**Holly Wissler, Ethnomusicologist, PhD**

**San Marcos, Texas and Cusco, Peru**

Holly Wissler is an applied ethnomusicologist, documentary filmmaker, and cultural tour leader in the Andes of Peru since 1982 and the Himalayas of Nepal since 1987. She joined the Texas State University School of Music faculty in fall, 2019, now Assistant Professor of Instruction in Music History, World Music Cultures and Fine Arts. During the summers, Dr. Wissler is local expert for National Geographic, The Smithsonian Institution, Wilderness Travel, and U.S. university study abroad programs in Peru. Her research includes the musical traditions and modernization of the Quechua community of Q’eros in the Peruvian Andes and the Wachiperi community of the Peruvian Amazon, with a particular focus on: indigenous theory of music; repatriation of audio-visual archives and preservation; effective indigenous tourism that includes music; healing through the singing of grief; and the impact of UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage nomination with local people and entities. Dr. Wissler served as logistics organizer and presenter for the Wachiperi in the 2015 Smithsonian Folklife Festival, and co-author with Peru’s Ministry of Tourism for the UNESCO nomination of Q’eros traditional songs to the Intangible Cultural Heritage List

Dr. Wissler has published widely about her work in both Spanish and English journals and edited volumes, and is the producer of two video documentaries: *Qoyllur Rit’i:* *A Woman’s Journey*, about Peru’s largest pilgrimage festival and her inside role in the festival; and *Kusisqa Waqashayku* (“From Grief and Joy We Sing”), about the annual cycle of musical rituals in Q’eros. She is a classical flutist, adept at numerous Andean instruments, and speaks six languages: English, Spanish, Quechua, Nepali, and Peruvian and American Sign Languages.

Dr. Wissler’s most recent research is on Deaf Culture, and her current project is a third documentary, *Dante’s Story: The Fight for Deaf Rights in Peru.* Dr. Wissler moved to Austin in 2017 with her adopted deaf son, Dante, from the community of Q’eros, who now studies at the Texas School for the Deaf.