

BAMTA Beat - November 2023

Letter from the President

I'm writing this on Tuesday, Nov. 7 which officially marks my FOURTH STRAIGHT WEEK of having a cough! GEEZ!!!

Before you feel too sorry for me, let me tell you about all the wonderful things that have happened in our organization since my cough began.

On October 14 and 15, BAMTA member and Taubman expert **Brenna Berman** (and colleagues) presented the second annual Colorado Taubman Approach Workshop at the Niche Event Space in Boulder. When one of my adult students who was attending the workshop with me handed me a mask during the second morning session to cover my cough, I knew my presence there was probably NOT appreciated so I came back home. I'm still hoping to finish the workshop by viewing videos of the sessions I missed, but what little I witnessed was MOST inspiring!

On Friday, Oct. 20, in my studio, the CU student chapter of CSMTA presented one of the most well-organized and perfectly executed programs I've ever witnessed titled "Spilling the Tea" on the Degree: Helping Your Students Successfully Transition to College. While the presentation was impeccable, their youthful enthusiasm brought a spark of vitality to our gathering that was truly heartwarming. HUGE thanks to these students and to their faculty sponsor, **Dr. Jennifer Hayghe**.

On Saturday, October 21, **Amy Watt** and **Mitzi Babb** coordinated a completely new event for our organization, TWO back-to-back "Costumes in Concert" Halloween Recitals at Harvest Baptist Church, and the entire afternoon was a HUGE success! Participating teachers included **Martha Thompson, Shari Griswold, Anne Laird, Karen Ziegler, Jill Ice, Nina Baker, Marianna Caron**, and, of course, Amy and Mitzi. Students, parents and casual observers like me came out of the doors saying "We just HAVE to make this an annual event!"

Thanks to the MPF Steering Committee and most especially our fearless leader, **Shari Griswold**, Saturday, November 4 marked the official beginning of Multiple Piano Festival "crunch time". Auditions were held at five different locations all over Boulder county and I'm happy to report that, with approximately 156 performers (not counting teachers) we're growing! That said, please do everything you can think of to help us sell enough tickets to fill the auditorium!

Attached below are a couple of promotional videos you can share with friends and family to help us get the word out.

https://youtu.be/1JrjoWrqFgQ?si=fID_4jLMSq4tg4gz

<https://youtu.be/IvOWqeAeJYU?si=MvwtTrsLP9x8bdGa>

And finally, I'm so excited to announce that the program for our January meeting, a book discussion about William Westney's The Perfect Wrong Note, will also be an opportunity for you to "meet the author" (over Zoom). I finally got up the nerve to email him yesterday; he got right back to me saying he'd be delighted to join us!

Now, if only this cough will go away...

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

BAMTA Book Discussion

Are you looking for new ideas in your teaching? As the weather cools, does it sound enticing to curl up with a good book? Get ready to join our BAMTA book discussion! It will take place at our January meeting (Friday, January 19) at the home of Anne Laird. 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. Pick up a copy or put it on your holiday wish list today.

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!

MPF Art Contest Winner and Posters

Congratulations to the winner of the art contest, Karis Stone, B2. Please post the MPF flyer in your studio this week (see MPF flyer PDF below) and be sure to invite your students and their families to attend. Carolyn Meyer's description below explains how to purchase tickets.



Online Ticket Sales for MPF!

Hello, Wonderful MPF Teachers!

This year, we are offering advance ONLINE ticket sales for the Multiple Piano Festival!

PLEASE NOTE: since there will be NO advance ticket sales during rehearsals, please encourage all of your MPF families to purchase tickets in advance from the comfort of their homes! There will be tickets available

at the door before the performance, but families can avoid standing in the long line and come to the concert relaxed, knowing they already have their tickets!

Here's how to purchase tickets:

either use this link: <https://buytickets.at/boulderareamusicteachersassociation/1058921>

or this QR code:



Tickets can be purchased using credit card, PayPal or Venmo. There is a \$1 service fee for online tickets (but think of the convenience!)...tickets are \$16 if purchased online, and \$15 at the door.

There will be posters at Niwot High School with both the link and the QR code.

***Student performers do NOT need to purchase tickets.

Please contact me if you have any questions.
Carolyn Meyer, MPF Ticket Sales Coordinator

Poinsettias - *Help us decorate the stage the way we prefer with lots of red.*

We really need your help!

We need 8 - 10 teachers who would enjoy a poinsettia in their home to pledge to buy one or more. You can pick them up after the concert directly off the stage fresh and ready to decorate your home.

Please buy a poinsettia if you would enjoy one and help us decorate the MPF stage the way we prefer, with lots of red. The cost to you will be \$18 plus tax.

Contact Martha at: marthamusicthompson@gmail.com

MPF questionnaire to pass along this week

Hello current and past MPF teachers,

I am the chair person for the Multiple Piano Festival 2023 and am working on the opening comments for the festival. I am hoping to talk about how the festival has impacted students in my opening comments and am wondering if you can partner with me to help gather some information. I have four questions for current or past participants and similar questions for parents of participants who we would like to hear from also. If you are willing to help, I need you to copy and paste the message below and then forward any responses you receive to me. If you have contact information from past students that have not participated in the festival for 5, 10 or even 20 years or more, I would be very excited to get responses from them.

Thank you for your help,
Shari Griswold

Dear current and past participants in the Multiple Piano Festival and their parents,

The chair person for this year's Multiple Piano Festival, Shari Griswold, has asked that I send you this letter and solicit your help. She is working on the opening comments for the festival and hoping to talk about how the festival has impacted students as part of her introduction. Would you be willing to take a few minutes and answer a few questions? You can respond to the questions in the body of the email, preferably in a different color, and then send it back to me. I will then forward your responses to Shari. We really would appreciate your help if you have a few minutes to respond!

Thank you,
(Teachers sending the email can sign their name here.)

Questions for performers that have played in the festival at least one year or those that have participated in the past.

Name of respondent:

1. The first year I played in MPF I was around _____ years old. The last year I played in the festival I was _____ years old or in grade _____.

2. Please finish the statement "I will always have fond memories of MPF because" or share why playing in the festival was special to you.

3. Please finish the statement, "A big growth opportunity occurred playing in the festival when....." or share what benefits you feel you gained from participating.

4. Please share any further thoughts you have about the festival and why you enjoyed participating.

Questions for parents of current or former participants.

1. My child participated in the festival starting around the age of _____ until they were the age of _____.

2. Why was having your child participate special to you?

3. What personal or musical growth did you notice students experience through participating?

4. Please share any further thoughts you have about the festival and why you and your children enjoyed participating.