Rhonda (Bodenstab) Bennett

Teacher/Composer/Pianist

At the age of three years, Rhonda began to show interest in the piano, playing such familiar tunes as "Away in a Manger" and various TV ad jingles by ear. She began piano lessons the next fall at the age of four and continued through all her primary and secondary school years. She completed a Bachelor's of Science degree in Music Education from the University of NE-Lincoln in 1980 as a piano major and vocal minor.

Rhonda has taught piano for nearly 30 years and during that time has also been certified by the New School of American Music-Chico, CA, to teach adult piano workshops in chord style piano and how to play by ear. She has seven compositions in the elementary and intermediate levels which were first published by Myklas Music Press, Denver, CO in the mid 1990's and are now owned and published by Alfred Publishing Co. Among those titles are Holiday Parade, Hound Dog Strut, Ocean Sunset, Get Away Rondo, Faded Poem, Sincerely Yours and Playful Pranks. The first, Holiday Parade, will be reappearing this spring (2011) in a new Alfred Publication entitled, "Myklas Contest Winners". Holiday Parade will be included in Book 2 of the four book series. Rhonda has other as yet unpublished works which she has plans for publishing at a variety of levels from elementary through moderately advanced.

It is Rhonda's sincere hope that the music contained in the "Every Thought of You" collection will be widely enjoyed by listeners and pianists alike. The eight solos are of medium difficulty and encompass styles including Pop, New Age and Jazz. Her philosophy as a musician stems from the premise that music is a God given gift and, she believes, should be uplifting and relevant to life for today's pianist and the everyday person who listens to music for its positive value. Melody, expression and rhythmic appeal rank high in Rhonda's musical priority list and these elements are featured in the eight solos in this collection.

If you would like to contact Rhonda Bennett with any questions or comments about these solos please email her at morethanmusic4u@gmail.com.