

## *Vicki Peterson Jenks*

*Vicki Peterson Jenks*, native North Dakotan, received her musical training at Minot State University, UW-Stevens Point, and Baylor University. In 1976, she founded the percussion program at UT- Paso and 'Repercussion', a professional marimba band.

Upon her move to Madison, Wisconsin in 1980, she created and developed the Education Department at Ward-Brodt Music Company, one of the Midwest's premiere retail music stores. Under her guidance, and in just three years, student enrollment increased from 20 to 400.

As an active freelance percussionist, Vicki performed for 10 years with the Madison Symphony Orchestra and 22 years as Principal Timpanist with the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra. She currently serves as Master Adjudicator for the Wisconsin Schools Music Association.

From 1985-2005, Vicki owned and operated JENKS MUSIC STUDIO, Wisconsin's largest private percussion studio. Studying her *'Total Percussive Musicianship'* curriculum, her students perennially filled the percussion sections of Wisconsin Honors Bands and Orchestras, the Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras, and Carnegie Hall's National Wind Ensemble. JENKS MUSIC STUDIO alumni currently hold top positions in orchestras and at universities around the world.

Vicki's great teaching 'passion' is serving as Director of Percussion for the Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras (WYSO) located in Madison, Wisconsin. This is her 43<sup>rd</sup> year with WYSO.

Under her direction, her WYSO Percussion Ensembles have received national recognition from PAS, MENC, the National Band Association, Wisconsin Music Educators Association, and the prestigious Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic. Her ensembles have performed throughout Argentina, Great Britain, Japan, and Taiwan. The WYSO Percussion Ensemble's annual *EXTRAVAGANZA* has raised important funds for Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin, the American Red Cross in Wisconsin, Ronald McDonald Charities, and Boys and Girls Clubs of Dane County.

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In 2008, Vicki received the highest recognition presented to any percussion educator in the world--the *'Lifetime Achievement in Education'* award and was inducted into the Percussive Arts Society's Hall of Fame.

Vicki is a member of the Wild Rose Kiwanis Club. She is an active church pianist, performs at area nursing homes, retirement villages, and the Wisconsin Veterans Home.

Since 2007, Vicki has served as a Red Cross DISASTER ACTION TEAM volunteer in Northeast Wisconsin. DAT teams respond to all manner of disasters, but primarily, residential FIRES. In addition, Vicki is Community Volunteer Leader for the Wisconsin American Red Cross, and is Emeritus Member of the Northeast Wisconsin Chapter.

In the fall of 2011, she received the Clara Barton Honor Award, the most esteemed award presented to any American Red Cross volunteer in the USA. The well-known **HEROES** *Musicales*, co-founded by Vicki and her husband, John, raised well over \$700,000 for local disaster relief, Service to the Armed Forces, and COVID Antibody testing.

In 2011, Vicki received Waushara County's "Citizen of the Year."

Currently, she is interning at First English Lutheran Church in Wisconsin Rapids while completing her Masters of Arts degree in Diaconal Ministry at Wartburg Theological Seminary. Her focus is "the bookends of life": youth and senior citizens. "GLOW" (God Lights Our Way) is an after-school ministry and "SHINE" (Seniors Here Inspire, Notice, and Elevate One Another) focuses on the spiritual needs of elder citizens.