

# Bonnie McKeeman BA, MMus

www.progressionpiano.com

[bonnie@shaw.ca](mailto:bonnie@shaw.ca)

778-329-6000

303-1101 Pacific St.

Vancouver, BC V6E 1T3

## PROFILE

- 11 years experience in all aspects of teaching piano privately, including preparing students for exams, festivals and recitals, as well as organizing schedules and keeping financial records.
- In depth understanding of the physiology and humanity of music-making, whether it be how to properly use the body at the piano, how the brain works when learning new things, or the philosophy of why people make music, and how to make music that is meaningful.
- Ability to recognize and address issues of technique, style, musicality, and artistry.
- Special strength in teaching students how to practice so that they progress through the week without direct supervision, and they gain a sense of accomplishment and independence.
- Effective communication skills, written and verbal. Comfortable with public speaking.

## EDUCATION

2006

### **Master of Music, piano performance**

University of Alberta, Edmonton

Studied under Janet Scott-Hoyt, and Jacques Després

Area of specialization: piano pedagogy

Topic of Final Lecture-recital: Argentine Folk Music Influences in Alberto Ginastera's Early Works for Piano

**Relevant courses:** Piano pedagogy courses which included study of early childhood development, teaching strategies, recognition of learning disabilities and vision problems, the effects of adolescence, and effective communication with young children and their parents. Applied keyboard and chamber music which required public performances.

2000

### **Bachelor of Arts, Music major, English minor**

University of Alberta, Edmonton

**Relevant courses:** all undergraduate theory courses, music history, piano pedagogy.

1996

### **Grade 10 Piano Exam**

Western Board of Music (now Conservatory Canada)

1996

### **Advanced Matriculation Diploma**

Grande Prairie Composite High School

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

2004-2006

Progression Piano, Edmonton AB

### **Owner, Piano Teacher**

Taught 23 students while completing my master's degree. Levels beginner through Grade 10. Coached students to successfully complete Royal Conservatory exams, compete in music festivals (most students placed first or second in their class), and perform in Christmas and Spring recitals. I narrated the Christmas recitals with a story that incorporated the song titles which the students and audience thoroughly enjoyed. It seemed to alleviate the performers' nerves and create a sense of unity.

Successfully arranged small, informal performance opportunities for adult students so they could perform for their peers where they felt more comfortable than playing for a general audience. This small group allowed my adult students to support each other, gain confidence and motivation, and build friendships.

Organized teaching schedule, kept financial records for the business.

2004-2006

University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB

### **Concert Coordinator**

Organized the Music at Noon Student Recital series which provided a monthly opportunity for students to perform for a substantial audience in Convocation Hall. Designed posters to advertise for the concerts and an online form where students could enter their information to sign up to perform. Created a program for each concert that flowed musically, logically, and efficiently, and also organized a rehearsal schedule for each concert. Directed the stage manager on the specific requirements of each concert. Provided encouragement and support for the student performers.

2000-2004

Sherwood Park School of Music, Sherwood Park, AB

### **Piano Teacher**

Taught over 35 students beginner through grade 10, as well as adult beginners.

Organized master classes so piano students could perform for their peers and learn from observing. I delivered a short lecture on a specific era of music history which was followed by a master class on repertoire from that era. This provided students with a much needed background on playing stylistically.

1995-2000

Self employed, Grande Prairie and Edmonton, AB

### **Piano Teacher**

Same duties as above. Taught a group of students through high school and college.

## **AWARDS**

2004 & 2005 Beryl Barns Memorial Award (Graduate)

2005 Graduate Student Scholarship from Alberta Advanced Education

2003 Further Education Scholarship for Studio Teachers from Alberta Registered Music Teachers Association, Edmonton Branch

**REFERENCES**

<http://www.progressionpiano.com/testimonials.php>

Additional references available on request.