



MICHAEL AND ANNE GREENWOOD  
**SCHOOL OF MUSIC**  
 College of Arts and Sciences



**KEYBOARD STUDIES**  
 at Oklahoma State University

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THE  
**McKNIGHT CENTER**

FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS AT OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

**2024-2025**  
**Performance**  
**Highlights**



**YEFIM BRONFMAN**  
**PIANIST**

April 11, 2025 | 7:30 p.m.  
 MCPA Performance Hall



**ENRICO ELISI**  
**PIANIST**

March 8, 2025 | 2:30 p.m.  
 MCPA Recital Hall  
 Guest Artist Recital



**ANNE-MARIE MCDERMOTT**  
**ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & PIANIST**

March 1, 2025 | 7:30 p.m.  
 March 4, 2025 | 7:00 p.m.  
 MCPA Performance Hall  
 McKnight Chamber Music Festival

For tickets to McKnight Center and Greenwood School of Music events, go to [mcknightcenter.org](http://mcknightcenter.org)



## OSU PIANO FACULTY



**Thomas Lanners** has performed throughout the U.S. and abroad, presenting his New York solo debut in Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in 2004. His performances have been broadcast nationally and internationally on programs such as American Public Media's Performance Today, BBC3 in London and RTÉ Radio 1 in Ireland. Lanners was inducted into the Steinway Teachers Hall of Fame in 2021 and was named the Distinguished Music Teacher by the Oklahoma Music Teachers Association in 2014. Over the past decade, he's given

numerous master classes and performances in Shanghai, Beijing, Chengdu, and Hangzhou, China, in Bangkok, Thailand, Seoul, South Korea, at the Eastman School of Music, the NYU-Steinhardt School, Southern Methodist and Florida State Universities, and the Universities of Miami, Texas-Austin, Washington and Zacatecas, Mexico, among many others. Thomas served on the faculty of the Shanghai International Piano Festival and Institute in China in 2018 and 2023, the International Keyboard Odysiad and Festival in 2024, the Conero and AmiCaFest Piano Festivals in Italy, and twice at the Lee University International Piano Festival and Competition in Tennessee. He has presented numerous sessions at Music Teachers National Association conferences, for the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy, and for MusicEdConnect.com online conferences. His feature articles and reviews have been published in the American Music Teacher, Piano Magazine, and Clavier.

Lanners' latest recording, Ned Rorem: Piano Works, Volume 2, was released worldwide by Centaur Records. Donald Rosenberg's review in the Cleveland Plain Dealer raved: "Thomas Lanners brings exceptional detail and urgency to the repertoire. Grade: A." American Record Guide's review of Lanners' Ned Rorem: The Three Piano Sonatas recording read: "Anyone who cares about mainstream 20th Century piano music should seek out this superlative recording." Jed Distler of ClassicsToday.com wrote of Touches of Bernstein: The Complete Published Piano Music of Leonard Bernstein: "Lanners' loving mastery easily holds its own in any company. Warmly recommended." His championing of American piano music was the topic of a 2010 interview in Fanfare. Thomas received his Master's and Doctoral degrees from the Eastman School. His major teachers include Barry Snyder, John Perry, and Jerome Lowenthal.



Canadian pianist **Heather Shea Lanners** has performed extensively throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, Brazil and China as both a soloist and chamber musician. Recent engagements include performances in Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, Brazil, the Tenri Cultural Center in NYC, a seven-city concert tour of China with Pangaea Chamber Players, concerto performances with the Bulgarian State Orchestra of Vidin and solo performances at the Dublin International Piano Festival. Ms. Lanners has also performed as pianist for the Cleveland Opera on Tour, the prestigious Meadowmount School of Music, and the Holland Summer Music Sessions.

After receiving her bachelor's degree in Piano Performance from the University of Western Ontario in London, Canada with pianist John-Paul Bracey, Lanners continued her studies in Paris with French pianist, Cécile Ousset. While in Paris, she earned the Diplôme Supérieur en Musique de Chambre at the École Normale de Musique. Since the completion of a master's degree in Performance with Barry Snyder at the Eastman School of Music, Ms. Lanners has worked as Opera Coach at the Cleveland Institute of Music and the University of Akron. She currently serves as Professor of Piano at the Michael and Anne

Greenwood School of Music at Oklahoma State University. She has been the recipient of numerous awards including the 2019 College of Arts and Sciences Wise-Diggs-Berry award for teaching excellence, and the 2021 Oklahoma State University Distinguished Music Professor award.

An advocate for promoting the works of her contemporaries, Lanners recently premiered and recorded a substantial new solo piano work written for her in 2019 by composer Gregory Mertl. The world premiere of "Pictures Without an Exhibition", took place at the McKnight Center for the Performing Arts in 2020, and her disc of the solo piano works of Mertl will be released in 2024.

In addition to a busy performing and teaching schedule, Lanners remains active as a guest lecturer, masterclass clinician and adjudicator. Throughout her career she has given guest classes and performances at numerous universities across the United States, Canada and Brazil, including Penn State University, the Eastman School of Music, the University of Washington, Bowling Green State University, The Ohio State University, the Idyllwild School for the Performing Arts and the Universidade de São Paulo. She has also published articles in the American Music Teacher journal, and currently serves as Recordings Editor for Piano Magazine.



Japanese pianist **Tomomi Sato** enjoys a diverse career as a performing artist and educator. A prizewinner of the 2013 Seattle International Piano Competition, she has taken stages throughout the United States, Mexico, South America, Europe and Asia as a solo and collaborative artist. Her 2023-2024 season highlighted a concerto appearance with the Orchestra San Antonio, recitals in the Los Angeles area as a member of award-winning violin/piano ensemble Duo Syncopa, a recital tour in Japan with violinist Francisco Fullana, among many others.

Critically acclaimed for her wide range of repertoire knowledge and genre-defying versatility on the keyboard, Tomomi's festival credits include Accademia Dino Ciani (Italy), Music Academy of the West, Tanglewood Music Center, and SongStudio with Renee Fleming at Carnegie Hall. Her current engagements range from traditional concerts to opera and musical theatre productions. Additionally, she has toured as a rotating member of TAKE3, a classical crossover piano trio.

Tomomi's pedagogical specialty lies in the art of ensemble playing and coaching and is currently serves as Teaching Assistant Professor at Oklahoma State University. Having honed her coaching skills as a staff pianist at Juilliard, she has gained many teachers' trust to serve as a coach for aspiring young instrumentalists and singers. In addition to serving as a collaborative piano faculty at festivals such as Classical Music Institute Lyra Music Festival, she has given masterclasses at George Mason University alongside violinist/violist Brian Hong, and she has been praised for her articulate explanation of ensemble playing techniques as a guest teaching artist for undergraduate accompanying courses at USC.

Tomomi completed her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Keyboard Collaborative Arts at USC Thornton School of Music under the tutelage of Kevin Fitz-Gerald, where she served as a Graduate Teaching Assistant. She holds additional graduate degrees from USC and the Juilliard School; her past mentors include Bernadene Blaha, Jonathan Feldman, Margo Garrett, and Dr. Mark Sullivan. Beyond her musical pursuits, Tomomi finds joy in playing unsuccessful rounds of left-handed golf and exploring diverse culinary scenes in different places that her performing career takes her.

## COLLABORATIVE PIANISTS



A native of Taiwan, **Pi-Ju Chiang** began playing piano at the age of four. At age nine, she was accepted into the special music school for gifted children in Taiwan and was awarded first prize in National Taiwan Piano Competitions for three consecutive years. In 1998, she received her Bachelor's Degree in Piano Performance from TNUA, where she studied with pianists Song-Jen Hsu and Rolf-Peter Wille. Ms. Chiang received her first Master's Degree in Piano Performance at The University of Texas at Austin, where she studied with David Renner and Timothy Lovelace (piano accompanying). She then received her second Master's Degree in Piano Chamber Music and Accompanying at Rice University where she studied with Brian Connelly. She received her Professional Studies Diploma in Collaborative Piano from the Cleveland Institute of Music (CIM), where she studied with Department Head, Anita Pontremoli.

As an active recital pianist and collaborative artist, Pi-Ju Chiang appears frequently in solo, chamber, and collaborative recitals in Taiwan, North America, and Mexico. She made her Taiwanese debut as a collaborative artist at the annual opera gala in 1996, performing Monteverdi's *L'orfeo*. During this time, she was also the private accompanist for Angelo Marenzi, a voice faculty member at the Taipei National University of Art (TNUA) in Taiwan. Her experience as a collaborative pianist has taken her to the Bari Opera Theater in Italy where she performed two operas in 1997 - *La Bohème* and *Il Travatore*.



**Elena Lyalina** began her musical training at the age of six. She holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Piano Performance from the University of Georgia and Master of Music degrees from the University of Northern Iowa and Nizhny Novgorod State Conservatory (Russia). Her major teachers include Evgeny Rivkin, Dmitri Vorobiev, Valery Starynin, and Irina Bogdanova. In the summer of 2017, Elena attended the International Summer Mozarteum Academy in Salzburg under the instruction of Dominique Merlet. She has also participated in master classes with such renowned musicians as Michel Beroff, Nelson Delle-Vigne Fabbri, Philippe Entremont, Wu Han, Vladimir Krainev, Jerome Lowenthal, and Dina Yoffe.

Elena is a prize winner of the University of Georgia Concerto Competition (Athens, GA), the Pro Mozart Society Competition (Atlanta), two National Chamber Competitions in Syzran and Volgograd (Russia), and the Samara Regional Piano Competition (Russia). She also received the Sigma Alpha Iota Jan Fowler Cross Scholarship award, Calhoun Piano Scholarship award, and an Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award from the Hugh Hodgson School of Music at the University of Georgia. In the summer of 2019, Elena worked as a piano faculty member at the Heifetz International Music Institute. Additionally, she has appeared as a soloist and chamber musician in Belgium, Greece, France, Italy, and Portugal.



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## PIANO EVENTS 2024 - 2025

**Friday, Oct. 18**, 7:30 p.m., MCPA Recital Hall  
Guest Artist Recital: **Karen Walwyn, piano**

**Saturday, March 1**, 7:30 p.m., MCPA Performance Hall  
McKnight Chamber Music Festival featuring  
**Anne-Marie McDermott, piano**, 6:30 p.m. MCPA Recital Hall,  
Dr. Thomas Lanners hosts the *Preludes* pre-concert conversation

**Tuesday, March 4**, 7:00 p.m., MCPA Performance Hall  
McKnight Chamber Music Festival featuring  
**Anne-Marie McDermott, piano**

**Saturday, March 8**, 2:30 p.m. MCPA Recital Hall  
Guest Artist Recital: **Enrico Elisi, piano**

**Friday, April 11**, 7:30 p.m., MCPA Performance Hall  
Guest Artist Recital: **Yefim Bronfman, piano**,  
6:30 p.m., MCPA Recital Hall, Dr. Thomas Lanners  
hosts the *Preludes* pre-concert conversation



## OSU HIGH SCHOOL PIANO COMPETITION AND AUDITION DAY

**Saturday, February 8, 2025**  
[keyboard.okstate.edu/competition](https://keyboard.okstate.edu/competition)

**ADDITIONAL AUDITION DATE**  
**Friday, February 21, 2025**

Please visit our website for more information:  
[music.okstate.edu](https://music.okstate.edu)

High School Pianists interested in the 2025  
OSU Cowboy Music Camp, please visit:  
[musiccamp.okstate.edu](https://musiccamp.okstate.edu)

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