The contributions of James Lyke to piano pedagogy

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Description

- **Title**: The contributions of James Lyke to piano pedagogy

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Abstract: James Lyke's career spans more than 40 years as an educator, author, administrator, composer, clinician, adjudicator, and performer. His cutting-edge teaching materials and numerous domestic and international workshops affected thousands of piano instructors and students worldwide. While co-founding the National Conference on Piano Pedagogy, Lyke also served as a professor at the University of Illinois. The purpose of this study is to document James Lyke’s contributions to the field of piano pedagogy. Despite Lyke’s timeless endeavors as one of the most distinguished piano pedagogues of this modern era, there has been no research to date which attempts to evaluate his career. The investigation of his accomplishments enhances the understanding of contemporary piano pedagogy. This research comprises seven sections. Chapter 1 provides an introduction, statement of the problem, need for study, and five research questions. Chapter 2 discusses related studies. Chapter 3 introduces the methodology used and reveals the results of three interviews and 30 surveys from colleagues and students retrieved both online and via mail. Chapter 4 reveals the life of Lyke through a biographical approach, and Chapter 5 examines his professional activities as professor at the University of Illinois and his versatile career as an organizational leader, performer, and clinician. Lyke’s contributions through publications are evaluated in Chapter 6, and Chapter 7 concludes the study by summarizing answers to the research questions posed in Chapter 1 and providing recommendations for further study. Appendices comprise selective lists of awards, workshops, performances, the consent letter, and the questionnaire for the interview and survey, including screenshots of the online survey. His professional contributions examined through multiple viewpoints illustrate the impact of Lyke in advancing the field of piano pedagogy, and depict Lyke’s exemplary career as a pedagogue.

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