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Digital Innovations in Group Piano Instruction

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Digital Innovations in Group Piano Instruction

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Workshop/Training Session (55 minutes)

ABSTRACT

This presentation will explore the transformative impact of integrating web-based digital textbooks into higher education music programs, specifically focusing on group piano curricula. By moving away from traditional paper-based textbooks, this approach leverages interactive, multimedia resources to create a dynamic and engaging learning environment. Attendees will gain insights into how digital textbooks, such as the award-winning eNovative Piano, can enhance students' understanding of musical concepts, foster technical proficiency, and promote a deeper connection between sound, theory, and technique.

By attending this session, participants will understand how a multimedia approach in piano education can cultivate adaptability, responsiveness, and creativity, ultimately preparing students for successful careers in a rapidly evolving musical landscape.

Higher education music programs mandate music majors to achieve keyboard proficiency, establishing a foundational skill set essential for their musical development. However, as the demands for rapid technological advancements rise, many colleges piano curricula often remain anchored in traditional methodologies, relying heavily on outdated paper-based textbooks. This session demonstrates the transformative benefits of web-based digital textbooks that create a multi-dimensional learning environment, ensuring students are well-prepared for their future careers. Examples will be drawn from an award-winning multimedia group piano text, eNovative Piano.

Key Features of the Optimized Group Piano Curriculum with multimedia:

Engaging All Senses: Digital textbooks interconnect students to learn various skill sets through interactive content, fostering a profound relationship between sound, theory, and technique, enhancing their overall musical experience.

Culturally Responsive Teaching: The customizable tools equip educators to tailor the curriculum according to individual students, diverse learning behaviors that encourage students to explore personalized career pathways.

Promoting Musicality and Technical Comfort: The accessibility of sufficient modeling through multimedia resources enables students to deeply understand musicality and technical comfort in performance acquire piano skills effectively.

Collaborative Dynamics in the Classroom: Leveraging technology allows for the creation of resources that enhance classroom dynamics, boosting student motivation and cultivating a supportive learning environment.

Multimedia approach in piano education develops adaptability, responsiveness, and creativity. The advocates for a significant shift in teaching methodologies in higher education music programs, preparing students to thrive in a rapidly evolving musical landscape.

ABOUT THE PRESENTERS

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Chee Hyeon Choi is a Korean American pianist and educator currently serving as an assistant professor of piano and piano pedagogy at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. An active clinician and presenter, she has appeared on national and international conferences such as the College Music Society, Music Teachers National Association, National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy, Association for Technology in Music Instruction, Composers in Asia Symposium, Canadian Federation of Music Teachers Association, and was invited as the keynote speaker for the Gimhae International Music Symposium.

She has performed both solo and in ensembles at prestigious venues, including the Music by Women International Festival, Pablo Center at the Confluence, Central Florida Composers Forum, the College Music Society, and Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall. As an orchestra musician, she has been featured as a soloist with the LaGrange Chamber Orchestra, University of Louisiana Symphony Orchestra, Bradley Symphony Orchestra and performed as the principal keyboardist with the Heartland Festival Orchestra, Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra, and Acadiana Symphony Orchestra.

Previously, Dr. Choi held teaching positions at Bradley University, Millikin University, and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her contributions to music education have been recognized through the Teacher of the Year award from the Illinois State Music Teachers Association, where she also served as Vice President and President-Elect. She has established and directed the UL Piano Institute since 2023 and chairs the Louisiana Teachers Association Collegiate Faculty Forum.

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Chan Kiat Lim has performed solo and chamber recitals in Canada, China, Germany, Greece, Italy, Jamaica, Romania, Malaysia, and throughout the United States including solo performances at Music at Penn Alps Concert Series in Maryland and twice at Steinway Hall in New York City.

As a recitalist, Lim champions works by contemporary American composers. A recipient of the Louisiana Division of the Arts Grant, Lim collaborated with bass-baritone Shawn Roy in 2011 to release a CD with Centaur Records label entitled *An American Kaleidoscope: Song Cycles Through the Lenses of William Bolcom, John Duke, Thomas Pasatieri, and Ned Rorem*. This CD features two world-premiere recordings of works by musical giants Bolcom and Rorem.

A pedagogue and clinician, Lim co-authored an online multimedia curriculum *eNovativePiano: Multimedia Resources for Developing Musicianship Skills*. Suitable for in-person in-class instruction and elearning, *eNovativePiano* has transformed class piano instruction, and was the recipient of the 2021 MTNA-Frances Clark Keyboard Pedagogy Award. Lim has presented at numerous international and national conferences including ISME, CMS, MTNA, GP3 on various pedagogical and performance topics.

In 2015 Lim was awarded the Louisiana Music Teachers Association Outstanding Teacher Award. In the same year, Lim also received the Distinguished Professor Award from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette where he also holds the Margaret Chauvin Steen Villemez Professorship in Music. He teaches piano performance, keyboard literature, class piano, and lectures in the Interdisciplinary Humanities Program and Study Abroad Program in Florence, Italy. In 2020, he was honored as a MTNA Foundation Fellow.