

## Keynote Presenters:



**Fernando Malvar-Ruiz**

Fernando Malvar-Ruiz was appointed Litton-Lodal Music Director of The American Boychoir in July 2004. Since then, he has toured with the Choir to 39 states and Canada. He prepared the Choir for performances at the YouthAIDS Benefit Gala, the 77th Annual Academy Awards Ceremony and the Tanglewood Music Festival. He also conducted the Choir at the nationally televised U.S. Open Tennis Tournament Women's Finals and prepared it for performances with the Boston Symphony Orchestra and The Philadelphia Orchestra. He brings extensive experience in the field of choral music to The American Boychoir, having previously directed the Columbus (Ohio) Youth Choir, the Central Illinois Children's Choir and choirs in Spain and Hungary. He has also taught choral music at Parkland College where he conducted the school's Chamber Singers. A widely sought after guest conductor, lecturer and clinician, Mr. Malvar-Ruiz is recognized as one of the nation's experts in the adolescent male changing voice. He served as an Artistic Director and Guest Conductor for the 2005 World Children's Choir Festival in Hong Kong. He has conducted the Children's Honor Choir at the 2003 American Choral Directors Association.



**Geza Szilvay**

Géza Szilvay was born in Budapest in 1943. He studied the violin at the Béla Bartók Conservatory and violin pedagogics at the Budapest Music Academy, where he graduated in 1966. He also studied law and political science at the ELTE University in Budapest and took his doctor's degree in 1970. Since 1971 he has been teaching the violin at the East Helsinki Music Institute and since 1978 at the Sibelius Academy as well. In 1984 he was appointed Principal of the East Helsinki Music Institute.



**Maree Hennessy**

Maree is an experienced teacher and lecturer in Music Education having worked in Early Childhood, Primary, Secondary and Tertiary contexts. She is committed to supporting teachers (both preservice and inservice) in developing music programs that are inclusive, rigorous and engaging. Maree is immediate past president of KMEIA Qld and is co-ordinator of the Open Classroom Series. She is continuing her studies in Educational Leadership at The University of Queensland and lectures in the Summer Music Program in Queensland.



**Harley Mead**

M.Mus.St, B.Ed, B.Teach, LTCL (composition), AMusA (piano)

Harley works as a composer, conductor and educator throughout Australia. As a composer he has received many commissions including the Pemulwuy Male Voice Festival, Brisbane Riverfestival, ANCA Treble Voice Festival, QLD Music Festival, Australian Boys Choir and Q150 Songbridge. His works are performed throughout Australia and overseas. As a conductor, he has worked with small groups from remote Australia to large scale groups of over 700 singers and instrumentalists. Harley is devoted to developing the Kodály approach throughout Australia and South East Asia with a particular interest in Indigenous Cultures Music Education. He has presented at a variety of conferences including the KMEIA Early Childhood Conference, Malaysian Academy for Gifted Children and Suzuki International Conference. Harley's philosophy is "We make music in the mind and use the voice / instruments as the tools".

## Methodology Presenters:



Anna Mlynek-Kalman

Anna completed a Masters Degree in Music Education with a Kodály emphasis, in the United States and has taught and directed music programs with children from K-year 12 for over 25 years at many schools both here in Australia and abroad. During this time she has presented lectures, papers and workshops at universities, schools and preschools to both staff and students. Anna runs training courses specifically for adults wishing to gain confidence when working with babies-8yr olds, and runs the Kodály preschool teacher training course. She has produced 5 Cds and accompanying Teachers' Manuals; There's A Rainbow In My Garden, Swing It Possum, All By Myself, On Safari containing Jungle Jive and Conga Line and is donating all proceeds from the CDs to the Learning for Life Autism Centre. Anna directs the Music Works Magic Education and Resource Centre working closely with her team of dedicated and talented teachers, consults in schools, runs teacher training courses and classes for children and tutors in aural musicianship at Melbourne University. She and her staff are passionate about high quality music education and they create programs that offer a sound developmental, educational base for children from birth.



Marion Stafford

Marion is a highly respected Kodály Music educator who has taught throughout all levels - from Preschool to Tertiary. She is a graduate of Melbourne University and the prestigious Holy Names Summer Institute in Oakland California. Marion has made a significant contribution to the development of teacher training courses in Melbourne and served as President of the Victorian branch of KMEIA for many years. Marion is currently the Head of Music in the Junior School at the Wheelers Hill campus of Caulfield Grammar School and directs the Beginning Training Choir of Young Voices of Melbourne.

## Musicianship Teachers:



James Cuskelly

James is Head of Creative Arts at St Aidan's Anglican Girl's School (Brisbane). He has extensive experience in teaching from pre-school to the tertiary level and was previously Head of Music Education and Aural Studies at The University of Qld. James is a Director in the Board of the International Kodály Society and is Director of the annual Kodály Summer School Music Program held each year in Brisbane.



Jennifer Gillan

Jennifer Gillan (nee Gijsbers) studied her Bachelor of Music ('cello) and Diploma of Education at Monash University, Melbourne, Australia. She spent a year in England teaching in London and a year in Hungary studying at the Kodály Institute, majoring in conducting. Upon returning to Australia Jennifer completed her Master of Music Studies at the University of Queensland. She has taught musicianship at all levels of education, primary to tertiary, and has conducted many choirs. Her teaching experience includes Melba Conservatorium, Melbourne University, the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School, Scotch College Junior School, St Michaels Grammar School and Melbourne Girls Grammar School. Jennifer was a founding member of the Young Voices of Melbourne. She is currently on maternity leave and is loving her new, tiny boss, Oliver.



Allison Harrigan

Allison, M. Mus., B. Mus. (Hons), is the Director of Choral Education for the acclaimed Sydney Children's Choir. She has lectured in choral conducting, Kodály based aural training and directed choirs at many Melbourne universities prior to her move to Sydney. Allison is a committee member of KMEIA NSW and lectures in their teacher training courses. She is passionate about Australian choral compositions and young voices.



Aleta King Annable

M.Mus.St.(UQ), Adv.Dip.Choral Conducting and Music Pedagogy (Liszt Academy: Kodály Institute), Grad.Dip.Ed.(UQ), B.A.Mus.Hons.(Qld Conservatorium), A.Mus.A (Piano)

Aleta enjoys a diverse career as a passionate and experienced musicianship educator and choral director. She has been a regular presenter at the Brisbane Summer Music Program (2006-2010), lecturer in aural studies at the Faculty of the Victorian College of the Arts and Music, University of Melbourne (2009), guest presenter at ASME WA's Choral Day (2010) and lecturer and tutor in Aural Musicianship and Choral Conducting at the School of Music, University of Queensland (2005-2008) where she has recently returned to lecture in Aural Musicianship (2010). Aleta was accompanist for the Queensland Conservatorium Chorus (2006-08), has worked closely with the Australian Boys Choir (2009), and was recently appointed musical director for the Brisbane based community choir Choral Connection (2010). Aleta is an elected National Council member for the Kodály Music Education Institute Australia (KMEIA) and an elected alternate auditor for the International Kodály Society (IKS). As an experienced church musician Aleta leads a busy musical life. Whilst in England (1999-2004) she was appointed musical director for the acclaimed London Adventist Chorale. Since her return to Australia (2005) Aleta has been closely associated with the Seventh Day Adventist Institute of Worship as a performer, educator, composer and arranger throughout Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific Islands. Aleta is founding musical director of Brisbane Adventist Voices. Contact: [aletaking@gmail.com](mailto:aletaking@gmail.com) or +61 (0)434 979 126



Deborah Smith

Deborah is the author of "Musicianship and Aural Training for the Secondary School" a highly successful series of music texts and CDs, designed around the pedagogical principles of Kodály Music Education. Deborah began her career as a clarinetist before discovering a passion for teaching others about music. Her numerous teaching experiences include classroom music teacher at Clayfield College, QLD, Head of Junior School Music, Scotch College, VIC, Director of Music at Lowther Hall Anglican Grammar School and at Ivanhoe Girls' Grammar School, VIC. She has developed and implemented successful, fully aural based programmes for students from Kinder to VCE. [deborahsmith@aapt.net.au](mailto:deborahsmith@aapt.net.au)

## Elective Presenters:

### Jenny Bell and Joanne McMahon

Jenny and Joanne will combine forces to present some of the exciting ideas gained from John Feierabend in 2009 during his visit to Australia. Jenny and Joanne both have their Kodály Teaching Certificates and run a successful DoReMi program on the Central Coast of NSW. They also established the Central Coast Children's Choir in 2004 and this has now grown to include five choirs with choristers ranging in age from 5 - 21 years. Jenny was Head of the Early Childhood Music program at the Central Coast Conservatorium for several years and has been the Infants Music specialist at Central Coast Grammar School for close on 23 years. Jenny and Joanne work well together and are passionate and inspirational teachers. We can be contacted by email: [dave.jennybell@bigpond.com](mailto:dave.jennybell@bigpond.com)



### David Banney

Described by the great English conductor Vernon Handley as being "...easily among the best half-dozen young conductors that I have encountered in the forty years of my career...", David Banney is a past winner of the ABC Australian Young Conductor of the Year Award and the ABC Young Composers Competition. David has conducted many of Australia's leading orchestras, as well as Opera Queensland and the Queensland Ballet. He is Artistic Director and Principal Viola of Newcastle's Christ Church Camerata. As a composer, David has written chamber music, choral music and orchestral music. His Newcastle Mass will receive its European premiere in Dec 2010, sung by the choir of the Kodály Institute in Kecskemet, Hungary. David has had a long interest in the Kodály approach to music education, including the Colourstrings curriculum for string teaching. He is the Director of the Newcastle String Academy, and has given many workshops and lectures on teaching with Colourstrings.



### Tricia Casey

Tricia is currently a Do Re Mi teacher with 22 years experience and teaches at her own private studio in Mackay. This is her absolute passion and she still enjoys teaching at this level. Tricia particularly loves to see the development of the children and how they progress from one stage to another. She finds it very rewarding working with the adults present because she gets to witness their joy when their children or grandchildren attain different milestones. Tricia is also a music specialist at a local Catholic primary school and enjoys the challenge of teaching children without having adults present. She has also lectured the music component in the Bachelor of Education degree for several years at Central Queensland University. Tricia has held down many positions in our Mackay Chapter of KMEIA Qld and until last year was the co-coordinator of the Mackay Regional Choral Festival for 15 years running. Her interests away from music are camping with family & friends, photography and scrap booking our precious family memories.



### Julie Christiansen

Julie Christiansen OAM is founder and Artistic Director of Voices of Birralee and a regular guest conductor at Gondwana Voices Choral School. In recognition her extensive experience throughout Australia in the field of children's and youth choirs, Julie received an Order of Australia medal in the 2006 Queen's Birthday Awards. She is well known for her compelling work with young voices and is committed to strengthening the skills, knowledge and practise of singing throughout Australian metropolitan and regional areas. She values the role which choral music plays in developing awareness of cultural identity and civic and humanitarian causes within communities and the importance of promoting the Australian cultural product. She is a popular guest clinician regarding vocal /choral techniques and literature for youth choirs and is regularly invited to adjudicate, present and conduct at music events, choral festivals and educational workshops. She is a member of the International Federation of Choral Music and is secretary of the Queensland branch of the Australian National Choral Association.



### Susie Davies-Splitter

Susie is a music and movement educator, musician, award winning composer and twice past president of the Victorian Orff Schulwerk Association. Susie teaches in the Orff Schulwerk Levels Courses in Australia, New Zealand and Singapore and presents the 'Joy of Jammin' courses accredited through the Australian Council of Orff Schulwerk. Susie and her husband, Phil have spent more than 15 years developing the popular 'Welcome to Music' series of CD's and books, musicals and choral range for all ages. They have presented workshops, concerts and training courses for teachers and children of all ages throughout the world. Susie has recently been awarded a Master of Education from the University of Melbourne and is passionate about each human being realising their creative and expressive potential. [www.welcometomusic.net](http://www.welcometomusic.net)



### Kirsty Dent

Kirsty is currently the music teacher at Aberfoyle Hub School in South Australia, where she teaches Reception to year 7 students and 2 special education classes. She completed her Bachelor of Music at University of Adelaide and a Bachelor of Education JP/P at Flinders University. Kirsty has been president of the Kodály SA branch for the last 2 years and a committee member for the last four. Kirsty is a regular presenter at the South Australian Kodály workshops each year and enjoys sharing her ideas with other educators. Kirsty also works with the South Australian Primary Schools Festival of Music program as a Concert Manager, Choir Assessor and Conductor for the Southern Metropolitan Festival of Music. She is a passionate and active advocator for Primary Music Education in South Australia and works regularly with other music teachers and associations across the state aiming to promote and improve music education.



### Melissa Dods

Melissa has twenty years teaching experience in Victoria and is currently the Junior School Music Coordinator at St Catherine's Girls Grammar School in Melbourne. She has taught music in pre-schools and primary schools, including twelve years as music specialist at Melbourne Grammar Junior School – Grimwade House. Melissa has also taught adult classes and courses, including lecturing part time in music education at Melbourne University. Melissa has addressed national and state conferences and delivered lectures and workshops in the fields of early childhood, vocal skills, children's choirs and music education for pre-school and primary years. Melissa has specialised in instrumental teaching within the classroom, training children in recorder, melodic and non melodic percussion. She has directed instrumental ensemble groups and school choirs over many years and trained large casts of children for annual school productions, choral and instrumental concerts. For ten years Melissa has coordinated the nationally accredited Orff Schulwerk Music and Movement Teacher Training Courses in Victoria and lectured at these courses. For many years Melissa has been actively involved in the Victorian Orff Schulwerk Association and is currently the President of this organisation. She was recently awarded Life Membership of the Victorian Orff Schulwerk Association.



### Ruth Friend

Ruth's broad teaching experience encompasses music classroom, instrumental and movement programs from Kindergarten through to University level. Her teaching career has been based in Melbourne where she has held the positions of Head of Junior School Music, Westbourne Grammar School, Wind Co-ordinator at Lauriston Girls' School and Acting Head of Music, Malvern Campus, Caulfield Grammar School. Ruth is currently teaching Years 1 to 7 students at Caulfield Grammar School, Melbourne. Her publications include the flute tutor, "Put the Beat in ya Feet", and she is the co-author of 'Take Note Music' books and resources for the primary music classroom. Ruth is an experienced facilitator in teacher training, having presented at music education conferences in Singapore, Queensland, NSW, ACT, SA and Victoria. As an active member of the Victorian Kodály Committee, Ruth passionately supports music teachers and encourages quality music education in Australia.

### Associate Professor Terrence Hays

Terrence holds degrees in music performance, musicology and education. He has given many recitals as a pianist and an organist and has published extensively in the fields of psychosocial musicology, education, gerontology and research methodology. He lectures in music education and is post-graduate coordinator within The Faculty of The Professions at the University of New England.



Dr Deanna Hoermann

BA (UNE), PhD (UNSW), L.Mus.A, L.T.C.L., F.A.C.E

Deanna has combined a career in music education with educational research and administration. She taught music and languages in secondary schools before being appointed Director of the Developmental Music Research Program that looked at the appropriateness of the Kodály approach to music education for primary schools in NSW. She was Principal of Chatswood High School, an Inspector of Schools, Director of Schools, Manager of the School Leadership and Executive Learning Unit and is currently a Senior Academic Consultant. She has served as President of the International Kodály Society and founded the Kodály Music Education Institute of Australia. Deanna has been a member of a number of state and national Boards in the Performing Arts and is currently a member of the Board of the Macquarie Community College. Deanna is currently working as a consultant with the NSW Department of Education and Training and as a senior academic consultant with the University of Sydney. Deanna has published widely in the area of music education. She has a special interest in online leadership professional learning and support.



Judy Inkster

Judy Inkster is H.O.D of the Performing Arts at Cornwall Park Primary School In Auckland. She was a Lecturer and Music Adviser to schools for the Auckland and Waikato Universities for 20 years and has conducted many Choir festivals throughout the country. She was a co writer of the support documents for the Arts Curriculum in New Zealand. She recently spent 3 years in Kuwait at the Gulf English School where she was Head of the Music Dept and responsible for the music programme for children from 3 to 18 years.



Tess Laird

Tess has been working in Kodály-based music education programmes for over twenty years. She is a primary music specialist with Education Queensland and an accredited lecturer for the Australian Kodály Certificate. Having enjoyed conducting a wide range of choral and instrumental ensembles in both school and community, Tess is an ardent supporter of the advantages of an aural-vocal based approach in music education. As Vice-President of the National Council of KMEIA she has compiled an interactive CD of vocal exercises for use by teachers and students called “Purely Pentatonic”, which helps to reinforce pentatonic scales and intervals.



Davina McClure

Davina McClure obtained a B. Mus. Ed. from the University of Melbourne where she was awarded the Florence Bradford Scholarship. She has since undertaken postgraduate studies in choral conducting at Monash University. Davina has taught Kindergarten to Year 12 and her teaching appointments have included St. Michael’s Collegiate School, Hobart, Korowa Anglican Girls’ School, Melbourne and Head of Music at Malvern Campus, Caulfield Grammar School, Melbourne. She is currently Director of Music at The Hamilton and Alexandra College, Victoria and is working on a Masters of Education at the University of Melbourne. Davina has a special interest in children’s choirs and has conducted the Preparatory Choir of The Young Voices of Melbourne. Her interest also led to collaboration with composer Paul Jarman in creating the song cycle, ‘Beyond the White Sails’. Davina is committed to the development of music education through teacher training. She has presented at both State and National music conferences in Kodály and Orff, throughout Victoria, ACT and NSW and is the co-author of ‘Take Note Music’ books and resources for the primary music classroom.



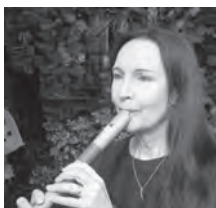
### Cathie Neil

Cathie has a Bachelor of Music (Ed) from the UQ, a Graduate Diploma in Arts Administration from QUT, a Masters in Music Studies from UQ and an ATCL in piano performance. She has had a broad range of experiences and achievements in music education and performance including secondary, tertiary and within the community. Until her move to Hong Kong, Cathie was a part time lecturer in music education at James Cook University and taught methodology and musicianship at the UQ/ KMEIA Summer School. Cathie was a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar in 1994 and studied in the MBA program at Ontario's York University. She was named Mackay Citizen of the Year in 1993 for her contribution to the arts and music in the Mackay community. Cathie's most recent post in Australia was as Head of Music at Townsville Grammar School where she spent seven years. Cathie is currently Head of Music at the Chinese International School in Hong Kong. (email [cathieneil@yahoo.com.au](mailto:cathieneil@yahoo.com.au))



### Mark O'Leary

Mark O'Leary M.Mus B.Mus.Ed, Churchill Fellow, is the founder and Director of the Young Voices of Melbourne. With Young Voices Mark has produced eight CD recordings, toured all states and territories of Australia and made six international tours to Europe, South Africa, North America and Asia. Young Voices has been successful in competition in Europe and Asia and is often heard on Australian radio and television. The choir has collaborated with many choirs on its travels and a wide range of other artists including The Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Sirocco, the Southern Cross Soloists, Chris Lilley, Tripod and Malcolm Dalglish. Mark is the publisher of the Young Voices of Melbourne Choral Series and his arrangements are performed all around the world. He presents many workshops each year on choral music education throughout Australia and is a regular guest conductor at choral festivals. Mark has special interests in Kodály teaching techniques, the development of excellence in music education and children's choirs, and Australian choral music. In 2009 Mark was given an Outstanding Professional Service Award by the Council of Professional Teaching Associations of Victoria for his work with the Kodály Music Education Institute of Australia. Mark is also Principal Guest Conductor of Gondwana Voices with which he has been involved since its first season in 1997.



### Suzanne Palmer-Holton

Suzanne studied at the Tasmanian Conservatorium and then went on to complete a postgraduate in Early Music at the Royal College of Music, London. She has played in various orchestras and now teaches Recorder and Flute at three Melbourne schools. Suzanne specialises in the Kodály method of music instruction and has written much educational material for very young players. She also writes choral music for children's choirs. She is the musical director of Les Clochards, a vocal and instrumental group specialising in popular music of the Renaissance.



### Claire Preston

Educator, accompanist and conductor Claire Preston is Head of Choral Studies at the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School. She has taught in both state and independent schools – from early childhood development through to secondary and tertiary levels. She received a Bachelor of Music Education from the University of Melbourne and is in the final stages of a Master of Education (Arts Administration) at RMIT. She also holds a Licentiate in Music from the Australian Music Examinations Board. Claire has served as Director of Music at Shelford Girls' Grammar, Head of Choral Studies at Ivanhoe and Westbourne Grammar Schools, Head of Strings at Winona Drive Public School and Head of Junior Music at Branksome Hall, Toronto. Specializing in developing young singers, she has worked extensively in Australia and North America. Claire has been assistant conductor of the Toronto Children's Chorus, assistant conductor/chief accompanist for the Canadian Children's Opera Chorus and served as accompanist for the Elmer Iseler Singers. While accompanist at the University of Toronto, she worked with Dr. Doreen Rao, Sir David Willcocks and Helmut Rilling. Performance highlights include: appearing at the World Symposium on Choral Music in Minneapolis, Joy of Singing International Choral Festival and recording the world premiere of Harry Somers' children's opera *A Mid-winter Night's Dream* for CBC Records (recently nominated for a Juno Award). Claire has toured extensively nationally and internationally with Canada's foremost professional chamber choir – The Elmer Iseler Singers and school and community ensembles. Claire has twice been a finalist in the Mietta Song Recital Award and broadcast regularly on the ABC program, "Rising Stars". Claire is frequently invited to conduct, present and adjudicate at choral festivals and national music education conferences and has a special interest in the development of excellence in music and choral education and commissioning, recording and performing Australian music. Claire chaired the VCAA music studies review in 2009 and has been on the artistic staff of Gondwana Voices, Australia's national children's choir as guest conductor since 2007. Claire is co-founder of the Australian National Choral Champions, Exaudi Youth Choir.



### Alena Schneider

Alena has been studying percussion for over a decade. After graduating from the Victorian College of the Arts and taking two study trips to West Africa; Alena is now a full time musician and drum facilitator. She specialises in large group and children's workshops and can be contacted through [africandrumming.com.au](http://africandrumming.com.au).



### Ann Slade

Ann is an experienced teacher and Kodály practitioner. She has developed a wealth of experience during her 19 years in the field through working with Education Queensland in a diverse range of Central Queensland schools and for the last 10 years teaching music at Clayfield College where she has taught throughout the Junior and Middle school and Choral programs in the school. She completed her Kodály Certificate in 1998 and has been on the Queensland State committee for the past 4 years. She is committed to constant review of programs and teaching practice and is a busy mum to two lively young boys.



## Robert Stewart

Canadian born tenor Robert Stewart is co-founder and conductor of the Exaudi Youth Choir. He began early studies in conducting with Dr. Kevin Langford, working as an assistant with the Rotary Boys Choir. Robert was a voice student at Mount Allison University where he studied choral conducting with Carlton Elliot and choral literature with Dr. Willis Noble. He received a Master of Music (Opera) from the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama and is also a graduate of the University of Toronto (Bachelor of Music in Performance; Advanced Certificate in Performance). As an undergraduate he studied orchestral conducting with Dwight Bennett and served as section leader and assistant to Dr. Doreen Rao. He has also worked with some of the world's foremost conductors including: Sir David Willcocks, Sir Philip Ledger, Dr. Elmer Iseler, Dr. Lydia Adams, Robert Spano, Marc Minkowski and Raymond Leppard. As a performer Robert has twice been a finalist in the Mietta Song Recital Award and recently appeared in the New Zealand Opera's production of *Carmen*. He also performs regularly at St John's Southgate as part of their Bach cantata series including performances with Bach's successor, Thomaskantor Christoph Biller. A former Vocal Fellow at the Tanglewood Music Center he participated in masterclasses with Pierre Valet, Phyllis Curtin and Ernst Haefliger. While at Tanglewood, he performed Bach's *Selig ist der Mann* with American Bach scholar Craig Smith and members of the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra. Recent concerts have included appearances on ABC Classic FM, the Ruskin Hall Recital Series and the Melbourne Chorale. Robert serves as choral conductor, voice teacher and French diction tutor at Monash University, the Melba Conservatorium and the Victorian College of the Arts. He also teaches at the University High School where he conducts the Cantabile and Chamber Choirs. Robert is currently serving as President of the Australian National Choral Association, Victorian Chapter.



## Katie Wardrobe

Katie is a qualified teacher (Bachelor of Music, Hons) who enjoys helping people who are short on time and dislike reading software manuals. She is a Sibelius Training Partner and has also worked for Sibelius Australia as an Education and Support Specialist, presenting workshops and demonstrations at events around Australia. She has worked as a freelance copyist, music arranger and transcriber for more than 20 years and is a member of the Music Arrangers Guild of Australia. Katie now runs her own business - Midnight Music - which specialises in music technology training for educators and students. For more information visit [www.midnightmusic.com.au](http://www.midnightmusic.com.au) or email [katie@midnightmusic.com.au](mailto:katie@midnightmusic.com.au)



## Darren Wicks

Darren is a vocalist and jazz pianist and has worked as a music educator for fifteen years, firmly establishing himself as a leader in the field. He has a wide teaching experience encompassing all age groups (from infant to adult) and various contexts (studio, classroom, and workshop). Darren currently teaches voice at Whitefriars College in Melbourne, maintains a busy private studio and conducts several large community choirs, including the Melbourne Singers of Gospel and the Melbourne Gay/Lesbian Chorus. Darren's studies include jazz piano and education at the University of Melbourne, a Master of Music Education at Monash University and he is currently completing a PhD in Vocal Pedagogy at the University of Sydney. Darren is a graduate of the Brisbane Summer Kodály Institute and in 2005, he completed further studies in Jazz and Gospel music at the Berklee School of Music (Boston), in Harlem and at the Manhattan School of Music. He is the author of numerous publications in music education, is actively involved in professional associations and in regular demand as a conference and workshop presenter.