have included James Tocco, Jerome Lowenthal, Solomon Mikowsky, Santiago Rodríguez, Larry Sitsky, and Irena Orlov.





## Dr. Stephen Pierce

### Junior Piano Performance Competition.

### Senior Piano Performance Competition.

Stephen Pierce enjoys a multi-faceted career as a teacher, performer, presenter, and scholar. He currently serves on the Keyboard Faculty at the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music where he oversees the secondary piano and pedagogy programs, and teaches piano major and minor students, as well as courses in piano pedagogy and

keyboard literature. Dr. Pierce previously taught at the University of Northern Colorado, Oberlin Conservatory, the Colorado International Piano Academy, and for the Los Angeles International Music Center. In addition, he teaches at Interlochen Arts Camp each summer, and works with students aged 7 and older in his private studio in Pasadena, California.

Dr. Pierce holds degrees in Piano Performance from the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music (CCM), and the University of Pretoria, South Africa, and two licentiate degrees of music from the University of South Africa (UNISA). An accomplished performer, he has performed in the USA, Canada, Czech Republic, and throughout South Africa, with artists such as Carol Wincenc, and the flutists of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra. During his studies in Cincinnati, Dr. Pierce performed with the CCM Philharmonia as a result of winning the CCM Piano Concerto Competition. In South Africa, he has performed with orchestras such as the Natal Philharmonic, the National Symphony, and the Chamber Orchestra of South Africa.

Dr. Pierce is a sought after adjudicator, has presented masterclasses and workshops across the US and South Africa, and given pedagogical presentations at state and national conferences such as the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) National Conference, and the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy (NCKP). He has also served on the planning committees for both NCKP and the MTNA national conference and is currently CAPMT Vice President for Conferences. He is currently editor of *CAPMT Connect* and has published articles in journals such as *Clavier Companion*, *The South African Music Teacher*, *The California Music Teacher*, *Piano Pedagogy Forum*, and for the Royal Conservatory of Music (RCM). Dr. Pierce is also proud to serve as a RCM Academic Ambassador and member of the RCM College of Examiners.

## Woodwind Adjudicators



**Dr. Brian Luce**

### Senior Woodwind Performance Competition.

Dr. Brian Luce is the Professor of Flute at The University of Arizona and Yamaha Performing Artist. Dr. Luce has performed as principal flute of the Champaign-Urbana, Midland-Odessa, and Johnstown symphony orchestras and has performed with the Dallas Chamber Orchestra, Dallas Bach Society, Dallas Wind Symphony, Abilene Philharmonic, Keystone Wind Ensemble, and the Tucson Chamber Orchestra. As a soloist, he has performed throughout the U.S., Europe, Korea, Japan, and China. He has been featured at music festivals sponsored by the National Flute Association, British Flute Society, Shanghai International Exposition, Soka International Harp Festival, Texas Flute Society, Florida Flute Association, Mid-South Flute Society, Las Vegas Flute Club, Albuquerque Flute Association, Flute Society of St. Louis, Arizona Flute Society, and Tucson Flute Club. His performances have been broadcast throughout the U.S. and his recordings are recommended references by music education associations including the A.B.R.S.M.

Acclaimed as “an authoritative soloist,” his Albany Records SACD, *Music of the Superpowers: Sputnik, Spies, and the Space Race*, has been lauded by The American Record Guide: “This release should be of particular interest for the less known, seldom recorded Denisov and Smirnova, though everything on it is enjoyable from beginning to end. Brian Luce plays with flair and intelligence...” He has also made the Premiere Recording of Anthony Plog's Concerto for Flute and Wind Ensemble with the University of Arizona Wind Ensemble. His release with Carrol McLaughlin, *Allume*, includes numerous premiere recordings of original works and transcriptions for flute and harp.

He has given recitals and master classes throughout the U.S., Europe, and Korea, Edition BIM and IntegrityInk publish his compositions, arrangements, and realizations. His performance and pedagogy articles have appeared in Flute Talk Magazine, and his dissertation, *Light from Behind the Iron Curtain: Style and Structure in Edison Denisov's Quatre Pièces pour flûte et piano*, earned the 2001 Morgan Outstanding Dissertation Award from the University of North Texas. Dr. Luce received his DMA and MM from University of North Texas and BME from Henderson State University.

He has previously taught at universities in Illinois, Texas, and Pennsylvania and tutored numerous young flutists across the nation. Brian is a prizewinner of the National Flute Association Young Artist Competition, Myrna Brown Young Artist Competition, Mid-South Young Artist Competition, Kingsville International Young Artist Competition, and University of North Texas Concerto Competition. His principal teachers include Mary Karen Clardy, Kathleen Chastain, Jacob Berg, and David Etienne.

As an Arizona native and avid outdoorsman, Brian enjoys trekking afield the beautiful alpine regions of the state with his family. He volunteers his time as a youth baseball and softball coach for Little League and serves as an executive board member.



## Dr. Christopher Creviston

**Junior Woodwind Performance Competition.**

**Senior Woodwind Performance Competition.**

**Young Artist Woodwind Performance Competition.**

Hailed as "one of the world's top saxophone artists" (Audiophile Audition) with "the personality and fingers of a first rate soloist" (American Record

Guide), "subtle, perceptive phrasing, and flawless control of vibrato" (Fanfare Magazine), Yamaha Artist Christopher Creviston has played venues ranging from Carnegie Hall to Paisley Park and the Apollo Theater. As soloist and with the Capitol Quartet, Creviston has been featured with bands and orchestras across the U.S. As a recitalist and clinician, he performs regularly with the Capitol Quartet, and in duos with pianist Hannah Gruber Creviston and guitarist Oren Fader. In addition to several established recordings with these ensembles, Creviston's most recent releases are the premiere recording of the Concerto for Soprano Saxophone and Band by William Bolcom with conductor Gary Hill and the Arizona State University Wind Orchestra, and a Creviston Duo CD called Breaking, presenting works commissioned (or co-commissioned) by the duo from composers Stacy Garrop, Mark Lanz Weiser, Katherine Hoover and John Fitz Rogers. Now on the faculty at Arizona State University, Professor Creviston has held positions at the Crane School of Music (SUNY Potsdam), the Greenwich House of Arts (NYC), the University of Windsor (Canada), and the University of Michigan. In January of 2017, Creviston became president-elect for the North American Saxophone Alliance. Dr. Creviston received his DMA and MM from University of Michigan and his BM from Michigan State University.



## Dr. Julia Heinen

**Senior Woodwind Performance Competition.**

As a soloist, Julia Heinen has performed hundreds of concertos and recitals around the world including recent performances in Italy, Belgium, France, El Salvador, the Czech Republic, Spain and Portugal.

Ms. Heinen has adjudicated countless competitions including chairing the jury of the 9<sup>th</sup> International Mercadante Clarinet Competition in Noci, Italy and serving on the jury for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Biannual International European Clarinet Competition in Ghent, Belgium.

Julia Heinen is professor of music at California State University, Northridge. She served as the co-artistic director of ClarinetFest® 2011 and continues her work with this organization as the National State Chair Coordinator and state of California Chair of the International Clarinet Association. She holds degrees from the University of Michigan, Northwestern University and the University of Minnesota, studying clarinet with J. Cloyde Williams, Herbert Blayman, and Robert Marcellus. As a Buffet Crampon, D'Addario and Silverstein Performing Artist, Julia Heinen performs exclusively on Buffet Crampon Legende clarinets, D'Addario Evolution mouthpieces and reeds, and Silverstein HEXA ligatures.



## String Adjudicator

## Dr. Svend Rønning

Svend Rønning is Chair of the String Division at Pacific Lutheran University and where he is also Professor of Violin.

Dr. Rønning is a native of the Pacific Northwest and holds an undergraduate degree in violin performance, *summa cum laude*, from Pacific Lutheran University, which he earned in 1989. He subsequently earned Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from Yale University. His teachers include Syoko Aki, Sidney Harth, Jaap Schröder, and Ann Tremaine. He is one of the most active violinists in the region, serving as Concertmaster of the Tacoma Symphony, violinist of the Regency String Quartet, violinist of the Puget Sound Consort as well as frequent soloist, recitalist, chamber musician and recording artist. Dr. Rønning is also Artistic Director of the Second City Chamber Series, Tacoma's award winning producer of chamber music concerts and chamber music educational programs. Svend Rønning has served as Concertmaster of various orchestras including the Charlottesville Symphony, the San Jose Symphony, the Spoleto U.S.A. Chamber Orchestra, and the Tacoma Opera Orchestra. As soloist, he has appeared with numerous orchestras, including the Arctic Chamber Orchestra, the Charlottesville Symphony, the Everett Symphony, the Prague Radio Symphony, Orchestra Seattle, the Tacoma Symphony, and the Tacoma Youth Symphony. His repertoire includes most of the standard violin concertos as well as concertos by Alban Berg, Erich Wolfgang Korngold, Jerry Kracht (written for him), Walter Ross (written for him) and Miklós Rózsa. Chamber music appearances include performances at the Pacific Music Festival in Sapporo, Japan, the Mostly Nordic Chamber Series in Seattle, the Washington State Governor's Mansion Chamber Series, the Methow Music Festival, and Chamber Concerts for the Eastern Music Festival in North Carolina, Wintergreen Music Festival in Virginia, the Second City Chamber Series, and the Leo Kestenberg Musikschule in Berlin.

Other notable appearances and residencies have taken place at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Duke University, Ithaca College, Luther College, St. John's University, the University of Colorado at Boulder, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the University of Puget Sound, and Yale's Merkin Hall concerts in New York City. During the 2018-2019 academic year, he will teach a section of the PLU-IHON course, "The Arts in Society: In the Footsteps of the Red Violin" at the University of Oxford as part of PLU's International Honors curriculum.

As a teacher, Svend Rønning has served on the faculty of Pacific Lutheran University since 1999. Prior to this appointment, he served on the music faculty of the University of Virginia and has been pleased to train young musicians who have gone on to careers with significant orchestras including the Virginia Symphony, the Lexington Philharmonic, the Bellevue Philharmonic, and the Tacoma Symphony. Others enjoy careers in popular music, performing with a number of popular ensembles, among them the Seattle Rock Orchestra and the Dave Matthews Band. He has also been privileged to be part of the development of many fine music teachers who serve in public and private schools including the faculties of the Asbury College and Center Colleges in Kentucky as well as students who have distinguished themselves in public school districts throughout the country.

## Composition Adjudicator

Dr. James Winn's biography is available at the Piano Adjudicators' section.