



BAMTA Beat - October 2021

President's Letter

Dear BAMTA members,

We are now in the middle of Fall and our music studios are in full swing. Even through the busyness of life, I find it relaxing to step outside each day to see the beautiful fall colors. This past month, we had a wonderful time meeting outdoors for our teacher kickoff. It was great to reconnect with one another in person, meet new members, and get to know each other better professionally and personally.

The 2021-Multiple Piano Festival is just a little over a month away. I want to thank our MPF co-chairs, Maria Hart and Marianna Caron for spending so much of their time to make this possible.

We still have a need for a Secretary Chair on the board. If you are interested or have questions, please let me or anyone on the board know.

For members who recently received the CSMTA Oct Notes & News, please note that we are still in the process of finalizing the Feb, March and April meetings. For this year, we will continue to meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month via zoom or in-person. However, there may be a couple times we meet on a different day and different time in order for more teachers to be able to attend. Please stay tuned.

Our next general meeting will be **Wednesday, October 20th at 9:00am, via zoom**. Following the meeting, will be our **presentation at 10:00am**. I am so excited to announce that we get the opportunity to hear from a well-known piano teacher and podcaster, Christina Whitlock. She will be doing a presentation called **The Varsity Musician's Playbook** – This is her most popular session, which take elements of sports team psychology and applies them to the studio environment. She presented this at MTNA in 2016, as well as several other state and local association meetings. See her bio below.

Hope you all can make it on Oct. 20th

Amy Watt
BAMTA president

Amy Watt is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: BAMTA Meeting- October 20th, 2021 Board, General and Presentation
Time: Oct 20, 2021 08:00 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86293983593?pwd=b0NOaDJ5R2toNUlJTDJYSjVueHpwZz09>

Meeting ID: 862 9398 3593
Passcode: 937607



Christina Whitlock, M.M., N.C.T.M. currently operates a vibrant independent studio in Muncie, Indiana. Christina earned a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance from Kent State University in 2004 (summa cum laude), and completed a Master of Music degree in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from Ball State in 2006.

Christina began teaching in the private setting when she was only fourteen, and has maintained a full studio roster ever since. She is proud to be celebrating over twenty-five years of teaching at the age of 39.

While Whitlock Piano Studio is currently Christina's primary focus, she is happy to have returned to the Taylor University faculty as Instructor of Piano and Piano Pedagogy, as well as Director of their *Center for Musical Development*. As an active freelance artist, Christina enjoys working with several local school districts and independent studios on a regular basis.

Christina has served on the Indiana Music Teachers Association Board of Directors since graduating in 2006, currently acting as Independent Music Teacher Forum Chair and Recording Secretary.

Christina has enjoyed adjunct faculty member positions at Ball State University and Taylor University, serving in a number of capacities related to classroom instruction and collaborative performance. Additionally, Christina facilitated online Humanities courses for the University of Phoenix as Practitioner Faculty from 2009-2017.

Christina's speaking credits include presentations to numerous collegiate, local, and state teacher groups, as well as sessions at MTNA National Conferences (2016, 2017, 2019, and 2022).

And, because a music teacher's job is never done, Christina has recently launched a podcast. *Beyond Measure with Christina Whitlock* is a weekly shout-out of solidarity for the independent teaching profession (<https://anchor.fm/beyondmeasure>).

Christina is an active member of the Northside Church of God in Muncie, serving as choral director and teaching in children's ministries. She and her husband, Michael, met at Northside, and were married there in 2006. They have been blessed with two daughters, who keep them humbled and on their toes (in the best possible way, of course).

Dues Renewal

There is still time to renew your dues and enjoy all the benefits of being a member. To renew online go to:

https://www.mtna.org/MTNA/JoinAndRenew/Membership/Renew_Membership.aspx

Lastest news from the MPF Co-chairs

The MPF co chairs would like to remind all teachers participating in MPF to please register ASAP and please add students to the duet Google sheets.

The deadline for registration is October 16, but the earlier we have the information the better.

Please send registration fees to Jill Ice, 6320 Spring Gulch Street
Frederick CO 80516.

Another reminder is that all participating teachers will need to volunteer so please stay tuned for upcoming emails regarding jobs.

Keep an eye out for an email asking for any special considerations that you may have as we put together the volunteer list. As in years past, we will likely need everyone to help out on audition day, October 30.

Thank you kindly,
Co chairs Maria and Marianna

Achievement Day 2022 Update

Our Achievement Day 2022 will be held in person. The tentative date is Saturday, May 7th, 2022. The location and other details, Covid related protocols will be announced later. This time, we will be using our revised guideline for Option A. It's posted in our website, in Member page. Please make sure to follow it and prepare students accordingly. No change of the guideline for the remaining Options. Registration forms, Completed Info for Teachers and other documents will be posted in February 2022. Please contact the chair if you have any questions.

Harumi Shiraishi, Achievement Day 2022, etude42day@gmail.com

Looking for students? Be sure to read this letter from member, Nathan Smith

Hello teachers!

On short notice, I am being called away for a year-long deployment with the Army. With such, I have a full studio of 37 students who will be looking for a teacher. 1 1/2 days of teaching at a studio in Louisville, the rest are at-home lessons. Mixed ages and abilities with 5 adults. Please contact me if you're looking for new students and I can send a rundown of ages, locations, times, etc. Hoping to ease the transition for everyone.

Thanks!

Nathan Smith
nathansmithpiano@gmail.com
303-908-1878

2021-MTNA Competition

CSMTA is excited to be able to offer the 2021 MTNA competition **in person** next month on October 23rd at CU Boulder. Of course, events like this need volunteer assistance to run smoothly. Please review the following volunteer sign-up schedule and add your name to any of the available time slots: [2021 MTNA Volunteer Sign-up](#). Any and all help is greatly appreciated!

A few important details to note:

1. Location: IMIG building at CU Boulder

Campus maps and directions are available at:

<http://www.colorado.edu/music/about-us/directions-and-parking>

Parking:

Euclid Parking Garage on Euclid Ave, 300 feet from the Imig Music Building

<https://www.colorado.edu/pts/short-term-parking/visitor-parking-map>

2. Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021

3. CU Boulder is currently requiring masks in all of their buildings.

4. If you are a teacher with a competing student, you **may not** volunteer **inside** the competition room for their division. You **may**, however, volunteer to be an **outside** room monitor for their division.

5. If you will be volunteering for the full day, then lunch will be provided.

6. Parents may also volunteer as outside room monitors.

7. There will be COVID waivers to sign for all volunteers.

It takes a vast amount of collaborative work to successfully hold this event! Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Amy Lee

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Amy Lee, NCTM
Piano Passionato Studio
Mobile: 720.233.7099
www.pianopassionato.com

FESTIVAL FOR CREATIVE PIANISTS – 2022

During this challenging past year it has been difficult to hold Festivals, Summer Camps and Special Events. This past year we developed the Festival for Creative Pianist as an on-line, interactive learning experience. We were delighted to have students join the festival from across the US: California to North Carolina. We enjoyed participation from Canada, Australia and Russia.

With the experience of this past festival we have enhanced the offerings and are excited to announce that the Festival will run from January 2022 to December 2022. Introductory Festival activities will be available to early registrants in October. The initial OpenLearning activity will be “Getting Started” This interactive module will introduce the students to how the festival modules will be presented and how to interact with the Teaching Artists. The second module will be “Developing Your Creativity” and will be available at the end of November. Early modules are available to help students understand how the Festival is set up in OpenLearning.

Students and teachers are invited to go into our Abundant Silence registration which is now available at: <https://www.abundantsilence.org/festival-enrollment-information.html>.

The fee for this exciting year-long Festival will be \$500. When the application is completed the registration system will send the applicant a Payment Invoice. Payments may be set up monthly, quarterly or lump sum.

Abundant Silence is setting up a Scholarship Fund for students who need assistance in paying the fee. The scholarship application form is available at: <https://www.abundantsilence.org/festival-scholarship-application.html>. With an enrollment fee of \$500 the scholarships are up to \$400 (the request form indicates \$100, \$250, or \$400). Applications will be reviewed by an Abundant Silence Committee. Scholarships up to \$400 will be awarded to students whose applications are approved.

Teachers are invited to engage with students in this dynamic on-line learning experience. If there are any questions contact:

Evelyn Billberg, Program Director
Festival for Creative Pianist, Abundant Silence Sponsor

Registration is now available. The festival runs January 2022 to December 2023. Introductory Festival activities will be available to early registrants in October.

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Evelyn Billberg
Keyboard Magic Studio Piano Teacher (<http://keyboardmagic.com>)
CSMTA Community Outreach, Education and Public Relations, Tale of the Music Teacher (<http://www.teachertales.net/csmta.html>)
Program Director, Festival for Creative Pianists (<http://www.abundantsilence.org/festival-for-creative-pianists.html>)
<http://www.abundantsilence.org/festival-donation.html>
Ph: 303-629-9209

RESEARCH QUESTION - a very quick one question survey

One of our previous DAMTA guest speakers [Curtis Madigan](#), along with Dr. Robyn Gisbert from the School of Medicine at CU Denver, are conducting research. They have a VERY quick survey made up of only one question. They're looking to gather as much data as possible, so your responses are greatly appreciated. If you'd like to know more about what they're working on reach out to: soundformation@gmail.com. Here's the link: https://ucdenver.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3DfRUQRouZyV7bU

Nazila Nekoerad
CSMTA V.P. Local Association
SSMTA Program Chair
Health Coach
310-614-1597

Fall Course put on by Denver Area Music Teacher's Association

Hi All,

Just a reminder not to miss the early registration deadline of September 1st for our Fall Course !

We want you all to feel safe and comfortable meeting in person. At this time we plan on following the CDC guidelines which recommends universal indoor masking regardless of vaccination status. We will send out more comprehensive guidelines before the meeting and update/modify as needed. We plan on having the presenters on stage a safe distance from the audience where they can unmask if they choose. If you are not comfortable attending in person we will be live streaming the presentations. Ben and Vince will be working out the tech issues for that process next week.

You are welcome to invite students, colleagues, friends, etc. We would like to spread the word to as many people as possible. Note that students are free and there is also an option to pay for individual sessions for colleagues/friends.

Our speakers are really looking forward to presenting to us and we would love to have a welcoming and supportive audience. Please join us! Below is an overview of the fall course followed by the pdf for more in-depth info.

Contact myself or Ben Raznick with any questions or concerns!

Fall Course 2021 - DAMTA Presents Meet Your Neighbors: Conversations with Local Artists

September 8th - **Grace Christus** - Chinese Music Past and Present
September 22nd - **Joslyn Ford Keel** - JoFoKe Presents
October 13th - **Sirvan Manhoobi** - Iranian Classical Music
October 27th - **Lorenzo Trujillo** - Music as a Symbol of Culture Among Mexican and Chicano Populations in Colorado
November 10th - **Hal Aqua** - A Brief Journey through Jewish World Music
November 17th - **Andy Cozad** - Kiowa Tribal Singer
December 8th - **Hidemi Matsushita** - Nobu and Kô Kôda: The Women Who Made Music in Japan Happen

\$95 - Early Registration (By September 1st)

\$105 - Registration (After September 1st)

\$20 - Individual Session

FREE - Students

Classic Pianos - 1332 S Broadway, Denver, CO 80210 -

Wednesdays from 10:30am-11:30am. Q&A until noon.

In-Person & Live Streamed.

Ben Raznick

DAMTA President



Fall Course 2021 - DAMTA Presents
Meet Your Neighbors:
Conversations with Local Artists



September 8th - Grace Christus



Chinese Music Past and Present

Description: Grace Christus will be exploring an overview of Chinese music from ancient dynasties to the present blossoming of composers and genres. A look and listen to some of the distinctive instruments that color the Chinese classical orchestra as well as the influence of Western music on the direction of modern day Chinese genres. In addition, she will cover some of the many current publications available to music teachers who wish to explore the music of this ever-evolving and engaging nation.

Bio: Daughter of Chinese immigrants, Grace Christus has degrees in Piano Performance from the George Peabody College for Teachers in Nashville, TN, the Juillard School and the Manhattan School of Music in NY. She has been teaching piano privately at Collage Music Studios and from her home in Aurora, CO since 1990. As a composer, she has written music at many levels for piano, voice, and choir. For the last 10 years, she has taken delight in arranging folk songs from all over the world for piano and shares them on her Facebook page "Sign Me a Song of Your People". They can also be purchased at shenmusic.com/GraceChristus. On May 30 she was featured as a participant on the webinar of "Sing For Your Life" discussing the difference between cultural appreciation and cultural appropriation.

September 22nd - Joslyn Ford Keel



JoFoKe Presents

Bio: JoFoKe is a multi-genre singer-songwriter with Grammy nominations and a Dove Award win to her name as a contributing vocalist. A Denver native, she earned her Bachelor's of Arts in Music, Technical Voice from Fisk University, a historically Black college in Music City USA, Nashville, TN. JoFoKe (piano: Jos-Foh-Keel) can be found performing as a solo artist, with her band "Nem (and them)" and duo project with Solomon Chapman, "Same Creek". In addition to the aforementioned projects, JoFoKe is a highly sought after session vocalist, writer, vocal producer, director, clinician and performer.

When performing, JoFoKe uses her platform to advocate for suicide prevention and to *Remove The Stigma* attached to mental illness. A mental illness sufferer and suicide attempt survivor herself, she proclaims that, every time she lifts her voice, she is singing for her life! Her forthcoming debut single, "Count Joy!" has become an anthem for audience members. As a result, she and her sister, Stacie Alexander founded the "Count Joy Network". CJN works to raise awareness about mental health issues and connect and expand access to treatment primarily in the Black community. JoFoKe and her network are committed to connecting each fighter to the resources they need to live, love, fight & count joy FOR THEIR LIVES.