



Four Arts Concert

A Tribute to Forrest Kinney
Saturday, December 12, 2020

Welcome • MCs: Grant Kondo & Yvonne Reddy

Art of Interpretation

Julie Poklewski • “Invocation” by Forrest Kinney

Sydney Wallace • “The Creative Spirit” from *Creative Life* by Forrest Kinney

Forrest & Andrea • “Dance of the Sugar-Plum Fairy” by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Art of Composition

Laetitia Lehman-Pearsall • “Tribute to Forrest” by Laetitia Lehman-Pearsall

Wendi Kirby • “Forrest” by Wendi Kirby

Paula Dreyer • “Forrest in the Forest” by Paula Dreyer

Tribute by **Anne Reese**, Forrest Kinney Publications

Art of Improvisation

Grant Kondo • “Storm” and “For the Joy” by Forrest Kinney

Andrea Rackl • Free Improv by Andrea Rackl

Art of Arranging

Natalia Pressman • “Oblivion” by Astor Piazzolla (arr. Natalia Pressman)

Leila Viss • “Winter Window Frost” by Leila Viss
(adapted from Antonio Vivaldi's "Winter" from *The Four Seasons*)

Dr. Kevin Helppie • “A Distant Land” by Kevin Helppie
(adapted from Robert Schumann's *Scenes from Childhood*)

Four Arts Scholarship • Sydney Wallace, Forrest Kinney Publications

Closing

Informal Reception to follow

Performer Biographies (in performance order)

Julie Poklewski is Past President of the Santa Clara Valley Chapter, serves as Director of Operations for the San Jose International Piano Competition, teaches piano in her thriving piano studio, and is in demand as a collaborative pianist.

Laetitia Lehman-Pearsall is a pianist living and teaching on Bainbridge Island, WA. Inspired by her students, Laetitia began to compose songs in 2018 and piano music in 2019. She loves to improvise and compose with her students and deeply appreciates their own creativity. She graduated in 2016 from Lawrence University Conservatory of Music with a degree in piano performance.

Wendi Kirby is a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music (NCTM) and is the State President of the California Association of Professional Music Teachers. She holds an Associate Diploma (ARCT) in Performance from the Royal Conservatory and is the Music Director of the Lower Division of Stevenson School in Carmel and Pebble Beach areas in California.

Paula Dreyer is a pianist, composer, and educator based in the mountain town of Bend, Oregon. She is the composer of Little Gems for Piano and Central Star and is a huge believer in the therapeutic power of creative fulfillment. She dedicates most of her time to teaching creatively, helping teachers teach creatively, teaching Piano Flow (combining yoga, meditation, and improvisation), gathering world-class creative presenters for the Piano Connect Virtual Retreat, and striving for a peaceful, music filled household.

Grant Kondo is a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music (NCTM) and is Vice President of the California Association of Professional Music Teachers, Santa Clara Valley Chapter. He also serves on the CAPMT State Board as Vice President of Membership. He is an Advanced Certified Teacher in Piano of The Royal Conservatory. He works and collaborates with others to create and implement a more holistic and equitable music education vision.

Andrea Rackl, graduate of Western Washington University, has been performing and teaching the Four Arts of Music for nearly 30 years. Though she occasionally has students go on to professional music careers, she strives to give **every** student the toolbox they need to enjoy making music throughout their lifetime.

Natalia Pressman graduated from the Conservatory Superior of Music "Manuel de Falla" in Buenos Aires, Argentina and specialized in chamber music while performing and residing in Europe. Once in the U.S., she became a piano accompanist and founded Pianissimo music school.

Leila Viss owns a piano studio in Colorado and holds a church organist position. Viss is the past coordinator for the University of Denver's Piano Preparatory Program. Recognized for her approach to pedagogy, Viss shares ideas at LeilaViss.com, and in her podcast called Key Ideas. Viss is widely published and presents frequently.

Kevin Helppie holds the Doctor of Musical Arts Degree from the University of Washington, Master of Music Degree from Indiana University and a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Western Washington University. He has published songs in the Royal Conservatory of Music Vocal Anthology. Dr. Helppie has been Past-President of Cascadia Concert Opera, and Past-President of the Cascade Chapter of The National Association of Teachers of Singing. He has been a Professor of Music at Western Oregon University, for 22 years.