
FMTA April Newsletter

This Month's Meeting: Wednesday, April 20

9:30 a.m. General Meeting

10:30 a.m. Fernanda Nieto - "When Everything Else Fails:
Breathe! A Mindful Approach to Music Teaching"

*****NEW Location: Lakewood School of Music
In the "Notable Apartments"**

730 Simms Street, Golden CO 80401

Park in the SE corner. Look for FMTA signs.



A Note from the President

I often am asked how I became a piano teacher. Or rather, did I always know I wanted to teach piano? And my answer is definitely not what people expect: “I went to college to become a Music Therapist because I did NOT want to become a piano teacher!” In fact, the only reason I continued piano lessons in college was because it was a requirement for my degree and scholarship.

After college, I had a family beg me for months to teach their children piano and guitar. I said no many, many times. Yet they were persistent. And one day I finally caved. 22 years later here I am. Some days I am weary and reluctant to start my day of teaching. But most days, once my students arrive and begin to show me their progress, an excitement, along with realization, bubbles within me.

I realize I GET to be one of the trusted adults who has the unique privilege to make great impact on these students’ hearts and lives.

As music teachers, we will have more days, years and 1:1 time with these students than any other teacher in their life. Think about that.

We will see these students through their school years, through family struggles, through challenges with friends, and possible changes of schools. Music can be their constant companion, and WE will be a constant thread woven through their life. Whether a student studies with us for 2 years or 10 years, every time we are with them we have the ability to make an impact on their life. As teachers, we support, we encourage, we celebrate, we inspire, we listen, and we coach.

I have taught hundreds of students music in my career. Some in private or group lessons, and some in school settings. Many I lose touch with through the years and, sadly, I have no idea what role music or lessons played in their lives.

But when I receive a parent communication like this one, on a Saturday morning at 7am, my heart melts and I know that another life has been impacted...

“Thought you should know— Manning [6 years old] and I were driving in the car yesterday and unprompted he asked me ‘Who signed me up for piano?’ And I replied ‘me’. And he said ‘I just want to tell you thank you for doing that, I really like piano. I just really love the songs and I’m so happy you put me in it.’ Thanks for helping share your love of music. He complains about almost every other activity we’ve put him in. This is the only one he’s thanked us for and expressed happiness!”

And so fellow teachers, we keep doing what we are doing.

Gratefully, Davina Perret

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Recital at CCU THIS SUNDAY!!!!

The Colorado Christian University School of Music welcomes pianist Alan Chow for a solo piano recital on Sunday, April 3rd at 3:00pm. One of the most sought after teachers in the world, Chow presently serves as the chair of the piano department at the prestigious Eastman School of Music. A Steinway Artist, Chow has performed to critical acclaim in such major venues as New York's Lincoln Center and Merkin Hall and Chicago's Symphony Center and Ravinia. Chow won First Prize at the Concert Artists Guild International Competition and the Silver Medal and Audience Favorite Prize at the Gina Bachauer International Competition. The program will feature solo piano works by Franz Joseph Haydn and Frédéric Chopin. Chow will also be teaching a masterclass to CCU piano students on Monday, April 4th at 4:30. Both events are free and open to the public and will be held at CCU's Music Center (9200 W Ellsworth Ave, Lakewood, CO 80226).

May Musicale, May 18: Teacher performances wanted!

Every year we are blessed to hear performances from our very own FMTA members at our Musicale! Please contact Alyssa Alexander at gracepiano.co@gmail.com if you would like to sign up to perform.

Proposed FMTA Officers for 2022-2023:

President - Davina Perret
VP Programs - Alyssa Alexander
VP Membership - Robin Braun
Secretary - Tamie Meise
Treasurer - Elinore Quander

Nominating Committee: Carrie Christensen, Arlyce Black, April Larsen

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.

April 8th: Home of Jan Austin-Peck

May 13th: Home of Kathy Hammer

CSMTA State Conference - June 3-4, 2022 @ CU Boulder.
Register [HERE](#). Register early for a wonderful discount!

Sonatina Festival Report

The leadership of FMTA's 2022 Sonatina Festival is proud to exclaim success over this year's sonatina festival. Returning joyfully to work face-to-face out of the depths of COVID, we carried it off with aplomb: we had 27 teachers, 116 student entries and 5 judges. Our expenditures broke even, within pennies, compared to 2021 but used resources wisely to provide supplies for next year's Festival. We had exemplary judging from our highly accomplished judges and excellent support from CCU's Dr. Aaron Stampfl and the CCU activities staff. And as a bonus, we had good weather.

Proposed Changes to Sonatina Festival Standing Rules

After consultations with the FMTA board, Carrie Christensen and Helen Gleason, 2023 Sonatina Festival Co-Chairs, propose changes to the Sonatina Festival Standing Rules. Please see the proposed updated Standing Rules in the attached document. Members should review this document before our discussion during April's meeting. The new Standing Rules will be published for a vote of approval during our May meeting. Carrie and Helen encourage reading the proposed changes to our Standing Rules.

Please keep in mind that an enlarged approved repertoire list will be published by the July 1 website deadline. As you review the proposed changes and note the term "current" regarding the repertoire list, refers to the repertoire list to be published by the July 1, 2022 website deadline. Please begin to consider, even now, additions to the repertoire list and contact Helen/Carrie with these recommendations.

Helen and Davina encourage your questions and discussion of the updated Standing Rules.

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.

Community Outreach Chair Update

The End-of-Summer Recitals are back! On **Saturday, August 27th**, the recitals will take place at the Anderson Park Pavilion in Wheat Ridge from 9-1 pm. The venue offers a large shelter and potential lawn seating for parents and family members to watch students perform.

Similar to the winter recitals, individual teachers sign up for a specific time slot for students in their studio to perform. This will also be a fundraising event for the **Scholarship Fund** with suggested donations from participating students and families.

*****Teachers interested in having their students participate should RSVP to Lorian Bartle at info@BartleGuitarStudio.com or 720-353-2902.**

As a side note, the City of Wheat Ridge hosts their summer music series at the pavilion - it is well suited for musical events!

Website Chair Update

The end of the academic year is fast approaching! Chairs and board members, please submit any information for updating the website for 2022-23 by July 1, 2022. If possible, please send any forms that need uploading to the website as both a Word and PDF document. Forms are kept on file in a library that future chairs may draw upon in the future. Forms should be submitted "as is" and will not be edited. All info should be sent to Lorian Bartle: info@BartleGuitarStudio.com or 720-353-2902.

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

Job Opportunity: The Good Shepherd Episcopal Church (8545 E. Dry Creek Rd. Centennial, CO 80112) has TWO music ministry job openings. Please read the two attachments that were included in your FMTA email. If you know of other musicians who may be interested please forward the information.

**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.**