

Thomas Armstrong Pearsall

Associate Professor of Music

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Education and Career

Education

Doctor of Musical Arts, Piano Performance and Pedagogy

University of Oklahoma, December 1996

Principal Teachers: Piano, Ed Gates; Pedagogy, E.L. Lancaster and Jane Magrath

DMA Document: *The Advanced Solo Piano Music of Benjamin Britten: An Analysis for Teaching and Performance*

Master of Music, Piano Performance

Bowling Green State University (Ohio), December 1984

Principal Teachers: Piano, Virginia Marks; Pedagogy, Virginia Marks and Anna Belle Bognar

MM Document: *Stylistic Development in the Piano Sonatas of Sergei Prokofiev*

Bachelor of Music, Piano Performance

University of Kentucky, May 1982

Principal Teachers: Piano, Nathaniel Patch; Pedagogy, Patricia Montgomery

Academic Positions

Georgia Southern University—Associate Professor, 1993-present; tenured 1999

Direct the group piano program. Teach piano pedagogy, applied piano and Introduction to Music. Accompany for colleagues and students. Service: Keyboard, Theory/Composition, and Scholarship committees. Faculty Advisor for Gay Straight Alliance.

Wausau Conservatory of Music (Wisconsin)—Artist/Instructor, 1985-90

Maintained a full-time studio of 40-50 students at all ages and levels. Served as Chair of the Piano Department. Taught MTNA certification classes in music history for teachers and theory classes for students. Service: Chair of Search and Scholarship committees, Faculty Secretary, Faculty representative to the board.

University of Wisconsin – Marathon Center—Associate Lecturer/Instructor, 1986-88

Taught applied piano for majors and secondaries and group piano for majors and non-majors. Developed a program of adult piano classes through continuing education.

*denotes activity since tenure

University of Toledo—Instructor, 1984-85

Taught adult piano classes through continuing education. Expanded course offerings to include levels 4 and 5.

Bowling Green State University—Instructor, 1984-85

Taught group piano to music majors.

Scholarship — Research — Creative Activity

Publications

Book (Forthcoming)

- * *Group Piano for the Well-Rounded Musician*, co-author with Dr. Michelle Conda (Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music), class text to be published by Prentice-Hall.

Articles

- * *Perspectives in Adult Teaching: How has your adult teaching changed since you first started teaching adults?* Submitted January 2005 for Fall 2005 publication in Keyboard Companion.
- * *Perspectives in Piano Pedagogy: How do you deal with students whose learning styles do not match your own?* Keyboard Companion (Spring 2003), 14 (1): 34-35.
- * *A Piano Teacher's Grab Bag: Tricks, Tips and Techniques.* Georgia Music News GMEA, (Fall 2001), 62 (1): 36-37.

Upgrading Student Motivation and Teaching Effectiveness in College Group Piano Classes. Piano Pedagogy Forum (January 1999), 2 (1).

Tricks and Tools for Getting the Rhythm. Georgia Music News (1998), 58 (3): 46-47.

Proceedings and Newsletters

- * *GMTA 2004 Teacher of the Year.* GMTA Newsletter (Winter/Spring 2005): 1.
- * *GMTA 2003 Teacher of the Year.* GMTA Newsletter (Winter 2004): 1.
- * *GMTA/MTNA Winners' Recital.* GMTA Newsletter (Winter 2002): 14.
- * *Round Table Discussion.* Pedagogy Saturday V Proceedings MTNA, 2001 Proceedings, 38.

Winners' Recital and Pedagogy Session No. 3. GMTA Newsletter (Winter 1996): 8, 10.

Piano Education for the Adult Who Does Not Learn Easily. Session Report with Michelle Conda for National Conference on Piano Pedagogy Proceedings and Reference, 1992-93: 32-33.

Presentations, Discussants and Clinics

National

- * *Assessment in Group Piano*, Panel Discussion Moderator, National Group Piano and Piano Pedagogy Forum, Cincinnati, OH, August 2004
- * *Discussion Group Leader*, National Group Piano and Piano Pedagogy Forum, Cincinnati, OH, August 2002
- * *Round Table Discussions*, Discussion Group Coordinator for Pedagogy Saturday: MTNA Conference, Cincinnati, OH, March 2002
- * *Intermediate Group Lesson Utilizing Technology*, Discussion Group Leader, National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy, Chicago, IL, July 2001
- * *Round Table Discussions*, Discussion Group Coordinator for Pedagogy Saturday: MTNA Conference, Washington, D.C., March 2001
- * *Repertoire: Presentation and Follow-through*, National Group Piano and Piano Pedagogy Forum, Cincinnati, OH, August 2000

Out of State

- * *Contemporary Sounds at the Elementary Level: Teaching more than I, IV and V⁷*, Hilton Head Music Teachers Association, Hilton Head Island, SC, February 2001

Technic at the Elementary Level: Teaching More than Little Fingers to Play and The Joy of Adult Students: Teaching Big Fingers to Play, Roanoke Valley Music Teachers Association, Roanoke, VA, April 1997

Contemporary Sounds at the Elementary Level: Teaching More than I, IV and V⁷, Columbia Music Teachers Association, Columbia, SC, September 1994

What's New in Supplementary Music? Central Oklahoma Music Teachers Association, Oklahoma City, OK, September 1994

Contemporary Sounds at the Elementary Level: Teaching more than I, IV and V⁷; Technic at the Elementary Level: Teaching more than Little Fingers to Play; Teaching the Adult Student in the Class and Studio; Preparing Class Piano Students for an Ensemble Concert, University of Oklahoma, September 1994

Georgia

- * *Thoughts, tips and techniques for the studio teacher: an assorted grab bag*. Western Georgia Music Teachers Association, Carrollton, GA, January 2005
- * *The Joy of Adult Students: Teaching Big Fingers to Play*. Athens Music Teachers Association, Athens, GA, January 2005

- * Master Class, Gwinnett County Music Teachers Association, Lawrenceville, GA, February 2003
- * Master Class, North DeKalb Music Teachers Association, Sandy Springs, GA, November 2002
- * *The Selection and Preparation of Repertoire for Performance and Competition*, Panel Discussion Moderator, Georgia Music Educators Association State In-Service Conference, Savannah, GA, January 2002
- * Master Class, North Fulton Music Teachers Association, Roswell, GA, January 2002
- * Master Class, Cherokee Music Teachers Association, Young Harris College, Waleska, GA, February 2001
- * *Using College Group Piano Texts as Supplemental Resources in the Private and Group Lesson*, Savannah Music Teachers Association, Savannah, GA, October 2000
- * *The Adult Student: Challenges and Rewards*, South Metro Atlanta Music Teachers Association, Morrow, GA, March 2000

The Music of John Robert Poe, Savannah Music Teachers Association, Savannah, GA, February 1999

Contemporary Sounds at the Elementary Level: Teaching More than I, IV and V⁷. Western Georgia Music Teachers Association, Carrollton, GA, January 1999

Master Class, Cherokee Music Teachers Association, Young Harris College, Waleska, GA, February 1999

Contemporary Sounds at the Elementary Level: Teaching More than I, IV and V⁷, Atlanta Music Teachers Association, Atlanta, GA, April 1998

Contemporary Sounds at the Elementary Level: Teaching More than I, IV and V⁷, Georgia Music Educators In-Service Conference, Savannah, GA, January 1998

The Piano Music of Benjamin Britten, Savannah Music Teachers Association, Savannah, GA, January 1998

Contemporary Sounds at the Elementary Level: Teaching More than I, IV and V⁷, Gwinnett County Music Teachers Association, Lawrenceville, GA, February 1997

Here Comes the Judge II, Panel Discussion Moderator, Georgia Music Teachers Association State Conference, Savannah, GA, November 1996

Technic at the Elementary Level: Teaching more than Little Fingers to Play, Savannah Music Teachers Association, Savannah, GA, April 1996

Contemporary Sounds at the Elementary Level: Teaching More than I, IV and V⁷, Savannah Music Teachers Association, Savannah, GA, February 1995

Technic at the Elementary Level: Teaching more than Little Fingers to Play, Rome Music Teachers Association, Rome, GA, January 1995

Teaching the Adult Student in the Class and Studio, Georgia Music Teachers Association State Conference, DeKalb College, Clarkston, GA, November 1994

Adding Grace and Expression to Notes and Fingerings, Savannah Piano Teachers Association, Savannah, GA, March 1994

Performances

International

- * Guest Faculty Recital (participant with Carolyn Bryan and Michael Braz), Bayerische Musikademie, Marktobendorf, Germany, June 2002
- * World Premiere with Carolyn Bryan and George Weremchuk, World Saxophone Congress, Montreal, Canada, July 2000
- * Lecture Recital with Carolyn Bryan, World Saxophone Congress, Montreal, Canada, July 2000

National

World Premiere with Carolyn Bryan, National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors Conference, Muncie, IN, January 1999

Out of State

- * Guest Artist Recital with Carolyn Bryan and George Weremchuk, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL, October 2000

Local - Select

- * Faculty Showcase Recital with Tamara Watson Harper, soprano, and Sarah Hancock, mezzo-soprano, September 2004
- * Faculty Recital with Tamara Watson Harper, soprano, and Sarah Hancock, mezzo-soprano, January 2004
- * Faculty Showcase solo, September 2003
- * Faculty Recital with Maureen Simpson, soprano, October 2002
- * Faculty Recital with Matt Fallin. Percussion, (and Carolyn Bryan, saxophone), April 2002
- * Faculty Recital with Sarah Hancock, mezzo-soprano, January 2002

- * Faculty Showcase solo, September 2001
- * Guest Artist Recital with Carolyn Bryan and guest George Weremchuk, saxophones, October 2000
- * Guest Artist Recital with James Rodak, saxophone (Navy), October 2000
- * Faculty Recital with Sarah Hancock, mezzo-soprano, September 2000
- * Faculty Showcase solo and with Carolyn Bryan, saxophone and Linda Cionitti, clarinet September 2000
- * Lecture recital: Twentieth-Century Piano Music and Techniques, February 2000
- * Faculty recital with Carolyn Bryan, saxophone (and Laura Tomlin, violin), November 1999
- * Faculty Showcase solo and with Carolyn Bryan, saxophone, September 1999
- Faculty Recital with Sarah Hancock, mezzo-soprano, November 1998
- Faculty Showcase solo, October 1998
- Faculty Recital with Carolyn Bryan, saxophone, May 1998
- Faculty Recital with Kyle and Sarah Hancock, baritone and mezzo-soprano, (Brahms Schubert Festival), March 1998
- Faculty Recital with Wendy Cohen, flute, February 1998
- Master Class with Jerome Rose, November 1997
- Faculty Piano Quartet, November 1997
- Guest Artist Recital with Tim Sparks, tenor, October 1997
- Faculty Recital with Ruth Berry, cello (Brahms Schubert Festival), September 1997
- Faculty Recital with Lisa Wienhold, flute, and Amy Handelman, horn, April 1997
- Faculty Piano Quartet, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA, April 1997
- Faculty Piano Quartet, March 1997
- Faculty Recital with Lisa Caldwell, mezzo-soprano, May 1996
- Faculty Piano Quartet, May 1996

Faculty Showcase solo, October 1995

Faculty Piano Quartet, May 1995

Faculty Showcase with Lisa Wienhold, flute, October 1994

Faculty Piano Quartet, April 1994

Faculty Showcase solo and with Linda Cionitti, clarinet, October 1993

Pre-Georgia Southern — Select

Guest Artist Recital, Stillwater, OK, March 1992

Performed George Crumb's *Vox Balanae* for electric flute, cello and piano on Wisconsin Public Radio *Live from the Elvehjem Series*, April 1990

Faculty Artist Series Recital, Wausau Conservatory of Music, Wausau, WI, April 1989

Guest Artist Recital with Mary Fritz, soprano, Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis, MN, July 1988

Concerto Soloist with Wausau Symphony Orchestra, Wausau, WI, November 1987

Faculty Artist Series Recital, Wausau Conservatory of Music, Wausau, WI, March 1987

Faculty Artist Series Recital, Wausau Conservatory of Music, Wausau, WI, February 1986

Other Performing Experience

Master Classes with Marvin Blickenstaff, Marylene Dosse, Ivan Moravec and John Browning

Opera coach and accompanist, Bowling Green State University, 1982-83

Recordings with Bowling Green New Music Ensemble for album production and broadcast over National Public Radio, Bowling Green, OH, November 1983

Premieres of various new works, including pieces for tape and interior piano

Orchestra Pianist, Wausau Symphony Orchestra, 1985-90

Choir accompanist and church pianist

Adjudication

* Hymn, Scale and Cadence Festival, Dublin, GA, November 2004

* Alabama Music Teachers Association State Auditions, Montevallo, AL, May 2004

- * Georgia Music Educators Association District 11 Solo and Ensemble, Macon, April 2004
- * Gwinnett County Spring Auditions, Lawrenceville, GA March 2004
- * Contemporary Festival, Athens, GA February 2004
- * Piano Fest, Armstrong Atlanta State University, Savannah, GA, February 2004
- * Sonatina/Sonata Festival, Athens, GA, May 2003
- * Spring Auditions, Augusta, GA, March 2003
- * GMEA State Piano Concerto Competition, Marietta, GA, February 2003
- * Piano Fest, Armstrong Atlanta State University, Savannah, GA, February 2003
- * GMEA State Piano Solo Auditions, Macon, GA, December 2002
- * Performance Evaluation Clinic, Augusta, GA, March 2002
- * Federation Auditions, Hilton Head Island, SC, March 2001
- * Piano Fest, Armstrong Atlanta State University, Savannah, GA, February 2001
- Performance Evaluation Clinic, Macon, GA, March 1999
- Contemporary Festival, Athens, GA, February 1999
- Performance Evaluation Clinic, Savannah, GA, February 1999
- Hymn, Scale and Cadence Festival, Savannah, GA, November 1998
- South Carolina Music Teachers Association State Auditions, Columbia, SC, April 1998
- South Carolina Piano Festival, Rock Hill and Columbia, SC (4 days), March 1998
- Contemporary Festival, Athens, GA, February 1998
- Performance Evaluation Clinic, Savannah, GA, February 1998
- Achievement Day, Charleston, SC, February 1998
- Georgia Music Educators Association State Auditions, Athens, GA, December 1997
- Hymn, Scale and Cadence Festival, Savannah, GA, November 1997
- South Carolina Music Teachers Association State Auditions, Columbia, SC, April 1997

Junior Piano Festival, Sandersville, GA, March 1997

Performance Evaluation Clinic, Savannah, GA, February 1997

Charleston Achievement Day, Charleston, SC February 1997

Hymn, Scale and Cadence Festival, Savannah, GA, November 1996

South Carolina Music Teachers Association State Auditions, Columbia, SC, April 1995

Performance Evaluation Clinic, Savannah, GA, February 1996

Performance Evaluation Clinic, Augusta, GA, February 1995

Contemporary Festival, Athens, GA, February 1994

Conferences

* Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) Conference March: Salt Lake City, UT, *2003; Cincinnati, OH, *2002; Washington, D.C., *2001; Los Angeles, CA, 1999; Nashville, TN, 1998

* MTNA Southern Division Competitions, Louisville, KY, January 2005

* National Group Piano and Piano Pedagogy Forum: Cincinnati, OH, August 2004, 2002

* National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy, Chicago, IL, August 2003, July 2001

National Piano Pedagogy Conference, Chicago, IL, September 1996

National Conference on Piano Pedagogy, Chicago, IL, October 1994

Project Discovery, Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS, June 1994

* Georgia Music Teachers Association (GMTA) Conference, November; Gainesville, *2004; Waleska, *2003; Macon, *2002; Columbus, *2001; Dahlonega, *2000; Clarkston, *1999; Athens, 1998; Savannah, 1996; Marietta, 1995; Clarkston, 1994; Columbus, 1993

* Georgia Music Educators Association In-Service Conference: Savannah, GA, January *2003, *2001, *2000, 1998, 1997

Affiliations

National Group Piano and Piano Pedagogy Forum

* Steering Committee Member: 2003 - present

Georgia Music Teachers Association (and Music Teachers National Association)

- * **President: 2004 - 2006**
- * President-elect: 2002 - 2004
- * Vice-President, Publicity: 2000 - 2002
- Vice-President, GMTA Auditions: 1998 - 2000
- Member-at-large: 1996 – 1998

Georgia Music Educators Association (and Music Educators National Conference)

Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia

- Faculty Advisor, Zeta Omicron Chapter, Fall 1994 – Spring 2001

Phi Kappa Phi

Honors and Awards

- * Phi Mu Alpha Orpheus Award “*for significant and lasting contributions to the cause of music in America,*” May 2003
- * Who’s Who in America, 2004 (58th edition)
- * Who’s Who in America, 2003 (57th edition)
- * Article reprinted in Hawaii Music Educators Association Journal. (*A Piano Teacher’s Grab Bag: Tricks, Tips, and Techniques*, Georgia Music News, GMEA, 62 (1): 36-37. (2001)

Graduate Faculty, Georgia Southern University, March 1998

MTNA National Certification, February 1996

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, 1992

Outstanding Young Man of America, 1988

Outstanding Thesis, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH, 1985

Outstanding Teaching Assistant, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH, 1984

Grants

- * Professional Travel Grant, Faculty Development and Welfare Committee. Music Teachers National Association Conference, Salt Lake City, UT. Spring 2003. (\$1000)
- * Professional Travel Grant, Faculty Development and Welfare Committee. Music Teachers National Association Conference, Washington, D.C. Spring 2001. (\$500)

Professional Travel Grant, Faculty Development and Welfare Committee. Music Teachers National Association Conference, Los Angeles, CA. Spring 1999. (\$800)

Professional Travel Grant, Faculty Development and Welfare Committee. National Piano Pedagogy Conference, Chicago, Illinois. Fall 1996. (\$500)

CLEC Grant. Michael Sitton, Guest Pianist. Spring 1995. (\$500)

Professional Travel Grant, Faculty Development and Welfare Committee. National Conference on Piano Pedagogy, Schaumburg, IL. Spring 1994. (\$300)

TEACHING

Courses taught at Georgia Southern

Group Piano I MUSC 1511	Every F 93 – present
Group Piano II MUSC 1512	Every S 94 – present
Group Piano III MUSC 2511	Every F 94 – present
Group Piano IV MUSC 2512	Every S 94 – present
Piano Pedagogy I MUSC 2431	S01, S98, W96
* Piano Pedagogy II MUSC 3432	S04
Introduction to Music MUSC 1100	SUM 01, 00, 99, 97, 95
Special Problems in Music MUS 691	F96
Applied Piano—Piano MUSA XXXX (varies)	F98, S95, F95

Student evaluations since tenure

F04 4.7	S04 4.7	F03 4.6	S03 4.5	F02 4.3
S02 4.1	F01 4.2	S01 4.0	F00 4.1	S00 4.1

SERVICE

Department

Accompany for students on and off campus: graduation, general student, honors and ensemble recitals, juries, *Winds at Southern*, *Sing at Southern*, University Singers and Southern Chorale concerts and tour, National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) auditions, master classes, Phi Mu Alpha and SAI Musicales

Accompany for department: audition pianist for search candidates, rehearsal pianist for singers in preparation for orchestra performance

Committees: piano/group piano, keyboard jury, pedagogy, theory/composition, scholarship, foy renovation, searches for department chair and opera theater director, third year review, masters degree curriculum

Faculty Advisor: Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia

Adjudication: Phi Mu Alpha scholarship competitions and Musicale hearings: SAI Musicale hearings; GSU opera auditions for *Pirates*

University

Fundraising: United Way Campaign departmental representative; performer for CLASS fundraiser *Afternoon of the Arts*

Musical Service: GSU Foundation Scholarship banquets, GSU Retirees luncheon, Alumni luncheon, *A Day for Southern* luncheon, Faculty and Staff honors banquet, Homelessness and Hunger banquet, French Week recitals

Committees: dean search, latino outreach, CLASS appeals

Gay Lesbian Bisexual (GLBT) Issues: GLBT/Outweek events planning committee; Faculty Advisor: Gay Straight Alliance (formerly Triangle); Faculty Contact Person: GLOBE (Gay Lesbian or Bisexual Employees); Procured GLBT newspaper *Southern Voice* for free on-campus distribution

Community

Fundraising and Awareness: *Statesboro Cares*, pianist and member of planning committee for Fall 2005 events to benefit local AIDS/HIV programs through Amethyst

Keyboard ensembles director: Savannah Music Teachers Association music fairs

Adult piano classes: continuing education