

MUSICIAN BIOS



Kathy Karr is currently the Principal Flute of the Grammy Award winning Louisville Orchestra. For 25 years, she was also the Flute Professor at the University of Louisville, where she taught applied flute, flute ensemble, flute literature, flute pedagogy, and performed with the faculty woodwind quintet. In 2012, Kathy was awarded the distinguished teaching professor award for the University of Louisville. Kathy has also been on the faculty of the Interlochen Arts Camp in Interlochen, Michigan, where she taught flute and chamber music. A frequent soloist with the Louisville Orchestra, she most recently performed J. S. Bach's Brandenburg Concerti #2, #4, and #5 during the Louisville Orchestra's 2023-2024 season.

Kathy has performed recitals and masterclasses throughout the U.S.A., Mexico and Israel. She was recently the guest artist for the Kentucky Flute Society's annual convention. Kathy has also performed as guest flutist with the Fort Wayne Philharmonic, the Huntsville (Alabama) Symphony Orchestra, and the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra. She was a member of the Orquestra Sinfonica da Minería in Mexico City for six summers. An advocate for chamber music, she was a founding member of the Kentucky Center Chamber Players and is currently a member of the NouLou Chamber Players. Kathy received her Bachelor of Music degree from Northwestern University and her Master of Music degree from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Kathy is an Altus Flutes Artist.

Kathy is married to Louisville Orchestra Principal Bassoonist, Matthew Karr. They have two children - Daniel is a Police Officer in Clark County, Indiana and Laura is a Real Estate Photographer in Austin, Texas. Matthew and Kathy have four adored grandchildren!



A native of Detroit, Michigan, Dr. Hudson received a Bachelors in linguistics from the University of Chicago before earning an M.M. and D.M.A. in piano performance and literature from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She has been on the faculty at Brescia University, the University of South Alabama and the University of Mobile, where she taught piano, second year music theory, and directed the UM Piano Ensemble. She collaborated in numerous faculty and student recitals and shows, worked with the Mobile Opera, and was a featured soloist with the Mobile Piano Ensemble, Mobile Youth Orchestra, and University of South Alabama Piano Camp. Returning to Owensboro in 2016, she became the pianist at Blessed Mother Church while pursuing her M.S. in Speech-Language Pathology at WKU. She

obtained her degree in 2019 and currently works as a speech therapist at Wendell Foster. She has recently returned to more musical endeavors and enjoys collaborating at Kentucky Wesleyan College, Brescia University, Theatre Workshop of Owensboro, and Encore Musicals. She resides in Owensboro with her husband and two sons.



Kirsten Ahnell is a native of Owensboro and a product of professional musician parents. Her musical studies began with piano at age four, violin at age 6 and clarinet at age 10. She was principal clarinetist and featured soloist with the Owensboro Symphony from 1991-2020. Recently, June of 2022, Ms. Ahnell was a featured soloist at the 2022 International Clarinet Festival in Reno. She is a former member of the Savannah Symphony, Erie Philharmonic, Youngstown and Elgin Symphonies. Ms. Ahnell has also performed with many other orchestras, including Gateway Chamber Orchestra (Clarksville, TN) the Charleston Symphony, Illinois Philharmonic, Civic Orchestra of Chicago, and has been a regular substitute with the Evansville

Philharmonic and Orchestra Kentucky since 1990.

Ms. Ahnell has taught clarinet extensively in the past, both privately and in the university setting. She has been visiting professor of clarinet at University of Evansville, assistant professor of clarinet at SUNY, Fredonia and instructor of clarinet at the Cleveland Institute of Music in the Preparatory Division. Currently, she teaches at Kentucky Wesleyan College maintains a private studio in Owensboro.

Ms. Ahnell holds Bachelor and Master of Music degrees in clarinet performance from Northwestern University, where she was a student of Robert Marcellus, Larry Combs and Russell Dagon, and an Artist Diploma degree in clarinet performance from the Cleveland Institute of Music, where she studied with Theodore Johnson and worked extensively with John Mack. She has been heard in recital in Illinois, Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Georgia and on radio station WFMT in Chicago.

Ms. Ahnell is the founder and organizer of Brown Bag Lunch Concerts. Kirsten is married to W.L. Magnuson. Their son Justin, is an orthopedic surgery resident in Orlando. When not playing clarinet, Kirsten can be found perfecting her strokes on the tennis court, riding her bicycle, or playing with her chocolate labs.