

## BAMTA BEAT

[www.bamta.org](http://www.bamta.org)

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### President's Letter

If I could give myself of 40+ years ago (when I began my teaching career) just one piece of advice, I think I'd say something like this: *Do your very best every day; feel good every time you figure something out, either about yourself as a learner and teacher or about your students as learners and teachers, and don't worry too much about the stuff you don't know yet. Keep trying and you'll keep growing.*

I had the great good fortune of attending the national MTNA conference (March 22-25) in Chicago during my Spring Break, and have spent quite a bit of time since I arrived back home reflecting upon how differently a national conference affects me now than when I attended my first one back in 1973. I think I've attended at least 12 over the years, and I know that I still come home frustrated that I may not have made all the right choices regarding how much "social" and how much "session- ing" I allow myself, but I *finally* came home from this one *not* feeling so down on myself because I don't yet know all that I wish I did. I'm where I am, I still do my very best every day, and I'm still learning. Maybe that's enough. Anyway, here are a few highlights, for me, of the 2014 MTNA Conference in Chicago last week:

1. The fun of getting to know our new BAMTA member, Susan Rudowsky, who was my travelling companion to Chicago. (Thanks TONS for your patience with me, Susan!)
2. The empowerment I felt when I successfully returned home ALL BY MYSELF.
3. Socializing with my best buddy from graduate school (1974-76), Dr. Marianne Bryan, who is now MTNA's national certification chairman, an MTNA "fellow," and an AMAZING teacher in the twin cities. Also ran in to Dr. Rebecca Payne Shockley, another friend from the past and author of Mapping Music: For Faster Learning and Secure Memory which I use with my adult students on a regular basis, and learned the latest about one of my most significant mentors, Dr. Guy Duckworth.
4. Having dinner with my friends, Dr. and Mrs. Ron Shinn, both piano teachers in Alabama. Ron and I were piano majors at CU in 1967-69, then he moved away. I saw him one more time when 4 other piano majors and I drove to Albuquerque in the spring of 1970 to surprise him at his Junior piano recital (! He was *such* a good sport!) Didn't hear from him for years, then we reconnected at the conference 8 or 10 years ago in Los Angeles, became Facebook friends and mostly see each other now at MTNA conferences. His student, Elisabeth Tsai, was the first place winner in the Junior Piano Competition last week!!!

See [http://www.al.com/entertainment/index.ssf/2014/03/birmingham\\_siblings\\_eric\\_and\\_e.html](http://www.al.com/entertainment/index.ssf/2014/03/birmingham_siblings_eric_and_e.html) for more details about her and her brother Eric who was also a national winner at this year's conference.

5. Sharing a room with CSMTA president-elect Joan Sawyer. (We also met one another in graduate school, reconnected at the MTNA Conference in Albuquerque several years ago, and now see each other at state board meetings. In addition to being a FABULOUS teacher, I found out that Joan exercises at least 6 days a week, EVEN WHILE ATTENDING CONFERENCES!!! Holy cow!)

*And just in case it sounds like all I did was socialize...*

6. I've been to at least a dozen national conferences and I've NEVER heard a better opening concert than the performance by the Manasse/Nakamatsu Duo. Really!

7. Hearing Bonnie Marrett interview BYRON JANIS from the front row! (I purchased the DVD about Janis that was recently released and am planning to organize a "Martinis-and-Janis" party before the end of this month. Hope you'll come.

8. Attending the lecture by my very favorite *American Music Teacher* author Bruce Berr on Teaching the Emotional Aspects of Form. Pretty esoteric subject, in my opinion, but a TERRIFIC presentation.

9. Hearing an absolutely stunning performance in the new(ish) DUET division of the competitions (new to me, at least) of Leonard Bernsteins CANDIDE. (Note to self: talk to Richard and the MPF selection committee again about what a stunning - but difficult - piece this is!)

10. Hearing Marvin Blickenstaff tell us about Introducing Sonatinas. (Hearing Marvin Blickenstaff talk about ANYTHING, especially if it includes watching him work with kids, is unbelievably inspirational!)

11. FINALLY getting to see Spencer Myer give a Master Class. I KNOW he's a great player from hearing him a couple seasons ago with the Colorado Music Festival, but his enthusiasm for LIFE simply pours out when you get to observe him teach.

*There's SO MUCH MORE I could share, but, as I tend to go on and on (and on and on), I'll leave some of it to Susan who, I hope, will report on her experiences at our next meeting. I sincerely hope many of you will join me in Las Vegas on March 21-25, 2015 at the next MTNA National Conference. I think you'll be glad you did! Also hope you'll join us on Wednesday, April 16 to hear Cathy Motter talk about "Developing the Mind's Ear" AND hear the latest GREATEST news regarding your BAMTA board for next year. HAPPY HAPPY SPRING!!!*

*Carol Wickham-Revier, NCTM  
BAMTA President*

Wednesday, April 16th, 2014, 9 AM. (3<sup>rd</sup> week of each month)

Where : Harvest Church, 7493 Old Mill Trail, Boulder, CO 80301  
(corner of 75<sup>th</sup> & Old Mill Trail, just north of Jay Road)

**9 AM** BAMTA Membership Meeting

**10 AM** PROGRAM : "Singing in the Piano Lesson" by Cathy Welton Motter

Chopin said that one must sing in order to play the piano. Do you and your students sing? Do your students sing solfege? How do you help your students develop their minds' ear?

Cathy Welton Motter began her association with CSMTA in 1966 as a pianist in the high school division of state auditions. She continued on to receive her Bachelor of Music degree in piano performance at the University of Texas at Arlington where she studied with Jo Boatright. Her Master of Arts degree was earned at DU's Lamont School of Music where she studied with Theodor Lichtmann. She received both degrees on full accompanying scholarships, playing for many solo recitals, choirs and opera performances. Currently Cathy is an Affiliate Professor at Colorado Christian University where she teaches Piano, Sight Singing and Ear Training. She also accompanies The Colorado Chorale and is the organist/pianist at Saint Peter Lutheran Church in Greenwood Village. Cathy is a past president of South Suburban Music Teachers and has a teaching studio in her Centennial home.

Information from: [Meredith Mihm](#)

Spring Recital from Dr. Heidi Camilli

The BAMTA Community Spring Recital will be on Sunday, May 4, from 2-4pm. Your student's name, age, piece, composer and time it takes to play, will be given to Dr. Heidi Lenzer-Camilli. ([Drheidicamilli@AOI.com](mailto:Drheidicamilli@AOI.com).) This information is due on Sunday, April 20. Each student is to bring something good, neat and even healthy to snack on! No dips, no crumbs, nothing messy! The church is very busy that day! We need to leave and be totally cleaned up by 4:00, for the next recital! You may also call Heidi at 303-601-0443. When you communicate, please include your telephone number. Thanks!

Scholarship Committee from Mitzi Babb

Volunteers are needed to serve on the 2014 scholarship committee. The time commitment is 2 - 3 hours in June. Please let Mitzi Babb know ([mitzi@thebabbs.com](mailto:mitzi@thebabbs.com)) if you are interested.

Thanks to everyone who sent me ideas and suggestions for the MPF repertoire selections. Karen and I are finalizing everything and will be ready to present the music at the May meeting.  
Rebecca Martin

*Early Registration for CSMTA Conference deadline May 1st*

This is the email for people to go to for all the information about registering for the conference.

<http://comusicteachers.net/presidentspacket>

Information from: *Carol Wickham-Revier*

*Looking for a Good Piano Teacher?*

Cheryl Scherer; piano teacher in the Gunbarrel area, is now accepting new students. Call Cheryl at: 303-264-7977 or email her: [cherylscherer@msn.com](mailto:cherylscherer@msn.com).  
Thank you.

Lacey Wheeler and Harmony MusicTree studios are looking for referrals for students in the North Boulder area. Home-schooled or adult students who can have mid-day lessons would be especially helpful. Website: [www.harmonymusicree.com](http://www.harmonymusicree.com).  
Email: [lacey@harmonymusicree.com](mailto:lacey@harmonymusicree.com). Phone: 303 775 6412. Thank you!

*Enjoy being the NEW EDITOR for our BAMTA Newsletter,  
BAMTA BEAT*

After close to 5 years, it's time for me to move on. The role has been simplified, so you can enjoy only "editing" the Newsletter. Do let me know you're happy to share in the fun.

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Enjoy this wonderful SPRING!

