
FMTA January Newsletter

Please join us for our January 19th Meeting.

9:30 a.m. General Meeting

10:30 a.m. Program

**"Helping Students Develop a Discerning Musical Ear"
presented by Laura Benson**

*****Location for January *and* February Meetings:**

Our Savior's Church, 1975 S. Garrison St. Lakewood, CO 80227

A Note from the President

Happy New Year! I hope that this newsletter finds you well and hopeful as we head into a new year. Do you make New Year's goals or resolutions? A couple of my goals for this year are to have my upper level students participate in FMTA events such as Winter Festival and Sonatina Festival. Another goal is to have a recital in my backyard, or to use Kari Stjernholm's title, a "Backyard Bash."

What are your studio goals for the year? Or what is one aspect of your teaching you would like to improve on this year? One thing you would like to implement? I would love to spend the last 5-10 minutes of our January General Meeting hearing your ideas!

Best Wishes,
Davina Perret



April Larsen Holiday Benefit Recital 2021

Do you have an announcement for the monthly newsletter?

Please email davina.perret@gmail.com by the first of the month to have it included in the next edition.

Save the Date

MTNA Conference: Mark your calendars for the 2022 MTNA National Conference, **March 26–30, 2022**, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. We are looking forward to a return to a live and in-person conference, and we know you are too! For the first time ever, national conference will be presented in a hybrid format. The result will be an attendee experience like no other that provides in-person and virtual options to attend.

CSMTA State Conference - **June 3-5, 2022 @ CU Boulder**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holiday Benefit Concerts Report:

We want to thank everyone who participated in FMTA's Holiday Benefit Concert in December! We had 13 teachers participate and the event brought in approximately \$2,000. We are still waiting for final numbers. Our Savior's Corner of Hope Church was decorated beautifully. It's so nice to have a venue where our students can perform their holiday music, while also supporting FMTA's scholarship fund. We appreciate everyone's efforts in making this event successful and many thanks to Our Savior's Corner of Hope Church for the use of their facilities. We look forward to this annual event in the future.

Many thanks!

Carrie Christensen and Kari Stjernholm

Winter Festival, January 29th:

Teachers are invited to come listen to students perform in this year's Winter Festival on Saturday, January 29th at Our Savior's Church. The recital will be at 2 p.m., with a possible second recital at 3:15 p.m.

PRP – Reading 2021 – 2022

This year's book to discuss will be: **The Art of Successful Teaching: A Blend of Content & Context** by Tim Lautzenheiser ISBN: 941050-29-7 1992
Copyright 1992 Publications, Inc., 7404 Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638
Location: Home of Arlyce Black, 6708 W. Arbor Dr. Littleton, CO 80123.

February 3, 2022 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Part Three: Student Leadership

Part Four: For Band Directors Only

Part Five: Thoughts About Competition

Please contact Arlyce Black to be added to her group email for PRP.

Email: arlyceb@gmail.com

FMTA Performance Group 2021-22 Dates and Locations (Hosts)

Meetings are on the second Friday of the month at 10:00 am. Please call the host ahead if you plan to attend.

February 11th: Home of Laura Rogers

March 11th: Home of Betty Witt

April 8th: Home of Jan Austin-Peck

May 13th: Home of Kathy Hammer

Sonatina Festival: March 12, 2022

We are only 6 weeks away to finalize registrations/submissions for the 2022 FMTA Sonatina Festival. This year's festival is scheduled as an in-person event Saturday, March 12 at Colorado Christian University. Face masks will be required. Registrations and payments are handled online: a process that is easy and self-explanatory. The application deadline is February 12. Go to the FMTA website to read details and submit registrations <https://www.fmtamusic.org/sonatina-festival> including: *Sonatina Festival Standing Rules*FMTA Sonatina Festival Repertoire List for Piano*Sonatina Festival Student Registration Form and *Sonatina Festival Teacher Registration Form. Payment via PayPal is required for all entries using the handy drop-down menu titled *Pay for Sonatina Festival. Please explore this growth opportunity and enter your students.

If you have questions, please contact Helen Gleason, Sonatina Festival Chair: phone/text 615-533-5529 or by email: helengleason@comcast.net.

Website Chair Updates

Looking for information about upcoming member meetings? The information can be found in three places on the website: (1) The monthly newsletter posted on the front page (2) The "FMTA Calendar Page" (3) The "Teacher Membership Page" under "Member Opportunities." Also, the site was hacked at the beginning of December, but is now back up and running. If you see any signs of hacking in the future, please reach out to Lorian Bartle @ 720-353-2902

Membership Chair Updates

Are you looking for more students??? If you are interested in having your information updated on the "Find a Teacher" list for the FMTA website, please email Robin Braun at robinbraun815@gmail.com. We will be updating the Find a Teacher list again in March.

From the Desk of Andrew Cooperstock:

As you will remember, an important part of our state conference is announcing and presenting the Teacher of the Year Award, information here: [Teacher of the Year](#). Although I plan to send a reminder in February, I'm taking the liberty of mentioning now in order to provide chapters plenty of time to put together and submit candidate information, which is due on or before March 18, 2022. Please do consider nominating a deserving teacher from your local association chapter!

Best wishes,

Andrew Cooperstock

CSMTA President-Elect

CSMTA Teacher of the Year Committee Chair

FMTA Video Camera: Did you know that FMTA purchased an awesome digital video camera and stand for members to use? Please do not hesitate to contact Carrie Christiansen to reserve the camera! Contact: carrie.pianoteacher@gmail.com

MEDIA RELEASE FORM FOR FMTA EVENTS

FMTA teachers who wish to take photos/videos of their students at FMTA student events to post on the FMTA website and Facebook page can access the Colorado State Music Teachers Association "Photo and Video Authorization and Release Form" by clicking: <https://www.fmtamusic.org/student-oppertunities/>

FESTIVAL FOR CREATIVE PIANISTS

January 2022 to December 2022 -- Enrollment Deadline April 30th

Evelyn Billberg, Program Director:
ev.billberg@gmail.com or ph: 303-629-9209

Mission

The International Festival for Creative Pianists is a nonprofit arts education organization dedicated to celebrating the joy of creating music at the piano by offering unique learning opportunities and supporting the work of 21st Century Musical Artists. Open to all ages, our program fosters well-rounded musicianship (all styles – classical, jazz / pop, original works, improvisation, etc.) and promotes creative skill building and creative thinking via virtual workshops, creative challenges, individualized expert feedback, and more.

Timeline

Join us for our kick-off Q&A Info Session on January 7th:

www.festivalforcreativepianists.org/get-involved.

We will review our exciting 2022 activities and opportunities.

"First Friday" events:

- February 4: Dr. Arthur Houle (Founder / Artistic Director) will discuss the creativity of Muzio Clementi.
- March 4: Matthew Cooper – Anyone Can Improvise with Polychords.
- April 1: Live Composing, Piano Miniatures.
- More on this and other events: **www.festivalforcreativepianists.org/get-involved**

Creativity

Developing Your Creativity: There are 21 pages available in four special sections:

- Building Your Creative Habits of Mind
- Discovering and Maintaining Your Inspiration
- Overcoming Barriers and Blocks to Creativity
- Improvisation to Composition.

Creativity Challenges include:

- Composition (8 sessions)
- Improvisation (8 sessions)
- Theory (3 sessions)
- Play (4 sessions)

Learning Activities: Engage in 16 special online learning activities including 8 with live workshop opportunities

and 8 with on-demand workshops. Live workshops will also be available on demand.

Review all activities on the festival homepage:

www.festivalforcreativepianists.org

The Process

Upon enrollment into our OpenLearning platform, the "Getting Started" section will provide students with all the information they need to succeed.

Festival Submissions: Participants record up to 15 minutes of repertory and/or creative pianism, submit via video, and get constructive feedback by our world-class Teaching Artists. Performance Videos are due June 30th with the "Best Of" submission due August 30th.

Written Compositions: Students are encouraged to submit a written composition for review/comments by the Teaching Artists. These submissions are due August 30th.

Fee, Scholarships and Volunteer Info

- The Fee for this year-long Festival is \$500. When considered as a monthly cost to the budget it is \$46.67.
- Four Ways to Save:

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1. Scholarships are available to participants who have demonstrated financial need and show a motivation to build their creative skills at the piano. Scholarship application is required. Festival directors will notify scholarship applicants within 30 days of applying. Scholarships cover up to 80% the cost of enrollment fee, depending on need.

Generous donations to the Festival Scholarship Fund make this possible:

<https://donorbox.org/festival-for-creative-pianists-scholarship-fund#info>

2. Adults Age 60+: Lifelong Learners who are age 60+ will automatically receive a 30% discount.
3. Volunteer Opportunities: **www.festivalforcreativepianists.org/get-involved**
Festival volunteers are eligible for a 50% discount. Please carefully review the volunteer position description and submit a volunteer application to be considered for a volunteer role. Participants of any age can volunteer!
4. Piano Educator Members can receive a 10% discount for them and their students, with the option of requesting bulk pricing for 10+ students.
Become a Piano Educator Member: **www.festivalforcreativepianists.org/get-involved**