

Education

- **New England Conservatory of Music:** Bachelor of Music Degree in Piano Performance, principal studies with Irma Wolpe
 - Operatic and Instrumental and Chamber Music Accompaniment
 - Master Classes with Garrick Ohlsson, Russell Sherman, Theodore Lettvin, Benjamin Zander, Dalcroze Eurhythmics
- **University of North Texas:** Master of Music in Piano Performance, principal studies with Joseph Banowetz
 - Graduate Fellowship in teaching and in accompaniment
 - Master's Thesis: *Piano Playing As An Art of Movement*
The purpose of this work was to document the pianistic approach of Irma Wolpe. It evolved into a comparative study of the various piano techniques from the mid-19th century to the present. Interviews conducted with pianists of stature include Garrick Ohlsson, Russell Sherman, David Tudor and others.
 - Studied Baroque Performance Practice for Piano, Harpsichord and Organ
 - Jazz study with Dan Haerle, also with Bradley Williams of the Woody Herman Orchestra
- **Further Studies**
 - SUNY at Buffalo: Private Piano Studies with Stephen Manes, Physicians Seminar on Performance Injuries
 - Chautauqua Institute: Private Piano Studies with Henry Rauch, performance workshops with Ozan Marsh
 - Private Piano Study: Kenneth Atkinson, Barbara Micale
 - Sibelius Notation Program: Private study with Robert Nowak
 - Movement for Performers: Denton, Texas
 - Alexander Technique: Dallas, Texas

Teaching

My goal is to balance an environment of acceptance with challenge and motivation. Many years of working with musicians has shown that a tense environment can block spontaneous natural activity. I usually allow students to play their pieces more than once before commenting in order to allow them to represent their work authentically.

I view piano playing as an art of movement. Technique begins with balance and alignment, utilizing the shape of the hand in conjunction with natural flowing movement. This reflects the movement within the music while producing a singing tone. My goal is to develop the natural coordination of the individual through specific physical means, removing barriers between the performer and the expression of the music itself.

- **Collaborative Piano, Chamber Music, Accompaniment**

Ensemble playing teaches students to listen, communicate and observe each other's progress while learning the literature as a group. There is an exchange of ideas unique to each ensemble that creates community among peers. The goal of performance heightens the experience as it reinforces the importance of the audience in music making.

- **Integration of Jazz and Classical Elements**

Teaching jazz in conjunction with classical music involves the player in the creative process while integrating theory and performance. Jazz study is based on harmonic structure, linear development and form - compositional elements that are present in classical music. The method of reading a lead sheet is equivalent to the Baroque realization of figured bass, where the player creates chords based on symbols. This process also serves as a backup system for memorization, easing the fear of one small mistake that can derail a performer.

- **Performance Opportunities For Students**

Performing for many years in the Western New York area presents me with ample performance opportunities for students to appear in jazz venues, recitals and performances at Trinity Church. Students are encouraged to participate in community or outreach programs as well. This broad network also presents employment opportunities for advanced students.

Performance

- **Trinity Episcopal Church, Director of Ensembles/Pianist, 2003 - present**

Music programming, contract musicians, direct and perform in weekly traditional services, evening jazz services and special events

- **Accompaniment**

Extensive and diverse experience: Chamber Music, Opera, instrumental and jazz

- SUNY Buffalo (2012– 2015) vocal coach, accompanist for students of Professor Tony Arnold
- Ars Nova Musicians, Marylouise Nanna, conductor, 2014 - present
- Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus, accompanist, 2011 – 2013
- Three Broadway Tenors 2008
- Three Mo' Divas Asian Tour, 2007
- University of North Texas, vocal and instrumental accompanist
- New England Conservatory of Music, vocal and instrumental accompanist

- **Featured Soloist**
 - **Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra:**
Schumann: *Concerto in A-minor*, Charles Bornstein, Conductor
Hamlisch: *Yentl*, Marvin Hamlisch, Conductor
 - **Amherst Symphony Orchestra, Clarence Symphony:**
Gershwin: *Rhapsody In Blue*, Joseph Wincenc, Conductor

- **Orchestral Piano**
 - **Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, 2003 - present**
Dozens of Concerts: conductors include JoAnn Falletta, Marvin Hamlisch, Michael Feinstein, Eric Kunzel, Maximiano Valdes, John Oddo, Mark Isham.
 - **Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra, 2015**, Stuart Chaftez, conductor
 - **Clarence Symphony Orchestra, 2015**, Arie Lipsky, conductor
 - **Pittsburgh Ballet**
 - **BeBe Neuwirth Review**

- **Jazz Performances**

Performances include innumerable venues, solo and ensemble, as well as orchestral settings with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and the Clarence Symphony Orchestra.

- **Broadway Touring Shows, Piano/Synthesizer**

West Side Story, Grease, Annie, Peter Pan, The Producers, The King and I, The Full Monty, Phantom of the Opera, Dream Girls, Momma Mia, Sweet Charity, Spamalatot, Wicked, Beauty and the Beast, Young Frankenstein, Evita and many others.

- **Lectures, Workshops: Classical and Jazz**

Buffalo State College/Burchfield-Penney Art Center, Denton, Cottier and Daniels Educational Partnership, Annunciation Church of Elma, Niagara County Community College, Rotary Club of Buffalo, Twentieth Century Club, Calumet Arts Café, Temple Beth Zion.

Transcriber/copyist

Exclusive transcriber/copyist for Marian McPartland 2002 – 2013
Arranger/copyist for musicals: “Me Too” (Grant Golden) “The Road Taken” (Steve Shanley)

Publication

Alfred Music Publishing: Transcriber/copyist for *Marian McPartland Portraits, The Second Set*, as performed on *Piano Jazz* (National Public Radio.)

Affiliations/Memberships

- American Federation of Musicians, Local 92
- Erie County Music Educator's Association
- International Association of Jazz Educators
- Denton, Cottier and Daniels Educational Partnership Program

Letter from Marian McPartland - January 19, 2008

"I have known Krista Seddon for at least six years and have found her to be a wonderful friend and co-worker. She is brilliant at transcribing the music that I improvise on CD and she is, herself, a fine pianist who plays professionally and accompanies other artists with great feeling. Whatever she undertakes will be accomplished with perfection. I would heartily recommend her for any musical position she may be considered for.

SUNY Buffalo Voice Students, 2015

Liz Klimek, Master's Student

"I am writing on behalf of my dear friend Krista Seddon. Krista is an amazing asset to the department and to any student. In our coaching sessions, we get the opportunity to work with an accompanist, which strengthens our musicianship and allows us to experiment and grow with the music as an ensemble. I have learned so much from these sessions that does not supersede what I learn in lessons, but actually enhance and expand my musical training. Throughout the year, I noticed this effect on the other students as well. Krista creates a warm and open environment where students feel comfortable exploring the nuances of each piece and each performance, which is invaluable to all musicians. She also has years of experience and knowledge in the professional world, which we can all learn from. Krista is an amazing resource in and out of UB, and no student should be deprived of her expertise and kind nature. I hope it is as clear to the department as it is to me how great an impact she has on her students.

Michael Fiorica, undergraduate student

"I enjoy working with Krista, not only because she is a tremendous pianist, but also because she brings a wealth of energy and experience to rehearsals and performances. Whether it's helping with German pronunciations, offering genuine feedback or even just a word of encouragement and a smile, Krista does so much more than accompany the other students and me. I hope to work with her in the future."