

BAMTA Beat - May 2022

President's Letter

Dear Teachers,

It's hard to believe the school year is coming to an end and summer is just right around the corner. This is the time when teachers are all preparing for end of the year activities and recitals. I know for me, I look forward to this time to see all the progress my students have made throughout the year and it also makes me realize the reason why we teach.

Last month we had the opportunity to hear Leila Viss do a presentation on composition. "**Composition for students- Blossoming within boundaries**". Leila has a way of breaking everything down in order to understand and actually put into practice. You can view her presentation here. Also included is the handout at the end.

<https://youtu.be/FXE5u1yaWSQ>

Also, this past weekend, Achievement Day took place at Colorado University. We had around 16 teachers participate with close to 80 students. It was so nice to have it back in person and students had the opportunity to perform on stage in the new music building. I encourage teachers to enter their students in this event next year.

MAY MEETING/PRESENTATION:

I hope you all can make it to our final BAMTA meeting and presentation next week on Wednesday, May 18th. The meeting will take place at Carol Wickham Revier's studio. (See address below). We ask that those who haven't had the vaccine or have been exposed to Covid recently, please wear a mask. And for those who can't make it in person, we will try to make it available on zoom as well. However, if we run into difficulties, we will make sure to record the presentation.

The general meeting will be held at 9:00am, in which we will be voting on our new slate of officers for next year. Please see the full list below. I'm happy to announce that Carol Wickham Revier will be our incoming president and Anne Laird will be our new secretary along with some of the other officers continuing on the board for next year.

Our presentation at 10:00am will reveal this year's Multiple Piano Festival selections. Copies of the music will be available for purchase and Karen and Rebecca will be playing samples of each piece. If you are interested in having your student participate in this event, this is a good time to attend as it is very informative and fun as we look ahead to the concert. Our hope is that MPF can finally return to normal, even though it was exciting to see it continue these past 2 years in various ways.

I'd like to personally thank all our board members for the hours and service that you have done in order for our association to grow and thrive. Thanks to all our members as well. BAMTA would not be able to function without each and every one of you and your contribution, great or small. It's been a wonderful experience being able to serve as your president for the past two years. Thank you for this opportunity. I am very excited that Carol will be taking over this position. I know she will be excellent as she has so much expertise and knowledge of BAMTA.

Thank you,
Amy Watt
BAMTA president

BAMTA Slate of Officers for 2022. - The slate will be voted on in the May general meeting - May 18, 2022

President - Carol Wickham Revier
VP for Membership - Shieko Uno
VP for Student Activities -
VP for Teacher Enrichment -
VP for Outreach - Amy Watt
Secretary - Anne Laird
Treasurer - Jill Ice
Immediate past president - Amy Watt
Member at large - Sherilyn Coldwell

IMPORTANT INFO FOR MAY MEETING:

Carol Wickham Revier's address-

2502 Blue Heron Circle, Lafayette 80026
303-666-1927

Amy Watt is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: BAMTA- May meeting

Time: May 18, 2022 08:00 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88540332155?pwd=ZkVsZWZrd3Mya2VDaXBzTjVmb1hlZz09>

Meeting ID: 885 4033 2155

Passcode: 776444

STATE CONFERENCE:

The state conference for the Colorado State Music Teachers Association will be held at Colorado University on June 3-4th. If you haven't registered, you can do it here. <https://comusicteachers.net/conference>

I hope you all can make it since it's so close and in our backyard and we have many BAMTA members involved in various capacities such as presenters, state officers being voted in etc.

For Important information, please see links below.

BAMTA website: www.BAMTA.org

BAMTA Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Boulder-Area-Music-Teachers-Association-193704743992202>

Multiple Piano Festival: <https://bamta.org/teachers/multiple-piano-festival/>

Achievement Day: <https://bamta.org/achievement-day/>

Student Recitals church rental: <https://bamta.org/students/student-recitals/>

Monthly Meetings: <https://bamta.org/monthly-meetings/>

Member Pages: <https://bamta.org/teachers/edit-profile/>

BAMTA Beat Archive: <https://bamta.org/BAMTA-Beat-Newsletter-Archive/>

Scholarship update - 2022

Submitted by Mitzi Babb, NCTM (BAMTA Scholarship Committee chairperson).

mitzi@thebabbs.com

BAMTA will again be accepting applications for student scholarships this year. However, because of the decreased profits from Multiple Piano Festival, funds available to disperse to students is limited to a total of \$500 this year.

Several Scholarship Committee volunteers are needed to review scholarship applications. If you would be interested in serving in this capacity, let Mitzi know by May 18.

If you have a student that you would like to be considered for a scholarship:

- Request a student code from Mitzi
- Complete the TEACHER RECOMMENDATION for SCHOLARSHIP form found on the BAMTA website (For Teachers)
- Have your student's parent/guardian complete the PARENT FINANCIAL STATEMENT found on the BAMTA website (For Students and Parents)
- Submit the Teacher recommendation, Parent financial statement and recording of the student's performance to: Mitzi Babb, 7248 Petursdale Ct., Boulder, CO 80301 or mitzi@thebabbs.com. Electronically submitted (via email) recordings are encouraged.

Please see the Student Scholarships area of the BAMTA website (For Teachers) for more information.

OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR AWARD

Congratulations to BETHANY PARKER, student of Ken Siders
Here is Ken's letter of recommendation nominating this very deserving student.

As Bethany Parker's private piano teacher for the past 10 years, I have had the pleasure of watching her develop as a musician, as a student, and as a person, and I am in awe of all she has accomplished.

Bethany has truly been a joy to teach. She is the youngest of 10 children, but she has surpassed all of her siblings in her musical accomplishments. For many years she has put in the hard work and the necessary time, effort and thought to improve her technique, theory, sight reading, composition, practice, memorization and performing skills. She has been willing to play whatever music I gave her and practice it diligently in the ways I recommended, resulting in an impressive mastery of a wide variety of repertoire. She has been willing to participate in many opportunities for growth that may have been uncomfortable at the time, and to humbly take constructive feedback from me and from many competition and festival adjudicators over the years. She has supportive parents who have encouraged her to practice and supported her in participating in many performance opportunities. She has also rounded out her musicianship through playing other instruments, playing in ensembles and accompanying soloists, listening to live and recorded performances, and learning about things like composers and historical performance practices to inform her playing. She has developed into an exceptional musician, performer and young woman.

Bethany has received a lot of valuable feedback, performing experience, and recognition for her performance skills through participating in various competitions, festivals and other opportunities over the past few years, which are listed in her artistic résumé. BAMTA's Achievement Day and Multiple Piano Festival were many of her first performing experiences and were instrumental in her artistic progression.

In addition to being an accomplished pianist, Bethany has also developed other musical talents that have improved her overall musicianship, although she plans to focus mainly on the piano at the university level. She is a skilled violinist and vocalist, having taken private lessons on all three instruments for several years. For the past two years she has also been teaching up to 15 beginning piano students, from whom she has gained many insights. I have had many discussions with her about various aspects of her teaching, and I consider her to be an excellent teacher. She also shows selflessness by giving back to the community by volunteering her piano, organ, violin, vocal, and accompanying skills frequently at her church.

I have been so impressed not only with what a fine pianist and musician Bethany is, but also with many of the other qualities she possesses, such as her strong work ethic, her humility and eagerness to learn, and her commitment to treating others with respect and kindness. She has had the discipline to achieve exemplary grades in school (straight A's all through high school) while devoting so much time to music. She has shown great courage and determination as she continued her musical progression through her father's recovery from a stroke, her mother's battle with cancer, and her own journey learning to deal with performance anxiety. She has shown great maturity through balancing and prioritizing her musical activities among her other activities for school, church, family and friends, and has shown dedication through waking up early to practice the piano before school and her other activities begin. Her enthusiasm for music and for life is contagious. She is an exceptional young woman and a joy to work with, and these qualities show through in the music she creates and in all of her activities.

I hold Bethany in the highest regard, and she is easily the most accomplished performer I have taught in my 20+ years of teaching piano. I am confident she will succeed and excel in her musical future and in whatever else she chooses to do in life. I give my highest recommendation to Bethany Parker for the BAMTA graduating high school senior award!

Regards,
Ken Siders