

Jeanine Jacobson



Jeanine Jacobson began teaching piano when she was 15 years old. She continued as an independent piano teacher for the next 25 years. During that time she received her Bachelor's degree from the University of Washington and her Master of Music degree from the University of Minnesota. She also took training in Dalcroze and helped to start a state chapter (MTNA) in the Mid-Columbia area of Oregon. In the late 1970's she became involved in the National Conference on Piano Pedagogy (started by Richard Chronister) and gave her first national lecture at the second annual conference. She was also active as an adjudicator for the National Guide of Piano Teachers.

In the early 1980's she pursued Doctoral studies at the University of Oklahoma, being awarded the DMA in 1989. Her dissertation resulted in two books (A Moving Experience) applying movement activities (Dalcroze) to the teaching of elementary piano students. These books were published by Summy-Birchard. In the early 1980's she accepted an academic position at California State University, Northridge. During her 20-year tenure there she was active in the California Association of Professional Music Teachers (MTNA), serving on the state board; helping to re-write the state music literacy program; and serving as a national adjudicator/evaluator for teachers seeking national certification (MTNA).

During her tenure as a professor at CSUN she came to realize that there was no textbook that met the needs of her piano pedagogy students. With the backing of Alfred Publishing and E.L. Lancaster she started to write what was to result in a two-volume piano pedagogy text. The first volume was completed in 2006 and the second volume was published in 2014. In 2016 the two textbooks received the MTNA Frances Clark Keyboard Pedagogy Award. She currently holds professor emeritus status at CSUN.

During her retirement years she has continued to perform chamber music, teach piano, conduct master classes, give lectures and workshops locally and nationally. She and her husband of 57 years have two daughters and two grandchildren, and divide their time between Hood River, OR and Olympia, WA.