



Letter from the President

Dear BAMTA teachers,

I hope you all had a wonderful break from teaching and enjoyed the holidays! Below I will share some inspiring learning opportunities, important updates about the Multiple Piano Festival ticket sales, and the link to the completed MPF video.

New ideas

The new year is here and now is a great time to reflect on our past year of teaching, to consider ways we would like to improve, and to gather new ideas we would like to implement. With this in mind I want to share 2 resources I came across this past week that sparked my interest and might spark yours too.

1st - Planning and Assessment of the Instrumental Lesson (link below)

<https://files.constantcontact.com/70b71647701/42938cd3-79d5-4e74-842b-660ee8ae1039.pdf>

This comes from the MTNA Monthly Memo that I received via email. The article has a very detailed description of how to plan a lesson. The content is detailed and very academic, however, I found the goals and methods outlined in the article very inspiring and thoughtful.

2nd - Leila Viss, a well known Colorado teacher, is offering 2 classes online that look very good. They are called:

#1 - How to Make Space for Getting Creative. Thursday, January 9 at 10:00 am MST

#2 - Teaching Beginners Course - Begins Thursday January 23, 2025

Leila Viss says this about the "Teacher Beginners Course" that she is helping lead with Paul Myatt:

"Good friend and expert teacher Paul Myatt offers extraordinarily innovative, whole-body teaching strategies and resources to keep your beginners (and existing students) hooked on piano. I'm thrilled to join Paul as his guest expert teacher. I always walk away inspired by his incredible approach. I know you will, too."

Please email me if you are interested in these classes, and I can forward the email with all the details.
shmstudio1@gmail.com

If you know of any other great classes coming up in the near future that you would recommend, please bring the details to our general meeting on Friday, January 17 at 9:00 am. Also, it's not too late to pick up the book, *Every Good Boy Does Fine* by Jeremy Denk, and join us for our book discussion after the general meeting. I can't recommend the book enough. It is well written, funny and has meaningful, interesting musical insights. If you pick up a copy this week, you won't regret it!

MPF "wins" and the link to the video!

I am very happy to announce that the Multiple Piano Festival earned us almost \$3,000 and our audience was considerably bigger than last year. Congratulations and thank you for everyone's hard work!

We had 167 participants this year (up 20 from 2023).
We sold approximately 464 tickets (up 75 from 2023).
Our net profit is \$2,935.72.

I am also happy to announce that the video of the 2024 MPF is done and can be shared with all participating families and students with the link below (or by searching for Multiple Piano Festival 2024 on You Tube.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kcv3GP4pbYY&t=7s>

I hope to see you soon and happy new year!

Warm regards,
Shari Griswold

BAMTA Book Group 

Need a gift idea for yourself? How about *Every Good Boy Does Fine*, by Jeremy Denk, our BAMTA book choice for 2025. This is an engaging memoir about Denk's formation and life as a pianist. Along the way there are lots of musings and insights about music as well as about specific repertoire. There is an annotated playlist at the end of the book and a correlating playlist on Spotify. Find a copy on Amazon or order through your local bookstore. Also available on Audible. We will discuss the book following our general meeting on January 17. It will be at Anne Laird's house, 1916 S. Coffman St. in Longmont. See you there!

Masterclass Participants Needed! 

Our February 21 program will consist of CU students leading a masterclass for students of BAMTA teachers. The class will be from 9:40-11:00 at Harvest Church. It is on a Friday, so students will need to be homeschooled or able to miss school. The CU teachers have requested that participating students be at an early intermediate level and above. If you have a student who might like to participate, please email Anne Laird at alaird25@comcast.net with their name, age, level, and piece they would like to play. There will only be room for four students.

EFFORTLESS ARTISTRY MUSIC - Fundraiser Concert 1/25/2025 - 7:00PM
Center for Musical Arts, 200 E. Baseline Road, Lafayette, Colorado

"I hope you all can join us for a fun night of piano music, wine, and auctions including a weeklong stay in a Winter Park condo with an amazing clubhouse! I will be performing along with some of my advanced students. We will also be talking about some fun Taubman elements of our music.

Best,
Brenna Berman and Effortless Artistry Music Nonprofit"

COLORADO PEAKS PIANO COMPETITION

Registration is **NOW OPEN** for the brand new Colorado Peaks Piano Competition occurring on Saturday, March 22, 2025 at Colorado Christian University! This event is being co-chaired by myself and Aaron Stampfl and will take place in CCU's new music building, the Armstrong Center. There are four age-based divisions with cash prizes, and the registration deadline is February 8, 2025.

For further guidelines and registration details, please visit the competition website: www.coloradopeakspianocompetition.com

For any questions, please email copeakspianocompetition@gmail.com.

Best,
Amy Lee
Co-Chair, 2025 Colorado Peaks Piano Competition

PIANOS ALIVE ! 2025

Save a place on your calendar for Pianos Alive! The next program will be Friday, February 7, 2025, 7:00 p.m. at Grace Commons Church, 1820 15th Street, Boulder, CO.

Musicians include current and past BAMTA members, Mitzi Babb, Lois Abbuhl, Pat Holmberg, Karen Ziegler, Laura Smith, and Richard Capp.

You will hear Bizet's "Habanera" from Carmen, with some harmonic and rhythmic twists by the Russian pianist and arranger, Vyacheslav Gryaznov (1982-); a vivacious "La Danseuse," by Arensky; the gorgeous "Nocturne" from Mendelssohn's Midsummer Night's Dream complete with French horn solo; "Palm Court Waltz" by English composer Lennox Berkeley; "Farandole," a crowd favorite, from Bizet's L'Arlesienne Suite; and many other wonderful pieces. All are welcome!

BAMTA PIANO/RECITAL SPACE AVAILABLE TO RENT

I am the coordinator for the BAMTA piano (Yamaha grand) that is housed at Harvest Church in Gunbarrel - 7493 Old Mill Trail, Boulder, CO 8030 (Corner of 75th and Old Mill Trail). This piano/recital space is available for rent:

- **Most Friday evenings**
- **Saturdays after 1:00**
- **Most Sundays after 2:00**
- **Occasionally Monday-Thursday evenings**

There is a fellowship hall and kitchen that can be used for receptions if desired, however, this area is not available on Saturdays until 4:30. Receptions may also be held in the hallway outside of the sanctuary. Several long tables are in the hallway that can be used for food and beverage service.

The rental fee is \$65 for a 3-hour block of time. Please consider using this lovely and affordable space for your next recital, as your rental costs go toward the maintenance of the piano and the continuation of the relationship with Harvest Church.

If you have never used this recital space before and would like to arrange a 15-20 building tour, let me know and I would be happy to arrange a time that works for both of us.

I will begin taking reservations for the winter/spring semester (January – May) on January 13. Rental directions, fees, etc. are located on the BAMTA website – For Teachers/Student Recitals.

Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.
Mitzi Babb, NCTM
mitzi@thebabbs.com

BAMTA Meetings Program List 2025:

January 17: *Book discussion, book TBD*, moderated by Anne Laird

Host: Anne Laird

Location: 1916 S. Coffman St., Longmont

February 21: *Masterclass for BAMTA students*, presented by CU chapter members

Location: Harvest Church, 7493 Old Mill Trail, Boulder

March 14: *Incorporating Dalcroze Pedagogy into the Private Lesson*, presented by Katie Couch

Location: Harvest Church, 7493 Old Mill Trail, Boulder

(please note the altered date)

April 11: *MTNA Certification*, presented by Mitzi Babb and Jill Ice

Host: Mitzi Babb

Location: 7248 Petursdale Ct, Boulder

(please note the altered date)

May 16: *Presentation of MPF Repertoire*, presented by Karen Ziegler and Carol

Wickham-Revier