



Playful Teaching Vibrant Learning

From The President

Twelve Thank You's

Dear SongWorks Educators,

It's hard to believe that we're already 10 months out from our last conference, and I am already ten months into my presidency; this is my penultimate presidential column!

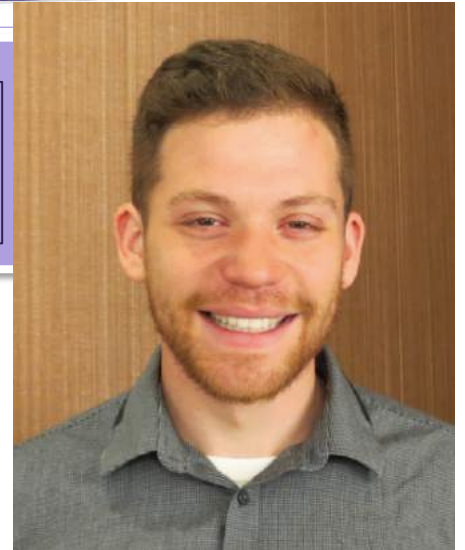
During my presidential tenure, I have had the pleasure of working with each one of our officers and am grateful for their diligence and dedication to their various tasks. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank each of them for volunteering their time to keep the SongWorks Educators Association running smoothly.

First, Thank You to my Presidential Teammates, Immediate Past-President Taryn Raschdorf*, President-Elect Vicky Suarez, President-Elect Apprentice Lisa Schoen, and our Advisor Leah Sunquist*, who have been my sounding board throughout this year of leadership [I have marked Past-Presidents mentioned throughout this piece with an asterisk*].

Second, Thank You to our Treasurer Team, Registrar Alice Nordquist, Treasurer Anna Langness*, and Grants Administrator Emilee Knell. Together, they manage the membership and finances of this member-supported organization.

Third, Thank You to our Newsletter Team, Ruthanne Parker* and Aimee Newman, who deliver monthly editions of our *SongWorks Educators Newsletter* and *Happenings* to your inboxes

Fourth, Thank You to our Conference Committee, with Chair Vicky Suarez, Natalie Neugent, Lisa Schoen, Taryn Raschdorf*, and Advisor Peggy Bennett, who coordinate with the conference site, correspond with presenters, and plan the conference.



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Playful Teaching, Vibrant Learning

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Fifth, Thank You to our Social Media Committee, Natalie Neugent and Molly Feigal, the brains behind our new public-facing facebook page (facebook.com/songworkseducators). Visit now and RSVP Yes for the SWEA Conference in April!

Sixth, Thank You to our Academic Team, Visiting Scholars Chair Peggy Bennett and Academic Coordinator Taryn Raschdorf*, who scout our Visiting Scholars, and secure graduate credit for SongWorks conferences and courses.

Seven, Thank You to our Website Team, Pam Vellutini, Marilyn Winter*, and Anna Langness*, who keep our web resources and events up-to-date and looking pretty at songworkseducators.com.

Eight, Thank You to our Emerging Pioneers Team, Samantha Smith* and Peggy Bennett, who mentor the young, promising pioneers of SongWorks pedagogy.

Nine, Thank You to our Communications Chair, Mary Stockum, who formalizes our communication guidelines.

Ten, Thank You to the SongWorks Educators Association Board, which includes the Presidential Team, the Registrar and Treasurer, directors Kate Smith, Beth Cain, Jake Harkins, Mary Stockum, and Yoshie Kaneko, and Secretary Anna Shelow, and keeps custody of the organization throughout the year.

Eleven, thank you to each of our chapter leaders in Colorado, Minnesota, Oregon and Washington, who organize opportunities for membership to meet frequently and locally.

Twelve, thank you to our SongWorks Certification Faculty, Terolle Turnham*, Marilyn Winter*, Anna Langness* and Peggy Bennett, who teach SongWorks practices and principles to eager novice and experienced teachers every summer.

All elected and appointed positions in the SongWorks Educators Association is entirely volunteer-based. Our reward for our service is seeing teachers and students empowered by our work, and how they, in turn, share and develop SongWorks activities in their own settings. If you want to get more involved, stick around for the membership meeting at the conclusion of our conference on Saturday, April 6th!

In the meantime, you can help out right now by liking our facebook page, RSVPing for the conference, telling a friend about SongWorks, and making a donation at songworkseducators.com/donate.

See you in April!

--

Max A. Mellman
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2019
SONGWORKS
 EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION
 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Dallas, TX
 Westin DFW Airport
 April 4-6, 2019

Featuring Sessions by **SongWorks Educators and Innovators**
 from across the **USA, Canada, and Japan**



MEET OUR VISITING SCHOLARS

Mary A. Epstein, DMA, Organization of American Kodaly Educators • **Connie McKoy, PhD**, UNC Greensboro
Julie K. Scott, PhD, Southern Methodist University • **Alice M. Hammel, PhD**, James Madison University
Jill L. Trinka, PhD, Coastal Carolina University

Learn more at songworkseducators.com/conference

A Word from our President Elect and Conference Chair

Dear Friends,

Are you looking for inspiring ideas to engage your students and enrich your teaching? Would you like to connect with like-minded teachers in a setting of playful interaction? Are you in need of some practical music study ideas to take back to your own classroom? I hope you will join us at the 2019 SongWorks International Conference in April. This year our annual conference comes to Dallas, Texas for the first time ever! As Conference Chair, I am so excited about the planned sessions, including these highlights:

Saving Voices: Healthy Behaviors for Teachers and Students (*Anna Langness,*)

The Whole Song as Curriculum (*Fleurette Sweeney and Sandy Murray*)

The Song Has Ended, But the Melody Lingers (*Terolle Turnham and Marilyn Winter*)

Teacher as Learner, Learner as Teacher (*Taryn Raschdorf*)

We'll have some returning favorites, such as *Judy Fjell* with **The Mighty Wonderful Uke: Let's Play!** and the Observation Class, second graders from my school, Prairie Creek Elementary.

If it's your first time to come to our conference, please know that we are a welcoming and friendly group who will do our best to make you feel at ease. We have a Hospitality Room planned for evening conversation and connecting, and our Banquet Friday evening, where we always enjoy a variety of performances by our members. If you enjoy performing, anything from silly and humorous to show tunes to pop songs with ukulele accompaniment, I hope you'll make plans to do so at the banquet. More information about the banquet entertainment will be coming from Lisa Schoen.

The conference hotel is the Westin DFW, located near DFW International Airport, between Dallas and Fort Worth. Take advantage of the complimentary hotel shuttle to get from the airport to hotel. If you'd like to explore more of either Dallas or Fort Worth by arriving early or staying later, here's a sampling of possibilities:

Museums in Dallas: Dallas Museum of Art, Nasher Sculpture Center, Sixth Floor Museum (JFK Museum), Dallas Holocaust Museum

Museums in Fort Worth: Kimbell Art Museum, Amon Carter Museum of American Art

Dallas is renowned for world-class shopping, and I recommend visiting either NorthPark Center or Galleria Dallas if that's your interest.

Each city has a beautiful botanic garden, and the weather might be perfect for a visit. Dallas Arboretum, Fort Worth Botanic Garden and Japanese Garden.

What I love most about SongWorks is the mentoring and community that has made my teaching life more enjoyable and meaningful. I've attended this conference every year since 2011, and I always return to school rejuvenated and refreshed, with ideas and tools that bring new life to my teaching. The investment of attending this conference pays off for years to come. I invite you to take a look at our other outstanding conference presenters elsewhere in this newsletter, as well as the registration and hotel information. Make plans to join us in Dallas this year on April 4-6!



Vicky Suarez
2019 Conference Chair
2018-19 SWEA
President-Elect

2019 Conference Presenters



Kate Smith (BC)
Songs of the Voyageurs:
SongWorks in French



Marilyn Winter (AZ) & Terolle Turnham (MN)
The Song Has Ended, but the Melody Lingers



Dr. Anna Langness (CO)
Saving Voices: Healthy Behaviors
for Teachers and Students



Bethany Beaudry (MB) & Aimee Newman (WA)
This is your Brain on SongWorks



Max Mellman (NJ)
Singin' and Swingin':
The SongWorks-Jazz Collection



Judy Fjell (MT)
The Mighty Wonderful Uke:
Let's Play!



Esther Campbell (WA)
My Journey with a Behaviorally-
Challenged Class



Jake Harkins (VA)
Empowering Students with
Notation as Play



Vicky Suarez (TX)
Observation Class: Prairie
Creek Elementary School
Grade 2



Dr. Doug Bartholomew (MT)
Showing What We Hear: Clusters



Dr. Susan Kenney (UT)
Beware the Beat!



Michiko Nitaira (JP)
SongWorks for Learning
English: SMILE!



Natalie Neugent (TX)
Rhyme Play



Molly Feigal (MN)
Melody: Can I Really Have it All?
(part 2)



Alice Nordquist (MD)
Approaches to Mapping



Lisa Schoen (MN)
The Vibrant Life of
a Song



**Betty Phillips
(OR)**
Hop Old
Squirrel,
There's a Fox!



**Dr. Taryn
Raschdorf (VA)**
Teacher as
Learner,
Learner as
Teacher

Make Plans to Join us in Dallas, TX April 4-6!





Dallas, TX
Westin DFW Airport
April 4-6, 2019

Register Online

songworkseducators.com/conference

Register by March 16, 2019

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION (includes luncheons)

- \$75* SWEA Student Member
- \$175* SWEA Regular Member
- \$100* SWEA Retired Member
- \$225 Non-Member
- \$110 One-Day (Thursday or Friday)

*Requires Membership Renewal

MEMBERSHIP DUES

- \$20 Student
- \$45 Regular
- \$75 Sustaining
- \$100 Patron

FRIDAY BANQUET (optional)

\$40

HOTEL ROOMS

\$148.35 per night (tax included)

Visit bit.ly/swea-hotel19 to book your hotel room at the SongWorks Educators Group Rate.

March 16, 2019: Deadline for Registration and Cancellation*;
Deadline for Room Reservations at discounted Group Rate

***Refund and Cancellation Policy:** Registrants canceling on or before March 16 will receive a full refund of registration and banquet fees. Registrants canceling after March 16 will receive a refund of registration fees, less the cost of included lunches and optional banquet. *Alternatively, you may choose to donate these fees to support SWEA.*

For inquiries regarding financial assistance to attend the 2019 Conference, contact **SWEA Grants Administrator Emilee Knell** at ekknell@yahoo.com

The Fleurette Sweeney Fellowship was initiated in 2010 to honor Music EdVentures founding member and teacher extraordinaire Fleurette Sweeney. In her words, the impetus behind this initiative is “the well being of children brought about by supporting, caring, and excellently prepared teachers.”

Meet our 2019 Emerging Pioneers!



Rebecca Hahn

Rebecca Hahn earned a Bachelor of Music Education in piano and vocal music from Northern State University in Aberdeen South Dakota. She has done certification classes through MusikGarten and SongWorks. Her current position includes teaching 3-5 grade Strings at Glacier Hills School of Arts & Science and 6th grade Choir at Rosemount Middle School both in the Rosemount, Apple Valley, Eagan School District in MN.



Katie Herzberg

Katie Herzberg received a Bachelor of Arts Degree with summa cum laude honors from Concordia University, St. Paul, MN, in 2007. She is pursuing a Master of Arts degree from Concordia University, St. Paul. Katie teaches K-5 General Music at Parkview Elementary in Rosemount, MN. She lives in Farmington, MN, with her husband and three amazing girls.

2018 Emerging Pioneers Nan Fitzpatrick and Taylor Crevola share the below reflections as assignments to fulfill their Fleurette Sweeney Fellowship for Emerging Pioneers award.

An Interview with Betty Phillips

Conducted by Nan Fitzpatrick, 2018 Emerging Pioneer



What skill do you need to be a successful music educator? The ability to give students joyful musical experiences, says SongWorks educator, Betty Phillips.

Betty remembers singing as a child. Her family did not have the money to pay for piano lessons but she always sang. She did not, however, envision utilizing that love of music in her career until she was in college. As a young adult she entered Oregon State University's forestry program to become a scientist. She was certain she was not going to become a teacher as she came from a family of teachers and was set on establishing her own path. However, after seven weeks the forestry program weeded her out and Betty found herself majoring in elementary education. One of her courses was music for elementary school teachers. As Betty describes it, "the professor was terrible." She enrolled in more music education classes with the intent of taking that professor's job away.

Betty finished her education with a degree in K-8 Elementary Education and K-12 Music Education. While she had planned to be a high school choral director, after observing 20 minutes of music educator, Gloria Nelson's class and feeling like what she was doing was "magic," Betty decided to teach elementary music. She wanted to emulate the welcoming and sincere presence she had observed. In 1980, her first year of teaching, Betty participated in a winter course taught by Fleurette Sweeney. She continued attending summer courses with Education Through Music (ETM) where she learned how to pay attention to what kids needed and how to assess if and when it was time to step out of being in charge. ETM (the forerunner to Music EdVentures and SongWorks) modeled a holistic way of working with children (and adults). The teaching and learning was joyful.

With almost 40 years of teaching experience (as both a primary classroom teacher and a music educator) Betty notes some skills and techniques that have guided her through her career journey. Namely, she endeavors to talk less and listen more, she doesn't pretend to know something she doesn't, she asks questions, remains flexible enough to be in the moment with her students (even if it means diverting from her original plan), and she has cultivated the ability to forgive her mistakes and then correct them. Betty recounted a difficult memory of a time early in her career when she disciplined a child in front of the other students. She described it as a "power trip." She wasn't familiar with a different way to interact with her students but in her heart knew there must be a better way. In watching Peggy Bennett and Anna Langness in ETM demonstration classes and in speaking to her school's counselor about problem solving words and strategies, Betty was able to build a safer environment in her classroom as well as model for her students problem solving skills including sharing feelings, reporting what you heard and making a plan.

When asked what specific tools a music educator might need in her/his toolbox, Betty replied "not much!" She continued, "You don't need a bunch of instruments. What's important is for kids to be immersed in making music and come away with confidence that they can continue making music after elementary school (by singing or playing instruments)." Music educators need to understand child development since they work with a wide range of ages, they need to network with other music educators so that they do not feel isolated as a specialist, they need to continue professional development and they need to find ways to de-stress outside of school so they can be more successful in the classroom. While she has 39 years of experience as a teacher, Betty says she is still learning. What has stayed the

Betty has been involved with SongWorks and its foundational members for the entirety of her professional career first as a participant, then as an organizer of and university liaison for summer courses. She has completed certification and literacy training and is now an associate faculty member for SongWorks summer courses. Betty Phillips has also served as the secretary to the Board. She resides in Corvallis, Oregon and continues to work to share SongWorks strategies and principles with other educators through mentoring, speaking and networking.

Nan Fitzpatrick teaches K-6 general music at Tahoe and Caleb Greenwood Elementary Schools in Sacramento, CA

2018 Emerging Pioneer Taylor Crevola shares her reflections on presenting a SongWorks Saturday workshop



Two recent SongWorks Saturday workshops in Portland and Corvallis, Oregon gave me the opportunity to share in organizing, planning, and participating. Because this was my first time to present activities for a workshop, this was a great experience and allowed me to learn how to be a better presenter.

Five of us SWEA members (Tony Williamson, Betty Phillips, Aimee Newman, and Jakki Moses) provided activities for Portland classroom and music teachers to begin the school year. Specifically, we wanted to share activities to help students learn classmates' names and become comfortable as a class.

My presentation began when I introduced "The Muffin Man" song and game. We discussed and demonstrated how to invite a new person to be the "Muffin Man." We asked the chosen student to name their favorite food, and we inserted their idea at the cadence.

As we progressed through the game, participants offered ideas about how to change the movement, spontaneously adding new elements to the game. Experiencing one another's creativity was very enjoyable. We all joined in discussing how to foster a classroom environment where students' ideas are welcome and celebrated.

Leading a workshop alongside Tony, Betty, and Aimee was so exciting and helpful for me! I was able to reflect on how I prepare and present song games and activities, both as a presenter and in the classroom. Even though I came with a set plan, it was inspiring to see the way the other presenters improvise. They were able to add to or change their presentations depending on the group experience. What a lesson that was for me!

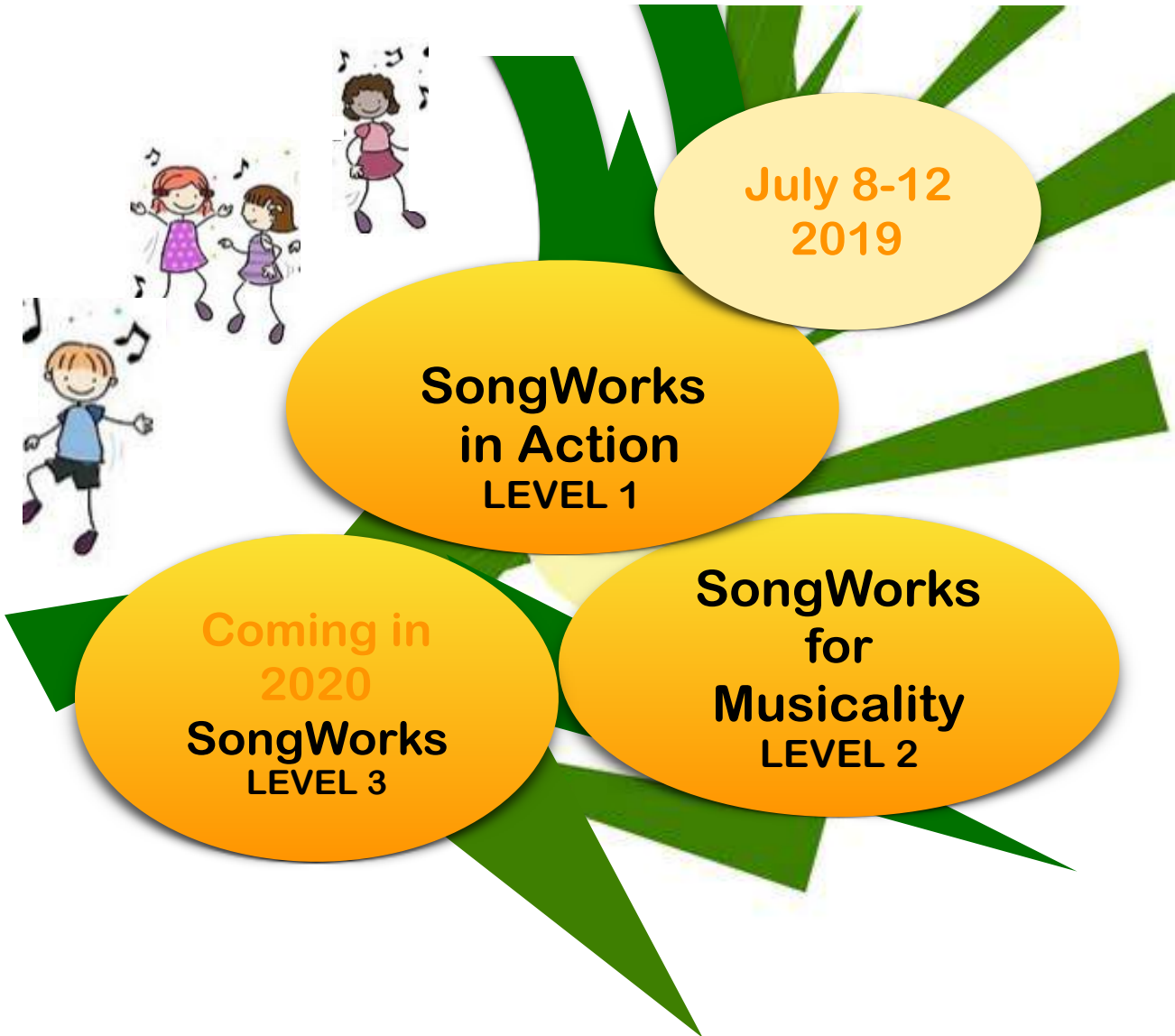
The Corvallis workshop included a wide variety of music and classroom teachers, education students, and professionals from other fields, such as mental health. Because it is a favorite of my students, I chose to present Clickety Clack. This song also provides a wonderful way to transition into song dots. And, I wanted to expose our participants to SongWorks bridge notation.

After the game, we performed the song, wrote song dots, then examined one another's work. Participants remarked on the different ways in which others spaced their song dots on the paper and found it fascinating that our movement and singing translated into a visual representation of sound. Some commented that it was challenging when they first tried to tap dots or to find specific words in their song dot score. These questions prompted a discussion on the importance of repeated exposure and varied experiences with a song before moving to bridge notation.

I've really enjoyed being part of organizing and presenting at SongWorks Saturdays because I am able to learn new activities and teaching strategies from my SongWorks colleagues. I was also able to meet other teachers and education professionals. Through these workshop experiences, I was able to discover new ways to apply SongWorks teaching, especially in a therapeutic setting like the one in which I work. Since the SongWorks Saturday experiences, I have been brainstorming song game extensions so that I can better respond to my students' interests and provide them with the richness of musical experiences.



**SongWorks Principles and Practices
Certification Courses**



Information - www.songworkseducators.com



Certification Courses

COURSE FEES

\$600 USD

CREDITS

Seattle Pacific University

3 quarter credits = \$165

CEU = \$80

HOUSING

Ames Suites

Double \$26/night/person

Single \$32/night/person

Linens \$5/week/person

MEALS

5 lunches + 4 dinners =

\$73.95

CONTACT

Terolle Turnham

SW Certification Executive Director

terolle@songworkseducators.com

July 8-12, 2019

LEVEL I

SongWorks in Action

Immersion in ways to engage students
as they sing, play & study music

LEVEL II

SongWorks for Musicality

The Pillars of Music Study:
advanced foundations & practices

LEVEL III

Coming in 2020

REGISTRATION

songworkseducatorsassociation.org

**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
RIVER FALLS**

The Purpose of SongWorks Educators Association is to search for and practice ways of making music and interacting with people that preserve and celebrate the dignity of both. As a guiding principle, this purpose will focus our work on:

- 1.) Practices that foster interactive, facilitative learning environments.
- 2.) Strategies that empower the learner within the context of music experience and study.
- 3.) Networks that encourage collaboration between diverse disciplines, professionals, and interest groups.

SongWorks Officers and Board of Directors:

SWEA Officers:

President: Max Mellman, NJ

President Elect: Vicky Suarez, TX

Past- President: Taryn Raschdorf, VA

President- Elect Apprentice: Lisa Schoen, MN

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Communications Chair: Mary Stockum

2019 Conference Chair: Vicky Suarez, TX

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Yoshie Kaneko, Japan

Kate Smith, Canada

Mary Stockum, CO

Beth Cain, TX

Any member of SWEA can receive a copy of the SWEA Policies and Procedures Manual and Bylaws by contacting Past-President Taryn Raschdorf at cutaryn@gmail.com

Would you like to submit something to be considered for the SWEA Newsletter or Happenings? Email Ruthanne.fisher@gmail.com Submissions are accepted on a rolling basis.

Support the mission of SWEA with membership dues or donations! \$45 Regular \$75 Sustaining \$100 Patron \$20 Student

Join or donate online at:

www.songworkseducatorsassociation.org

Or make checks payable to SWEA (in USD). Include your name, address, phone and email.

Send to: Anna Langness, Treasurer
1179 Lilac St. Broomfield, CO 80020