

President's Letter

Dear BAMTA members,

I had a wonderful time at the 2014 MTNA conference in Las Vegas. Thank you again for your financial support that allowed me to participate in such an inspiring gathering of musicians and teachers. The words I'd use to describe the effect of the conference is 'supported' and 'resourced.' I went to many wonderful presentations that were well-organized and more than anything realistic, practical and down-to-earth. Because we teachers well know the training, skill and discipline it takes to practice our craft, I found that presenters avoided the 'quick fixes' and empty marketing promises that one might expect as 'convention fare.' The first presentation by Peter Jutras on 'The Road Ahead: Piano Study for the Next Generation' set the tone for me: amazingly well-researched and filled with cogent facts and conclusions about the differences and commonalities between age-groups. I joined the 'Entrada Piano Technique' video resource after attending Fred Karpoff's excellent workshop. I gravitated to workshops that featured new technology advances and/or creativity at the piano: Online piano learning software called 'Playground Sessions', Sparking Creativity with Leila Viss from Centennial Colorado (I hope we can get her to do a program for us next year), Forest Kinney and 'Chord Play', Bradley Sowash and 'Creative Keys'. I heard Hall Leonard composers Eugenie Rochelle, Phillip Keveren and Christos Tsitsaros play their new pieces, and hob-nobbed with Robert Vandall, E.L. Lancaster and Tom Gerou at the Alfred's Publications exhibit. Lang-Lang gave a masterclass, my Oberlin college roommate and current head of Oberlin Keyboard Department Bob Shannon gave an inspiring talk on teaching teens, and the winner's recitals were full of amazing instrumentalists and vocalists. The high point for many of us I'm sure was Anne Schein, who not only gave us an hour of astonishing conversation with the head of Steinway pianos, Sally Covelskie, but rounded the conference off with one of those once-in-a-lifetime piano concert experiences that featured the most magisterial, soulful and profound interpretations of Beethoven, Schumann and Chopin (the 3rd sonata) imaginable. Words fail at describing that concert, which is always a good place for music to take over! And what I managed to attend at this Conference was just a fraction of the workshops and concerts presented! Carol Wickham-Reviere and I would bump into each other in the hallways, catch our breath in amazement, and dive back into another immersive workshop.

What a wonderful mix of pushing the technological envelope, innovation, and creativity side-by-side with the very deepest honoring of our past and our musical traditions! We're such a lucky bunch, to be teachers and musicians in the 21st century!

I'm hoping to see many of you on April 15 at Harvest Baptist Church for Lynn Maloy's workshop/presentation on Dyslexia. I'm sure many of us will find this a very

useful and needed subject to explore. The membership meeting is at 9:00 and the presentation will be 10 to 11.

Thank you to Rebecca Martin for agreeing to be Program Chair for next year, and to Emily Miller for agreeing to step into the fray as President Elect. Thank you to Norma Schattke for taking on refreshment duties for our meetings. Thank you to the invaluable Michelle Wooten and Lois Abbhul who are taking on reorganizing the 'BAMTA box' to bring our paperwork and resources up-to-date.

The redbuds and tulips are blooming! Let's rejoice in the Spring, and I look forward to seeing many of you next Wednesday!

Toby Tenenbaum

Graduating High School Senior Award Information from Richard Capp

The BAMTA Graduating Senior Award nominations are due April 16.

The Student's BAMTA teacher should submit a letter of Recommendation by April 16, 2014 to: Richard Capp, 3350 Loyola Ct., Boulder, CO 80305

email: capppj@gmail.com

BAMTA presents this award to acknowledge an outstanding graduating High school senior. The award will consist of a framed certificate and a gift appropriate to the student's interest (value approximately \$200), or a cash award of \$200.

BAMTA members in good standing may submit a letter of recommendation for their graduating student(s) who have contributed to the enrichment of the musical community through participation in BAMTA activities, community theater, high school music activities, accompanying, as a church musician or other musical venues.

Through this award BAMTA wishes to expand its presence in the community and increase communication with the schools. We will be in contact with the recipient's high school music teacher to make arrangements to honor this student in the appropriate awards ceremony.

The Letter of Recommendation Should:

1. Give student's name, High School, and BAMTA teacher's name.
2. Tell about the student's music awards and accomplishments.
3. List venues in which the student's musical talents have been shared with the community.
4. List the student's participation in BAMTA activities.

5. Describe student's post-high school music plans.
6. If the student has substantial school music involvement, please have the High School Music teacher provide a signature, phone number and comments regarding the student's participation in the school music program.

The award recipient will be announced at the May BAMTA meeting.

Studio Openings

Dr. Martha Albrecht has openings for new students. She teaches all ages and any level.

Dr. Martha Albrecht
13460 Via Varra
Broomfield, CO 80020
Phone: 303-551-0116
Email: marthshelton13@gmail.com

BAMTA Community Recital, May 3, 2:00 pm at Harvest Church

Students from BAMTA teacher studios are invited to participate. There will be a short reception following the recital. Please ask your students to bring a neat/finger food snack to share. If there is a large response, a second recital will be added at 3:30. Students will be allowed to play up to 2 pieces. The student's name and information about the pieces (name, composer, and approx. time) should be sent to Mitzi Babb (mitzi@thebabbs.com) by Sunday, April 26. Participating teachers are not required to attend. However if you attend, set-up, clean-up and reception help would be welcomed.

Scholarship Committee

Volunteers are needed to serve on the 2015 scholarship committee. The time commitment is 2 - 3 hours in June. Please let Mitzi Babb know (mitzi@thebabbs.com) if you are interested.