

SUSAN HA (USA)

Norfolk State University (Norfolk, Virginia)

Susan Ha joined the music faculty of Norfolk State University as the Coordinator of Piano Area in 2014. Dr. Ha currently is an Associate Professor of Music/Piano at NSU. Ha serves as a mentor for two of the presenters at the 2024 World Piano Conference, Laila Bazemore and Kayla Fontenot, for the presentation described below.



POV: A look inside African music and its transition to America

African music is the originator of many of the genres and styles we hear today in America. While that is commonly agreed on, it is lessor known what came from Africa specifically and what traits define African music. Although music in Africa and America differ vastly in sound, it is commonly known that African American music was influenced by Africa and American history. African American music mainly evolved from slavery, time periods of oppression, and inequality against black people. The purpose of this presentation is to expound on the importance of African and African American music while identifying its characteristics and giving examples of various composers to signify the meaning. This purpose will reveal how African music has impacted music we listen to today, such as African American music. We propose to demonstrate the different characteristics each region in Africa has, its significance, and its impact culturally and socially. In this lecture, we will identify what makes African American music different from its predecessors, give insight to the oldest traits of Africa, and reveal how they have evolved in separate directions. Exemplary piano music will be introduced throughout this discussion.

Presenters



Contact presenter
Email: scha@nsu.edu