



Piano Solos Honor Founders

Jill Kremer composed piano solos for each of the seven P.E.O. Founders

by Toni Chrush, BL, Seattle, Washington

When pianist Jill Kremer decided to “Reach for the Stars” in a big way and announced to her sisters in Chapter BL, Seattle, Washington, that she would like to compose a piano solo honoring each of the seven Founders, her announcement was met with enthusiasm and joyful encouragement.

In her professional life, Jill has toured extensively throughout the United States, playing in such venues as the famed Roosevelt Hotel in New York City and the Horton Plaza in San Diego. Her passion lies in creating piano compositions for today’s world and the desire to leave a valuable contribution to the music world. Now residing in Seattle, Jill has continued to perform at many local events and is often asked to perform for other P.E.O. functions.

The impetus for the idea to write a piece for each Founder really was born

when Jill’s mother-in-law, Elizabeth Raymond, invited Jill into her own P.E.O. chapter. Not long after Jill’s initiation Elizabeth became seriously ill and Jill decided to write a song to honor her. Elizabeth was told about her song before she passed away in 2010 at the age of 89. Upon completion of the piece, and in devotion to Elizabeth, Jill appropriately titled her composition, “Sister Eternal.”

After deciding to write a piano piece for each Founder, Jill began researching the seven women in order to capture in music each individual personality. From Mary

and Ella Stewart’s devotion of service to others, Jill allowed the women’s personalities to dictate where the music should go.

The next step in the process was a workshop with members of Chapter BL, where Jill presented not one, but three different samples for each Founder! The Chapter voted on their favorite for each and the style of the completed product was ready for production.

The finished compositions were performed and professionally recorded by Jill. The CD has been met with much enthusiasm as a perfect accompa-

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Allen’s sense of humor to Alice Bird’s intellect, Alice Coffin’s cheer and kindness, the leadership of Hattie Briggs and the vision of Franc Roads, Suela Pearson’s charm and talents

niment for initiations or just to enjoy the music on its own merit. Jill has provided programs for several P.E.O. chapters about her musical tribute to our seven Founders. 🌸