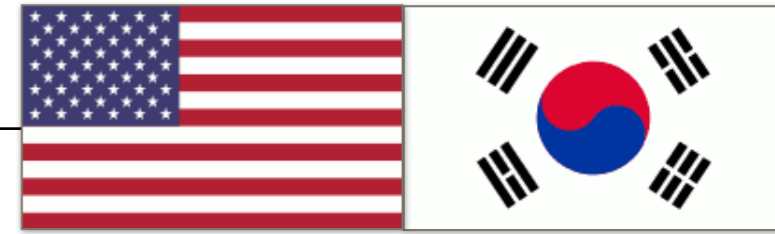


KYU BUTLER (USA/SOUTH KOREA)

Webster University, Community Music School (St. Louis, Missouri)
WPTA USA-Missouri, President

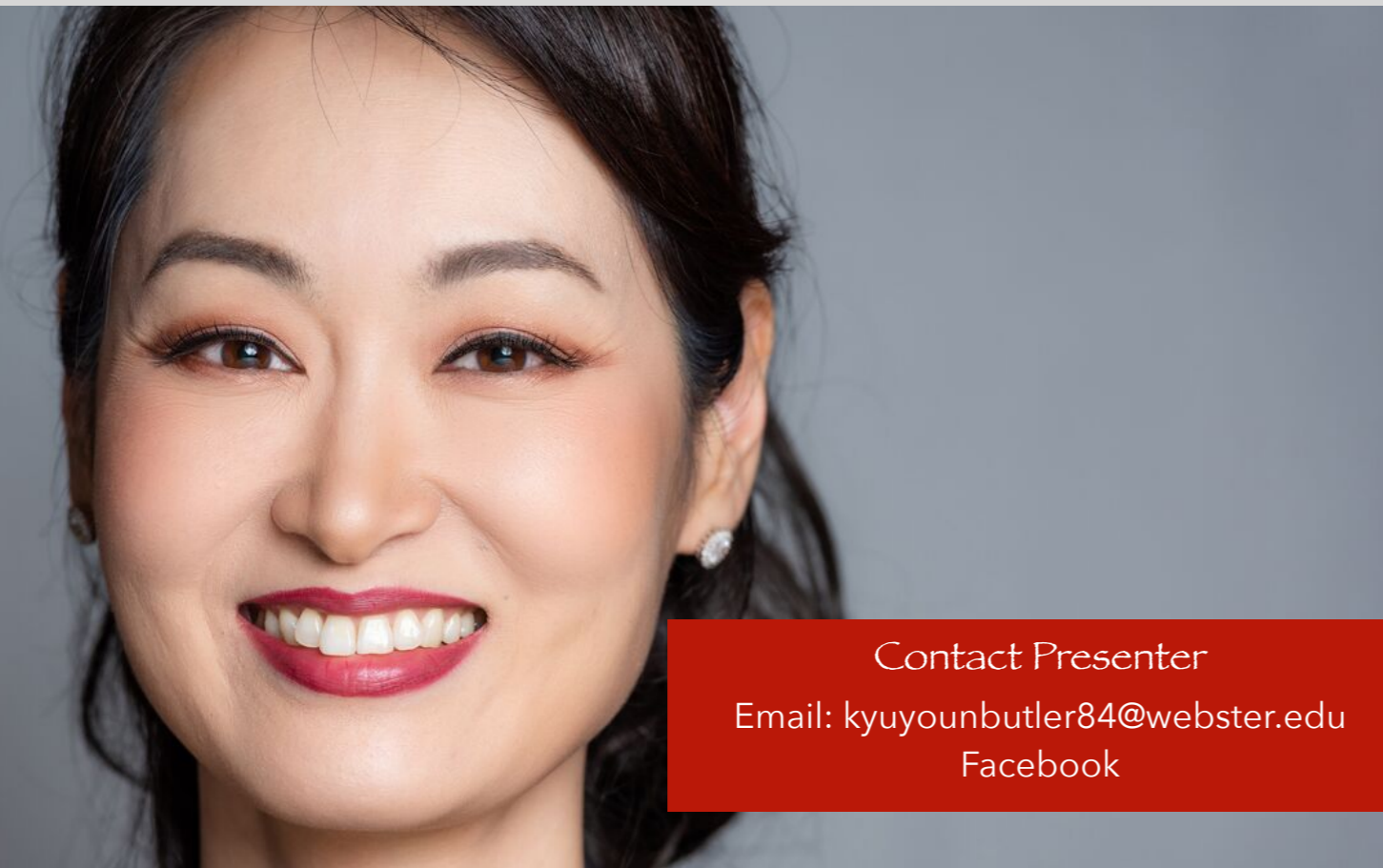


A recipient of the Marina Grin Award, Kyu Butler has received awards from many competitions including Chosun Daily News Co. Music Competition, Korea Times Music Competition, The Korean National Students Competition, and University of Illinois Symphony Concerto Competition and many more. Butler appeared nationally and internationally as a soloist and chamber musician in the Czech Republic, China, South Korea, Italy, and USA. In 2017, she had a debut concert at Carnegie Hall in New York. Butler received her Bachelor of Music from The Korean National University of Arts' School of Music studied with Mr. Choong-Mo Kang, a former faculty member of the Juilliard School, and Master of Music from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Butler also received her Professional Studies Diploma in Fortepiano. Currently, she is pursuing Doctor of Musical Arts in Piano Performance and Literature at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with full scholarship, while she is working as adjunct faculty at the Community Music School of Webster University in St. Louis. Butler has completed the Piano Pedagogy Internship, and also worked as an opera coach, Teaching Assistant, and studio accompanist at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Recently she became both Nationally Certified Teacher of Music and Elementary Specialist in piano. Butler is President of WPTA USA-Missouri, and a Co-Vice President of Missouri Music Teachers Association (MTA), and president of St. Louis Area MTA and also a chair of Young Artist Competition.

Conventional Piano Keyboard vs. Alternatively-Sized Piano Keyboards: A Case Study of Hand span and Advanced Repertoire

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Because of our one-size-fits-all piano keyboards, pianists with smaller hand spans that do not comfortably fit a piece's requirements have few options aside from not playing those pieces or omitting notes. Also, practicing octaves and chords can cause significant overuse and repetitive strain injury, especially when the student pianist has a small hand span. Measuring students' hands or body to fit their instrument is popular with string players, but it is rare for pianists. Studies have demonstrated that a large percentage of pianist's injuries are the result of practicing large chords and octave passages, caused by the hyperabduction of both the thumb and the 5th finger. The selection of a proper repertoire to fit for small-handed pianists and understanding of Alternatively-Sized Piano Keyboards have the potential to reduce risk of injuries. Here the author provides charts of largest interval distances in selected from advanced level piano repertoire and the hand span requirements, and also discuss a case study of students playing those intervals to avoid limits to the repertoire, and which allows them to play those pieces comfortably, instead of redistribution of notes, re-fingering, or omitting notes.