

BAMTA BEAT

www.bamta.org

Carol Boyd, Editor
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President's Letter

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When I joined BAMTA in 1972 (yep, before some of you were even born!), the first major job I volunteered for was co-chair of the yearly BAMTA recital. We (BAMTA) didn't yet have our own piano so the recital was held at the Unitarian Church, and so many members asked to present students that we actually had to turn students away in order to let every studio that requested, be represented. Wanting to try something a little out-of-the ordinary, my co-chair and I decided to have Eloise Ristad (yes, the *A Soprano on Her Head* Eloise Ristad who was just beginning to find her voice in the then new world of improvisation/performance anxiety/learning styles, etc.) "warm up" the performers *and the audience* with one of her group improvisations before the playing began. Eloise spent about 10 minutes, as I recall, leading us in clapping, tapping all over each others' bodies (well, almost), and spitting out all sorts of unusual rhythms in unusual ways with our mouths. The room of 75-or-so people absolutely rocked with rhythm! And it was so much fun! Or at least *I* thought so. However, at the next BAMTA meeting, there was a small group of "mature" teachers who spent the first half (or so it seemed to me) of the meeting describing their reactions to the "mess" we'd created by allowing such inappropriate behavior into their "serious" world of piano recitals. And they didn't just talk about it at *that* meeting. Comments about our "mess" were made at every meeting for months, to the extent that I ALMOST QUIT BAMTA!

While I think they went a little overboard (OK, a *lot* overboard), I now know what it's like to be one of those "mature" teachers whose world is sometimes changing too fast. And with only a third of my life remaining (!), I find myself less and less willing to spend time doing things I dislike. One of those "things" is sitting at a computer. So if you *really* need to contact me and I'm not responding to your emails, *call* me (303-666-1927). If I have to spend an inordinate amount of time figuring out how to upload the BAMTA packet and send it out to you (thanks *tons* to Mitzi), or register my students for MPF on line, *help me*.

I'm SO glad I didn't quit BAMTA all those years ago. I simply can't imagine my life without the encouragement, camaraderie, life lessons, and professional development I've gained from knowing all of you all these years. Thanks for giving me another chance at this presidency. Please come to meetings as often as you can, and please be prepared to step up and help when your name is called.

A few quick announcements:

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1. The newsletter will now be posted on the BAMTA website and will change only once a month. If you have information you'd like included, email it to Carol Boyd by the last Friday of each month. No extra emails will be sent in, between newsletters, so don't ask.
2. New directories will be available for pick-up at the October meeting. If you're not there to pick yours up, you can pick it up off my porch. And if you didn't get your dues for BAMTA, CSMTA and MTNA paid to MTNA by the end of August, you won't be in this directory, but you can still be in the addendum.
3. Meetings start at 9:00 a.m. (We experimented with a start time of 10:00 last year and didn't like it.)
4. Multiple Piano Festival information will be posted on the BAMTA website as soon as possible, and will be included in your packet. There are lots of changes regarding registration, pairs, etc. so **read it over carefully**. If the on-line stuff is confusing, ASK FOR HELP. (I'm pretty sure that's what I'll be doing.)
5. Rebecca Martin was in a car accident a few weeks ago and had to have knee surgery this past Wednesday. Her recovery promises to be long and arduous, so please give her a call and find out how you can help.
5. PLEASE come to the meetings. We need your input!

I promise the rest of my letters to you won't be this long. (How 'bout I give \$1 to everybody who comes and can prove to me you actually read it!) See you Sept. 18th!

Carol Wickham-Revier, NCTM

BAMTA Monthly Meetings

We first wish to WELCOME our new President, Carol Wickham-Revier, who will be our leader this year, 2013 - 2014

Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 9 AM at Harvest Church.
Address: 7493 Old Mill Trail, Boulder, CO 80301 (corner of 75th & Old Mill Trail,
just north of Jay Road)

9 AM BAMTA Membership Meeting

10 AM PROGRAM : the Director of "The Dalcroze School of the Rockies",
Dr. Jeremy Dittus, will lead us through : "Applications of Dalcroze
Eurhythmics in the Piano Lesson" :

"HIP, HOP, CHANGE!: Applications of Dalcroze Eurhythmics in the Piano Lesson"

Explore a variety of basic Dalcroze principles at the piano or any other instrument and have a ball doing it! We will relate Dalcrozian applications to practice techniques, piano literature,

and improvisation. Let your creativity soar as you think of new ways of approaching your instrument and your students. (I will send a few short examples of early intermediate piano literature in advance so that participants won't have to worry about the challenges of sight reading.)

Presenter: Dr. Jeremy Dittus, Diplôme Supérieur
Director, The Dalcroze School of the Rockies
Program Director, The Dalcroze Academy at Colorado State University

We WELCOME all new and continuing BAMTA Members to our Meetings.

We appreciate your help with REFRESHMENTS at Meetings:

Hello Members : I have the pleasure of being in charge of refreshments this year. Please let me know which meeting you would like to contribute to the morning "coffee klatch"

No need to bake - just stop by the store on the way to the meeting. And remember, it's a tax write off! Thanks. Contact : Nancy Sundal at Fifthavestudio@mac.com

CU Boulder Faculty Concert with Hsing-ay Hsu

A French Soiree with Hsing-ay Hsu.

TUE 9/24, 7:30pm Faculty Tuesday Series @ CU-Boulder, Grusin Hall, 18th & Euclid
Maurice Ravel's brilliant piano solos including Scarbo, and Claude Debussy's magical duets including songs from *Recueil Vasnier*, Violin Sonata, and Fêtes (4 hands). Guests Jennifer Bird, Andrew Cooperstock, and Charles Wetherbee. Free Admission. Live streaming at <http://music.colorado.edu/live/>

WED, 9/11, 10am-12noon, Denver Area Music Teachers Association (DAMTA) is hosting a pre-concert music appreciation seminar with Ms. Hsu at Schmitt Music in Englewood, CO. Tickets available at the door- \$25 for single or \$110 for Ms. Hsu's seven-seminar Conscious Listening™ series.

Are you planning on “Majoring in Music”?

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MajoringInMusic.com is co-hosting a panel event for anyone thinking about majoring in music on Tuesday September **10th** at the Dairy Center from 7 - 8:30 pm. We'll have an assortment of college faculty and admission staff as well as current music majors on hand to answer questions and present objective and very helpful information.

Scholarship Committee Update

The BAMTA Scholarship Committee met in June and I'm happy to report that we awarded several \$200 and \$400 scholarships to deserving students. By using reserved scholarship funds that were not used in 2012, we were able to award a total of \$2400.

The committee takes this responsibility seriously because we realize that without these scholarships, these students might have to discontinue lessons. It is a great honor to serve BAMTA in this capacity.

One thank you note that I received from a student read "Thank you so much for awarding me a \$200 scholarship. Playing the piano means so much to me, and with the help of this scholarship, I hope that I will be able to continue my musical education."

I would like to thank Lisa Johnson and Lacey Wheeler for volunteering their time and expertise to this effort. Also, thank you to all who help to make the Multiple Piano Festival a big success, because the proceeds from this event make these scholarships possible.

Mitzi Babb
Scholarship Committee Chair

Reservations for FALL Semester Recitals at Harvest Church :

Kate Smailer will be taking requests for recital bookings at Harvest Church starting Wednesday, September 4 starting at 9 a.m. You may call her at 303-530-4760 or email her at ktsmailer@gmail.com

Heads up - No Wednesday or Thursday evenings can be requested as these nights are already being used.

We wish all BAMTA Members a happy & successful Fall Semester.

Carol Boyd