

# *KASTA Newsletter*

## *Spring 2022, Vol 21(1)*



*Forte* **B** *Canto de gl' Vcelli* *Piano*

*Solo*

*e Fastosetti*

*Ira salutem gli. Ingei con lieto canto*

*Tutti*

*Et fontis allo Spirax de Zeffiretti*  
*Scorrano i Fonti*

*Con dolce mormorio Scorrano in tanto Piano*

### *In this Issue:*

- 2022 KASTA Distinguished Service Award Winner*
- Jim Palmer visits the KASTA Summer String Workshop*
- Leopold Auer Summer Music Festival in Kansas*
- ... and much more!*

# Editor's Notes



Dear KASTA Members,

I'm grateful to President Laura Hutchins for providing me her platform in this, the Spring 2022 edition of the KASTA Newsletter. Since 2016, I have had the pleasure of sharing your news, ideas, and achievements with KASTA's membership. Thank you for placing your faith in me and for supporting my efforts with each passing issue. It has been both an honor and a privilege. Starting this May, I begin the next phrase of my journey as President-Elect of the KASTA Executive Board, where I hope to continue serving you in different capacity.

Now, onto the news! Your newly elected Executive Board is already hard at work developing a strategic plan for the next four years. More on that soon. In this issue, be sure to check out the information on our new Summer Middle School Orchestra, led by our very own, Dr. Mark Laycock (see p. 8). More information on that and other events can be found on our fresh new website, [kasta.org](http://kasta.org) (see p. 7)! Additionally, there are several other events going on this summer, as KASTA members continue to celebrate communities coming together after two long years of the pandemic. We have the KASTA Summer Teacher Workshop with Jim Palmer, the K-State Leadership Workshop, the National Bornoff Workshop at the University of Kansas, and the Leopold Auer Music Festival! Maybe you need to get out of state. Consider visiting Camp Con Brio in the Rockies! Wherever you travel this summer, have a safe, wonderful, and restful break. We all need it.

In closing, let us take a moment to remember the great Jacquelyn Dillon-Krass who spent her life working toward the betterment of string education, be it from the strings classroom, an executive office in music industry, as President of ASTA, or a string teacher trainer and professor at Wichita State University. Jacquelyn passed away on February 27, 2022. A celebration of her life was held on March 12, 2022 in Derby, Kansas, where she began her career. To those who knew her, she was a larger-than-life figure, full of love and compassion for her students and the field she helped build. Thank you, Jacque!

KASTA plans to dedicate the Fall 2022 issue of the Newsletter to Jacquelyn Dillon-Krass. Please write to me or the new Editor with any memories, stories, or photos. Let's celebrate our mentor, colleague, and friend through the written word!

Be well, my friends!

Jacob M. Dakon  
Editor, KASTA Newsletter  
[jmdakon@ku.edu](mailto:jmdakon@ku.edu)



# *KASTA Newsletter*

Spring 2022 Edition | Volume 21, Issue 1

Jacob M. Dakon, editor  
KASTA.org

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# 2022 KASTA Distinguished Service Award

At the annual KMEA In-Service Workshop this past February, the Kansas American String Teachers Association recognized Alison Harbaugh, Administrative Assistant with the Salina Symphony, as the 2022 recipient of the KASTA Distinguished Service Award.

To her colleagues, Alison Harbaugh is an integral and essential part achieving the mission of both the Salina Symphony and the Salina Symphony Youth Education Program. She is a team player always ready and willing to step up and do whatever is asked of her. From coordinating 1000+ elementary students and 60+ adult musicians for the annual “Education Outreach Concert” (pre-COVID), to helping clean music stands between rehearsals to safely return the Youth Symphony to making music (post-COVID), Alison has truly shown she is dedicated to “Changing Lives Through Music.” And she does it all with a smile on her face and kind words for everyone she works with! Put succinctly, the Salina Symphony, and by extension of all its patrons, would not enjoy the same excellent experience without Alison!



# KASTA Solo Competition Winners

The annual KASTA Solo Competition was held once again at the 2022 KMEA In-Service Teachers Workshop, with first and second prizes being awarded at each level of the competition. Congratulations to all of our prize winners! As is tradition, Takuto Kametsu, violinist and first prize winner of the senior division, delighted members at the KASTA Luncheon with his award-winning performance of Mozart's Concerto No. 5, 1st movt., accompanied Ken Rodgers, Professor of Piano at Hesston College.

Takuto Kametsu, Senior Div., 1st place  
Taylor Herrman, Senior Div., 2nd place  
Isaac Wu, Junior Div., 1st place  
Jake Chun, Junior Div., 2nd place  
Eli Jia, Prep Div., 1st place  
James Hurrel, Prep Div., 2nd place



From left to right: Ken Rodgers (pianist, Hesston College), Takuto Kametsu (violinist, 1st prize winner in senior division), and Laura Hutchins (KASTA President)

# New Board Members

## Begin 2022-2024 Terms

This May, the KASTA Board says farewell to Henry Littich, who will complete his six-year term as President and Past President, as well as Cathy Tummons who will complete her two-year term as Secretary. A hearty congratulation and thank you to both our colleagues for their service to KASTA. We are a stronger organization because of your leadership. Moving forward, President-Elect Martha Barnhill will assume her new role as KASTA President, Laura Hutchins will remain on the Board as Past President, and Michael Harbaugh will continue to serve as Treasurer.

In February, members voted for a new KASTA President-Elect and Secretary. Dr. Jacob M. Dakon, Association Professor of Music Education at the University of Kansas will assume the position of President-Elect, and Rachel Unruh, Orchestra Director at Haysville West Middle School, will assume the position of Secretary. Please help us welcome our new Board members.



Dr. Jacob M. Dakon is Associate Professor and Director of Music Education at the University of Kansas where he oversees all string teacher training activities. Prior to his appointment, Dr. Dakon taught string orchestra in the public schools of South Carolina and served as a violin instructor at the Appalachian State University Community Music Program in Boone, North Carolina. He also holds certifications in the pedagogical approaches of Paul Rolland, George Bornoff, and Shin'ichi Suzuki. A published researcher, Dr. Dakon's work in string pedagogy, community music, and the history of string education in American public-school systems can be read in the *Journal of Research in Music Education*, *British Journal of Music Education*, *Journal of Historical Research in Music Education*, *String Research Journal*, *Bulletin of the Council for Research in Music Education*, and the *American String Teacher*. He also remains engaged as a clinician, conductor, and performer in orchestral and educational settings throughout Kansas and beyond. Dr. Dakon holds a Ph.D. in Music Education from The Ohio State University, Master of Music in Violin Performance from Appalachian State University, and a Bachelor of Music in Music Education from the University of South Carolina.



Rachel Unruh is in her 9th year teaching orchestra at Haysville West Middle School and assisting 5th grade strings in the Haysville USD261 school district. A Newton native, she discovered the violin in middle school and knew early on that string education was in her future. She credits her love for the profession to the many Kansas string educators who taught and inspired her along the way, and strives to share that joy with her students every day. Unruh is an active player and former board member with the Newton Mid-Kansas Symphony Orchestra. She holds an MME in Instrumental Music from Wichita State University and a BA in Music Education from Bethel College.

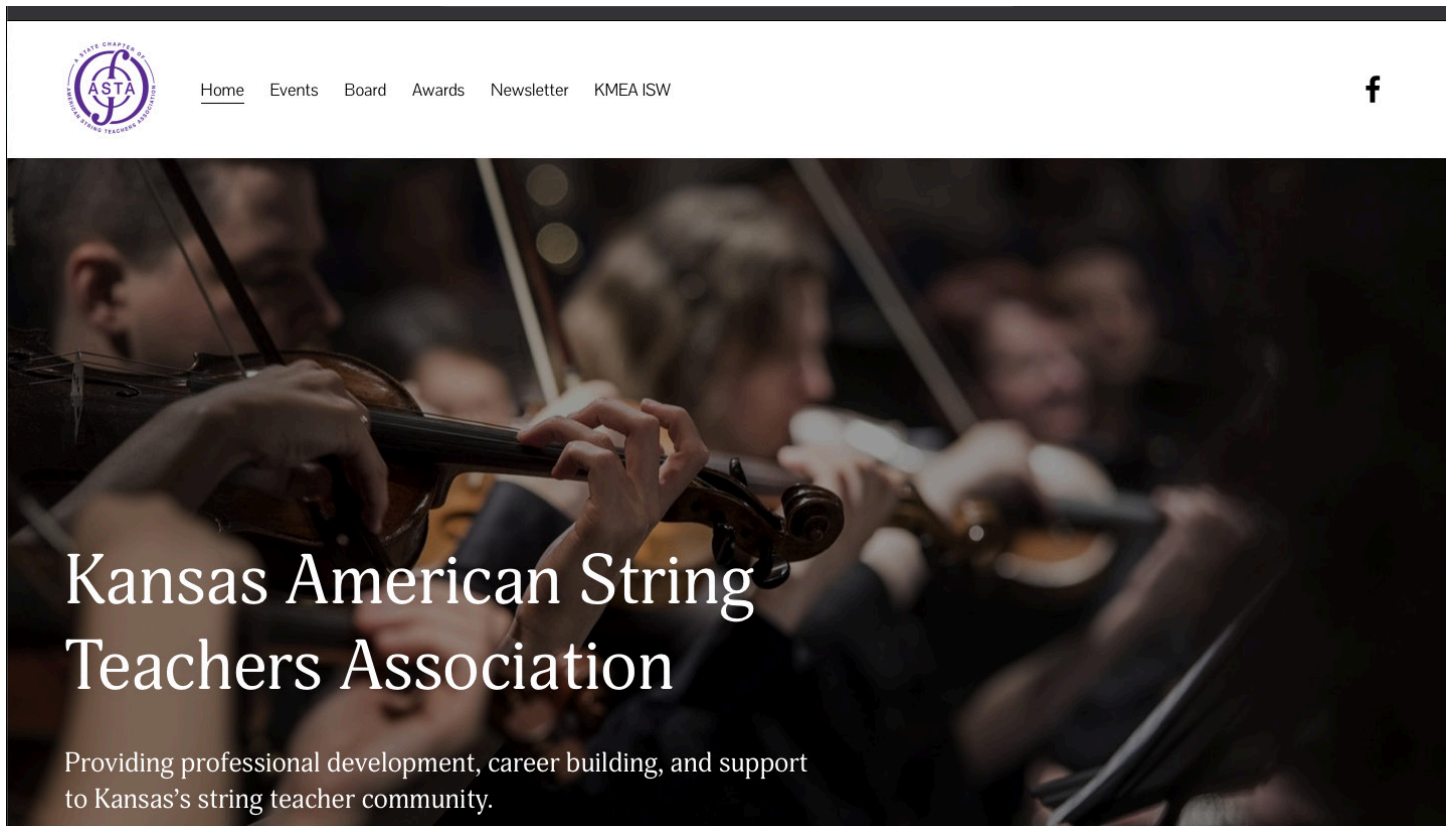
# Check Out KASTA's New Website!

Earlier this year, Troy Johnson, Web & Technology Manager for KMEA, stepped down as webmaster for the KASTA website. Please help us thank Troy for sharing with KASTA his technological expertise and guidance over the years. In search of a new virtual home, KASTA Board selected SquareSpace.com to host the new website. Dr. Jacob Dakon was chosen to design and maintain it.

The new site is up and running and can be found at [kasta.org](http://kasta.org). The new website is your one-stop-shop for all things KASTA-related, including but not limited to the:

- KASTA Summer String Workshop
- Intercollegiate Orchestra
- KASTA Middle-Level Orchestra
- The KASTA Newsletter complete with back issues
- KASTA Solo Competition, and
- The New KASTA Summer Middle School Orchestra!

Glance over the site when you get a moment and let us know how we did. See something we missed? Contact Jacob Dakon at [jmdakon@ku.edu](mailto:jmdakon@ku.edu).



The screenshot shows the top portion of the KASTA website. On the left is the KASTA logo, which is a circular emblem with the letters 'KASTA' in the center and 'KANSAS AMERICAN STRING TEACHERS ASSOCIATION' around the perimeter. To the right of the logo is a horizontal navigation menu with the following items: Home (underlined), Events, Board, Awards, Newsletter, and KMEA ISW. Further to the right is a small black square icon with a white lowercase 'f', representing a Facebook link. Below the navigation menu is a large, dark, high-contrast photograph of a string orchestra performing. Overlaid on the bottom left of this photograph is the text 'Kansas American String Teachers Association' in a large, white, serif font. Below this title is a smaller line of white text: 'Providing professional development, career building, and support to Kansas's string teacher community.'

# 2022 Summer String Workshop & Middle School Orchestra

by Frances Oare



If you are a string teacher at any level, be sure to set aside June 17th-18th, 2022, for an amazing professional learning opportunity. This year, the KASTA Summer String Teacher Workshop will include an opportunity for your middle school students to play in an orchestra under the direction of Dr. Mark Laycock, Director of Orchestras at Wichita State University and director of the Wichita Youth Symphony Orchestra.

Our clinician for the Teacher Workshop this year is Jim Palmer. Recipient of the Elizabeth A.H. Green Award for a distinguished career in string teaching, James (Jim) Palmer is an editor, arranger, and featured clinician for Alfred Music. He is also the Orchestra Director and Fine Arts Department Chairman at Allatoona High School in Acworth, Georgia. Mr. Palmer has held posts with youth orchestras throughout Florida and Georgia and is in demand as a clinician presenting workshops at the state level as well as the National ASTA conference. He is dynamic, creative and a master teacher! Teachers

attending his workshop will find an abundance of ideas that they will be able to incorporate immediately into the classroom. You do not need to be a member to attend.

Topics at the summer workshop will include:

1. An Alfred sponsored reading session,
2. Warm Up to Wrap Up: A Complete Creative Approach to Achieving Excellence in the Orchestra Classroom,
3. Orchestral Bowings: Connecting the Technical with the Expressive to Achieve Superior Performances,
4. Simple Symphony: A Teacher's Guide to Creating, Rehearsing, and Developing a Symphony Orchestra at your School, and
5. Fantastic Fiddling: Understanding how to create a dynamic group that will serve your students and your community.

For more information on the 2022 KASTA Summer String Workshop, as well as a schedule of events, see <https://www.kasta.org/summerworkshop> on the KASTA webpage.

While teachers are busy learning and adding to their toolboxes, the student orchestra will have a one-day event on Friday, June 17. Students will rehearse and then perform for parents in a side-by-side orchestra with their teachers.



The schedule for the students on June 17th is:

- 9:00-10:30 a.m. Orchestra session #1
- 10:45-12:00 a.m. Orchestra session #2
- 12:00-1:30 p.m. Lunch on your own
- 1:30- 2:45p.m. Orchestra session #3
- 3:00 p.m. Rehearsal with attending teachers from KASTA workshops
- 4:00 p.m. Concert for parents

Student cost is \$12 per student. The fee for the two-day teacher workshop is \$150 with a \$25 discount for ASTA members. High school and college students may attend both days for only \$25 and there is an option for single day registration for teachers as well at \$75.

For more information on the Summer Middle School Orchestra, as well as a schedule of events, see <https://www.kasta.org/summer-orchestra> on the KASTA webpage.



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# We're Back!

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS



**MID  
WEST  
ERN  
MUSIC  
CAMP** 2022

# Rising to Meet Demands: A New Summer Music Festival Opens

by Dr. Ned Kellenberger, Founder and Artistic Director  
of Leopold Auer Music Festival

**K**ansas has summer classical music festivals, but none that show up easily on search engines, and none that out-of-staters stop and ask me about when I travel. That will change. Leopold Auer Music Festival, a nascent summer music camp for strings and piano students located in Prairie Village, Kansas, is generating excitement around its inaugural season. With students already committed from several states, the festival aims to turn heads around the country for those looking for summer music study in the Midwest.

Growing up a string student in Kansas, I have always felt a need for another strings music festival for dedicated students. Options have been surprisingly limited for a state with such a rich tradition of string playing, a tradition we are all proud of. Too often we are a pipeline for other string programs around the country, when we should be a destination. It is this belief that drove me to found Leopold Auer Music Festival. NOTICE: Kansas students do not need to travel out of state to attain the highest level of string education.

At LAMF, you can expect private lessons, numerous solo performance opportunities, masterclasses, chamber music, orchestra, group classes in music history and musicianship, and a concerto competition. After practicing, students can explore Prairie Village with its rich character and tradition: local shops, boutiques, eateries... and maybe even some barbecue. Our dates this year are July 8-16. We provide a music festival without the weeks-long demands that end in exhausted — rather than energized — students. The 9-day schedule allows families to travel together and make an extended vacation out of it.

I am proud to be in the teaching tree of Leopold Auer, teacher of legends like Jascha Heifetz, Mischa Elman, Efrem Zimbalist, and Nathan Milstein. All of us at LAMF dedicate ourselves daily to the standard of teaching and artistry of our namesake. But this does not make us exclusive: we accept students of all ages and abilities. The importance of teaching beginners cannot be overstated; every building needs a foundation, and without proper attention to fundamentals, students face limitations in how they can express themselves. For this reason we are pleased to introduce a beginners program in addition to our advanced program. The playing diversity of our student population forms a symbiotic atmosphere: beginners feel inspired by more advanced players, and more advanced players grow from mentoring beginners. Resulting relationships are why students and parents feel our festival is a family.

We are humbled and grateful to our many supporters who have allowed us to offer need-based scholarships. We believe every student should have access to quality music education, and access to a loving and loyal music family. If you share this vision, feel free to donate (tax-deductible) to us from our website, [leopoldauermusicfestival.org](http://leopoldauermusicfestival.org). Give a child this gift today.

**COURSES OFFERED SUMMER 2022:**

Instrumental Conducting • Advanced Percussion Techniques • Advanced Woodwinds Techniques • Approaches to String Pedagogy • Research in Music Education • Instrumental Conducting • Jazz Techniques • Psychology of Music for Music Education Practitioner •

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*JUNE 7-24, 2022*



Learn more at [music.ku.edu/summer-me-mme-program](https://music.ku.edu/summer-me-mme-program) for additional information, email Jacob Dakon at [jmdakon@ku.edu](mailto:jmdakon@ku.edu) (instrumental) or Melissa Grady at [mlgrady@ku.edu](mailto:mlgrady@ku.edu) (choral)

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To complete your program, choose either a thesis or non-thesis degree option.

The University of Kansas prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, status as a veteran, sexual orientation, marital status, parental status, gender identity, gender expression and genetic information in the University's programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director of the Office of Institutional Opportunity and Access, IOA@ku.edu, 1246 W. Campus Road, Room 153A, Lawrence, KS, 66045, 785-864-6414, 711 TTY.



# National Bornoff Summer Workshop

July 10-16, University of Kansas

*In-depth study of The Bornoff Approach*

**CURRICULUM MAPPING**

*Trauma-Informed Teaching*

*Improvisation*

*DEI in the Orchestra Classroom*

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JUNE 26-29  
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Sample schedule of three days at Camp Con Brio  
(this is NOT a final schedule)

**THURSDAY**

- 8:00-8:30 - Breakfast
- 8:45-10:20 - Rehearsal
- 10:30-11:45 - Sectionals and Technique
- 12:00-12:30 - Lunch
- 12:45-1:30 - Rehearsal
- 1:45-4:15 - Rotating Activities and Free Recreation
- 4:15-5:30 - Quiet Time
- 5:30-6:00 - Dinner
- 6:15-7:30 - Rehearsal
- 7:45-9:30 - Dodgeball and/or Movie Night
- 10:00 - Room checks, Lights out

**FRIDAY**

- 8:00-8:30 - Breakfast
- 8:45-9:45 - Sectionals and Technique
- 10:00-11:45 - Rehearsal
- 12:00-12:30 - Lunch
- 12:45-1:30 - Rehearsal
- 1:45-4:00 - Rotating Activities
- 4:00-5:15 - Free Recreation and/or Quiet Time
- 5:30-6:00 - Dinner
- 6:15-7:15 - Rehearsal
- 7:30-8:30 - Faculty Recital
- 8:45-10:45 - S'mores at the Campfire
- 11:00 - Room checks, Lights out

**SATURDAY**

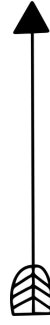
- 7:15-8:00 - Packing, Cleaning, Room Check-Out
- 8:00-8:30 - Breakfast
- 8:45-9:30 - Sectionals and Technique
- 9:45-10:45 - Rehearsal
- 11:00-11:50 - Free Recreation
- 12:00-12:30 - Lunch
- 12:35-12:55 - All-Camp Photo
- 1:00-2:00 - Dress Rehearsal
- 2:00-2:20 - Meet Parents, Pack Bags, Tuning
- 2:30 - Concert



Please contact us with  
any questions!

CampConBrio@gmail.com  
720-663-9038

[www.campconbrio.com/register](http://www.campconbrio.com/register)

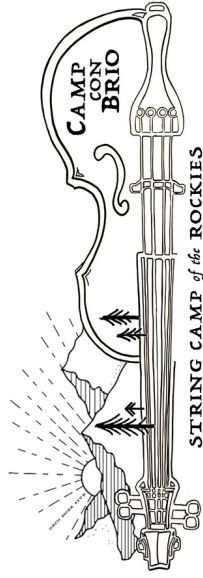


**CAMP LOCATION:**

Golden Bell Camp and Conference Center  
380 CR 512  
Divide, Colorado 80814

# Camp Con Brio

String Camp of the Rockies  
High School, Middle School,  
and Beginning Orchestra Camps  
July 6-9, 2022

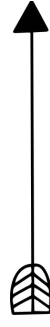


Alison Mayes  
Camp Director

Soon Hee Newbold  
High School Orchestra Director

Pattie Nelson  
Middle School Orchestra Director

Lauren Martens  
Eleanor Dunlap  
Beginning Orchestra Directors



Golden Bell Camp  
and Conference Center  
Divide, Colorado



# THE KASTA NEWSLETTER:

*A Newsletter for String Educators by the  
American String Teacher Association-Kansas Chapter*

## MISSION STATEMENT

*The KASTA Newsletter* is a bi-annual publication produced by and for members of the American String Teachers Association-Kansas Chapter. Our mission is to promote communication and a sense community between pre-service, professional, and collegiate string educators throughout the State of Kansas by disseminating news, critical thought and opinion based on string-specific topics. These include, but are not limited to:

- Program news;
- Articles examining pedagogical, curricular, and other educational perspectives;
- Articles examining psychological perspectives pertaining to music and human behavior;
- Research abstracts or reports that suggest direct application to instructional environments;
- Reviews (e.g., books, music, research); and
- Opinion pieces that promote healthy and progressive discussion.

We believe that sharing knowledge and skills is one of the primary means of advancing string education. Such advancements, we hope, will continue to enhance educational experiences for all Kansan music students and teachers, past, present, and future.

For access to past KASTA Newsletters, see <https://www.kasta.org/newsletter>