

# BAMTA Beat - January 2024

## Letter from the President

Dear Colleagues,

I've been having a lot of fun lately attempting to come up with an answer to a question one of my brothers recently asked me: "Of all the things you include in your regular routine, what gives you the most pleasure?" My first answer may turn out to be my best – it's when I teach a lesson and feel like I made a difference. So as I continue to read William Westney's book in preparation for our January meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> of this month, I certainly hope the ideas presented there will add to my "bag of tricks" for making a difference. Perhaps you're having the same experience. Please join us at Anne Lairds' glorious home and studio in Longmont (1916 S. Coffman St., 80504) to share what you've learned from **The Perfect Wrong Note** AND send Anne any questions you'd like to ask the author ahead of time so they can be addressed in our discussion. Also please remember that while you *may* attend the gathering via Zoom, as Prof. Westney will be doing, you must attend in person if you wish to participate in the discussion.

HUGE THANKS to Amy Watt for hosting our delightful December Brunch and to ALL sixteen (or so) of you who attended! The warmth, support, and camaraderie I feel from my BAMTA colleagues makes every day I teach, even after 5 decades, SO MUCH MORE FUN!!!

One more little thing: I almost always hate having to take down my Christmas decorations, especially the trees. So when my mom came up with the idea, at least 3 decades ago, of turning her Christmas tree into a Valentine tree, the pain of saying good-bye to the December holidays was so much less. That's what I'll be doing this weekend, in addition to finishing **The Perfect Wrong Note** and coming up with my list of questions. (Really eager to get him to further expound about his ideas in Chapter 6!)

Be sure to scroll to the end of the newsletter to see the pictures from the holiday brunch and for a copy of Anne Laird's Amazing Egg Casserole Recipe that many requested.

HAPPY NEW YEAR, wonderful friends!

Warmly,  
Carol Wickham-Revier, NCTM  
BAMTA President 2022-24

## **BAMTA Book Discussion - Friday, January 19**

Hello BAMTA readers!

Our annual book discussion is a week from Friday, January 19. Carol has invited the author, William Westney, to join our discussion via Zoom and he has graciously agreed! This is a wonderful opportunity to engage with a fascinating person and one of the leaders in our field. Even if you have not read the book, please join us for this conversation!

For those who are reading the book, Bill has invited us to submit questions in advance. As you are reading, please write down questions or thoughts that arise and send them to Anne Laird at [alaird25@comcast.net](mailto:alaird25@comcast.net). I will compile them and send them to Bill before we meet.

Looking forward to seeing you on 19th!

Anne Laird

**It's not too late to pick up the book and read some or all of it!**

We will be reading *The Perfect Wrong Note: Learning to Trust your Musical Self*, by William Westney. This book is chock full of creative ideas for deepening both your teaching and practicing. It is about 200 pages and the engaging writing and outside-the-box ideas will carry you right along.

The book is available on Amazon or as an e-book at Barnes and Noble. There is also a copy at each of the Longmont and Boulder public libraries, and it is available through Hoopla. Happy reading!

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## **January Book Discussion Meeting Available On Zoom**

If you cannot attend the January meeting in person but would like to be a part of the book discussion, please join us on Zoom at the link below. Mitzi will begin admitting those on Zoom a few minutes before 10:00.

Mitzi Babb is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: My Meeting

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6074999799?  
omn=87603628403](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6074999799?omn=87603628403)

Meeting ID: 607 499 9799

Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Mitzi Babb

[mitzi@thebabbs.com](mailto:mitzi@thebabbs.com)

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## Achievement Day - May 11

Our annual Achievement Day will be held on Saturday, May 11, 2024 at CU Boulder's music building. This is a non-competitive event. Students perform two solo pieces and receive judge's comments. They also participate in other music related activities called options, which include playing technical exercises(scales, chords, arpeggios), sight reading, improvising and taking written tests in theory, terms and signs, music history, etc. and many other possibilities! The information and the registration form are posted on BAMTA's website on the teacher pages. The deadline to register students is April 6th. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact one of the chairs.

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Harumi Shiraishi, NCTM  
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303-517-7280

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## PIANOS ALIVE !

You are invited to the 2024 Pianos Alive! concert, February 9, 2024, 7:00 p.m. at Grace Commons Church, 1820 15<sup>th</sup> street, Boulder. Teachers, students, family, friends...all are welcome. BAMTA members that will be performing, both current and retired/former members, include Lois Abbuhl, Mitzi Babb, Richard Capp, Susan Rudosky, Laura Smith, and Karen Ziegler. The concert includes an intriguing arrangement of a Vivaldi aria by Greg Anderson (Anderson and Roe), a gem by Manuel Infante from his Danses Andalouses, and a guest performance by Dr. Doug Walter, head of the University of Colorado Percussion Department performing dances from the Bach Orchestral Suite No. 2 on vibraphone. Beethoven's Symphony No. 5 (Allegro), Kyunghoon Kim's arrangement of Over the Rainbow, Rachmaninoff's lovely 18<sup>th</sup> Variation from Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, plus music by Britten, Poulenc, Brahms, Copland, Khachaturian, and Richard Rodney Bennett are also featured on the program.

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## **Recital Space Available to Rent**

BAMTA Teachers,

I am the coordinator for the BAMTA piano (Yamaha grand) that is housed at Harvest Church in Gunbarrel - 7493 Old Mill Trail, Boulder, CO 80301 (Corner of 75<sup>th</sup> 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.

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.

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

[mitzi@thebabbs.com](mailto:mitzi@thebabbs.com)

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## Amazing Egg Casserole Recipe

1 cup feta  
1 cup coarsely chopped artichoke hearts  
2 cups heavy cream  
8 eggs  
1 package Boursin cheese  
1/4 cup cream cheese, softened  
salt and pepper to taste

Spray baking dish. Cover the bottom with artichoke hearts and sprinkle with feta. Blend remaining ingredients and pour over artichokes. Bake at 400 for one hour (sometimes less - check for doneness after 45 minutes).

## Pictures from the BAMTA Holiday Brunch







