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Dates To Remember

September 14. DAMTA Business meeting, 9:30 a.m.-10:10 a.m., Classic Pianos and online (Zoom link sent via Passalongs)

September 14. Fall Course, Grace Christus, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Classic Pianos and online (Zoom link sent to registrants)

September 25. Student Musicale, 2:00 p.m., Classic Pianos and online (Zoom link sent to registrants)

September 28. Fall Course Carla Aguilar, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Classic Pianos and online (Zoom link sent to registrants)



LYRICS NEWSLETTER



FALL COURSE

September 14th: Grace Christus on *East Asian Music For Students.*



September 28th: Carla Aguilar on *Culturally Responsive Teaching*

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DAMTA NAMED CSMTA’S LOCAL ASSOCIATION OF THE YEAR 2022

Read Ben Raznick’s President’s message.

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DAMTA’S SCHOLARSHIP FUND AT WORK

Ruby Garlow, age 9, given a remarkable opportunity.

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DAMTA Launches its 43rd Fall Course: "NURTURING THE WELL-ROUNDED MUSICIAN"

DAMTA hosts a Fall Course each year on subjects relevant to independent music teachers. Well-regarded by community music professionals, our Fall Course fulfills DAMTA's mission to promote excellence in the teaching of music by offering learning opportunities in different topics such as pedagogy, music technology, creativity, interpretation, business practices, psychology of music, and the appreciation, study and performance of music.

DAMTA has launched efforts toward a deeper understanding of the historic inequities within music teaching. We are taking action to incorporate DEI work into the study and performance of music, and in the operations and programming of our organization, recognizing that we are in the beginning stages of this important and ongoing process. Our 2022 Fall Course will continue to center on teaching repertoire and inclusion of music from diverse cultures. We hope to introduce composers and music to students that relate to students' lives in today's society.

- Marilyn Madsen
Vice President, Programs Director



September 14th - Grace Christus

East Asian Music for Students

In-Person & Online



September 28th - Carla E. Aguilar

Culturally Responsive Teaching in Music Education

In-Person & Online



October 12th - Leah Claiborne

Leveled Piano Music by Black Composers

Online Only



October 26th - Annette Karges

Developing Dissonant Awareness in the Young Pianist

In-Person & Online



November 9th - Joeun Pak

Hip Hop and Piano Technique

In-Person & Online



November 16th - Mallory Bernstein

The Art of Collaborative Piano

In-Person & Online



December 14th - Arthur Joseph Houle

Transitioning from Piano Method Books to Classical Repertory

Online Only



Scan QR Code to Register Now!
More information at DAMTA.org

All dates are Wednesdays from 10:30am-11:30am. Q&A until noon.

→ \$115 Early Bird \$140 Registration

Join DAMTA at Classic Pianos or from the comfort of your own home!

All presentations take place in-person & online (Except for Oct. 12th and Dec. 14th which are online only) and will be recorded to provide playback.

Classic Pianos
1332 S Broadway,
Denver, CO 80210

We hope to see you!

Last day, September 6!

DAMTA Board Members 2022-23

Ben Raznick	President
Marilyn Madsen	Vice President (Programs)
David House	Vice President (Newsletter)
Sonya Clark	Vice President (Membership)
Joshua Zabatta	Vice President (Student Musicales)
Deborah De La Torre	Vice President (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion)
Nazila Nekooraad	Secretary
Kristin Jordheim	Parliamentarian
Vince Madison	Past President

Submissions

- DAMTA issues the *Lyrics Newsletter* monthly from September through May, with a double edition in December/January.
- Submit all flyers, announcements, or news items as an email attachment to David House, at davidhouse1@comcast.net no later than the 20th of each month. Please give emails the heading "Lyrics Submission".

Passalongs

DAMTA's closed Google group for members:

- Notices in addition to official DAMTA business.
- Announcements and passalong emails that may be of interest to DAMTA members.
- News of workshops, competitions, special sales, instruments for sale privately, auditions, concerts, recitals, etc.

All current DAMTA members have access. The default option is to receive emails as they come in. You can change your setting to receive a digest email or no emails at all.

Fall Course, Session 1:

GRACE CHRISTUS on
TEACHING
EAST ASIAN MUSIC

September 14th - Grace Christus In-Person & Online

“The easiest way to avoid wrong notes is to never open your mouth and sing. What a mistake that would be.”

– Pete Seeger



East Asian Music for Students

Description: This is an introduction to numerous sources of Asian music that will engage Asian students and their parents, as well as expand the musical experience of non-Asian students. We will cover beginning, intermediate and early advanced material by composers from China, Japan, Korea, and more, and the Asian diaspora.

Bio: A daughter of Chinese immigrants, Grace Christus has degrees in Piano Performance from the George Peabody College for Teachers in Nashville, TN, the Juilliard School and the Manhattan School of Music in NY. She has been teaching piano privately in Aurora, CO since 1990. As a composer, she has written piano and vocal music inspired by Chinese traditions, and arranges folk songs from all over the world at a variety of levels. Her arrangements and compositions can be found on SheetMusicPlus.com.

Register now at

damta.org

All events will be held in-person and virtually via Zoom

Wednesdays from 10:30am-11:30am.

Q&A until noon



“Tell me, and I forget. Show me, and I remember. Involve me, and I understand.”

- Chinese proverb

Fall Course, Session 2:

CARLA AGUILAR on CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE MUSIC TEACHING

September 28th - Carla E. Aguilar In-Person & Online



Culturally Responsive Teaching in Music Education: Centering Students and Developing Personal Awareness

Description: The call for culturally responsive educators has risen in the last few years. Educators such as Zaretta Hammond (2014) and music educators such as Vicki Lind and Constance McKoy (2016) have championed this call. What does it mean to be a culturally responsive educator? Where can teachers start to understand the aspects of being culturally responsive? This presentation will include an initial understanding of culturally responsive teaching, including some history of culturally responsive teaching. Afterwards, I will focus on two parts of Zaretta Hammond’s Ready for Rigor Framework, Awareness and Community of Learners and Learning Environment. In Awareness, I will share ideas about how to learn about yourself and what you bring to the music learning experience and how these fits with the students who are learning from you. For the Community of Learners and Learning Environment, I will share ideas related to centering students in music education classrooms and how to include student agency in performing, analyzing, and creating music.

Bio: Carla E. Aguilar is a professor and the Coordinator of Music Education at Metropolitan State University of Denver. Carla earned her Ph.D. in music education from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. Her research interests include policy related to music education, equitable access to music education, culturally responsive teaching, and student-centered learning. She has presented her research for the National Association for Music Education, the International Society for Music Education, and the Society for Music Teacher Education.

President's Message:



DAMTA NAMED CSMTA'S 2022 LOCAL ASSOCIATION OF THE YEAR!

Welcome back to a new school year,
DAMTA!

It is with great pride that for this entire academic year, we have the honor to celebrate our achievement as 2022 Local Association of the Year, presented to us by CSMTA at the annual conference this past June! I would like to send a special thank you and congratulations to our dedicated and hard working Board of Directors. We had a wonderful board meeting this summer and look forward to continuing our efforts to best serve our music community here in Denver.

I hope you will join us for our first Business Meeting and Fall Course beginning on Wednesday, September 14. We cherish our Fall Course, now in its 43rd year, as an opportunity for professional development and a fun way to connect with our network of members. Please also join us for our monthly Student Musicales, beginning on Sunday, September the 25th.

If you are new to DAMTA, welcome! If you have been with DAMTA for a few years or a few decades, thank you for your ongoing support! I hope you'll join us at our Business Meetings, and I encourage you to reach out with any ideas, questions or concerns.

I am looking forward to our new year. Let's keep up the great work!

Ben Raznick
DAMTA President



Left to Right: Ben Raznick, Marilyn Madsen, Carolyn Anglier, Nazila Nekooraad, Vince Madison, David House
Not Pictured: Sonya Clark, Deborah De La Torre, Kristin Jordheim, Joshua Zabatta



One day last week my student Ella was hanging out with a friend who wields a mean tattoo needle. She noticed that her friend had given herself a tattoo on her right index finger, three capital letters, “RAD”, between the knuckle and second joint. It was, evidently, so cool that she decided she wanted one too, a shared thing between them. At her last lesson she showed me the result with obvious delight.

This month she’ll begin her first year at Western Washington University in Bellingham, Washington. She’s excited, though she has some misgivings about her roommate. Their virtual meeting was positive overall, but the other girl self-describes as “neat and clean.” “And I’m not a very neat, clean person.”

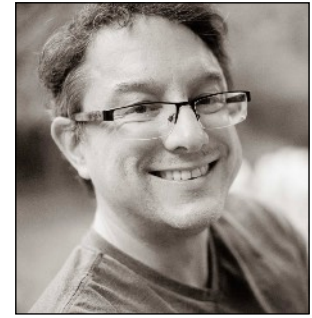
Ella was seven years old when I first became her piano teacher. Lesson’s ended harmlessly after a couple of years. I hadn’t seen her in over a decade when, in January, I got a text from her mother asking if I was still around and still teaching. (As often as I’ve been asked both questions, they still hit me like a bucket of ice. Still around. Still teaching. Good grief, am I really that sessile? Does what I do seem so friable that one would never assume I’ve lasted at it?) Ella’s mother told me that she’s going to college in the fall to study music and would like to build up her piano skills before she goes. Interesting. I never would have guessed. But then, her paternal grandfather was a well-respected orchestra conductor. A point of bonding with her father, perhaps, over the memory of his musical father? Unlike when I first knew her, her father now lives apart, just up the street from her mother. When Ella told me about it, she emphasized that he lives close by, not that he lives separately.

She’s taken with the idea of being a composer. She recently heard Mahler’s 10th Symphony. “It’s just so sad,” she said. “I love it!” So, is it *sehnsucht*-ridden symphonies she wants to compose? “No,” she said, “I don’t know. Maybe music for video games.”

I’m not certain she’s quite squared with the concept that “being” a composer entails “becoming” one. She hasn’t really composed

Editor’s Note:

THE
SAME
HAPPY
REVELATION



anything yet, and I couldn’t interest her in trying it out as part of her lessons. Mainly, as her mother had said, she just wanted to up her piano proficiency a bit. At least in her mind that’s what she wanted, if not in her actual drive to do so. Even so, I put it all on offer, theory, composition, piano technique, but the rules of self-care dictated that I couldn’t want it for her more than she wanted it for herself.

Which is not to say I haven’t enjoyed the past seven months of Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 when she would come to the door, and Augie, our mini Australian Shepherd, would greet her, and she’d come in and sit at the piano, tell me about her week, which last week included showing me her new tattoo and confessing her roommate worries, and then, once assured of having been seen and heard, begin to play, haltingly at first, always needing to be reminded to keep her feet flat on the floor, let her wrists be loose and her thumb light, and always, upon being reminded, more or less doing so and having that same happy revelation about what kind of pianist she could be.

My students sit on the piano bench in the midst of their lives, hoping I’ll teach them how to make music. Almost always, the music is already there, courtesy of their lives, and it’s a matter of teaching them how to make it heard. Really, it’s a wonderful job I have.

Happy Fall to all of you with wonderful jobs to do!

—David House, Editor



A DEI orientation Packet for Incoming Members was presented at the DAMTA Strategic Planning Meeting. The packet begins with the following quote from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.: **“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.”** Additional components of the packet include DEI’s Mission regarding Denver and Colorado’s First Nations Indigenous People; DEI Roles & Duties per DAMTA Bylaws; DEI Member Reflections; the DEI Committee Statement of Condemnation of Violence Against the Asian American and Pacifica Islander (AAPI) Communities; “Why diversity programs fail”, by Deborah De La Torre; Recommended Readings and Resources; and the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy of the Music Teachers National Association;

This summer during four consecutive Thursdays through July and August, DAMTA’s DEI Committee hosted a book club featuring Robin DiAngelo’s book, *White Fragility: Why It’s So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism* (2018). According to DiAngelo, **“Interrupting racism takes courage and intentionality; the interruption is by definition not passive or complacent.”** The book comes with a reading and discussion guide that many consider helpful. Other ways to access the book are via Audiobook and YouTube. Our book club conversations were geared around five themes: terminology; concepts/application; history; reflection and feelings; and accountability. Our next planned book will be *My Lord, What A Morning: An Autobiography*, by Marian Anderson (1956), date: TBA.

On Friday, August 12, DAMTA’s VP of DEI attended a webinar, “Judging Diverse Repertoire for Piano Competitions,” presented by pianist, scholar, and educator Dr. Leah Claiborne, who

SUMMER 2022 NEWS from DAMTA’s DEI COMMITTEE



Submitted by Deborah De La Torre, VP, DEI

is Assistant Professor of Music in the Division of Arts and Humanities in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of the District of Columbia. She is also the winner of MTNA’s 2022 Stecher & Horowitz \$10,000 Power of Innovation Award. According to ebonymusic.org, “Dr. Claiborne, DMA, promotes diversity in the arts by championing piano music by Black composers in her performances, research and teaching; She is the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion columnist for *American Music Teacher*. She also serves as director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for the Frances Clark Center/National Conference of Keyboard Pedagogy.”

Approximately 132 people attended the online event featuring music composed by Samuel Coleridge Taylor, Manuel Ponce, Fred Onovwerosuoke, Chen Peixun and James Morris. Dr. Claiborne explored how to respond to and comment upon a performance of diverse repertoire, and ways to evaluate the music when hearing it for the first time as a piano competition judge. MTNA has generously made the webinar available on their website for viewing. Dr. Claiborne is the founder of Ebony Music, Inc. which is sponsoring the *Ebony Prize*, presented for the best piano performance by a Black composer by MTNA. ♦

Guidelines for Participants and Teachers:

1. **Sign up to participate:** Any Interested performers can sign up through their teacher and complete the form provided:
2. **Preparation:** The student should be prepared musically, but memorization is not required.
3. **Performance Etiquette:** Teachers should prepare their students with essentials for performance, including how to walk on stage, what to wear, how to introduce yourself and your piece, and how to bow.
4. **Musicale Fee:** We encourage participants and their families to donate at least \$10 per participant to the DAMTA Scholarship Fund. They can do so using the Donate Link on DAMTA's website, or pay in person before the performance.
5. **Access & Participation:** Each participating teacher should take up no more than 1/3 of the program length. Musicales typically last no longer than 60 minutes.
6. **All Students Are Welcome and Supported:** Students of all ages, skill levels, and instruments are welcome to perform in our musicales. Every student, teacher, and audience member should be supportive of the other participants.
7. **Copyright Policy:** Copyright laws must be observed; all music must be an original publication, licensed for reprint, or in the public domain. Photocopying of copyrighted music is illegal.

Guidelines for Musicale

Hosts: See the Student Musicales page on DAMTA's website: <https://denvermusicteacher.com/students/>

STUDENT MUSICALES



DAMTA presents a Musicale once a month during the school year. Musicales give students of DAMTA teachers the opportunity to perform in a welcoming and supportive environment. **Students of all instruments, ages, and levels are encouraged to perform.** Masks are encouraged but not required. We also offer a livestream over Zoom for anyone who can't attend in person. Contact musicale chair, Joshua Zabatta, at JoshuaZabatta@gmail.com with any questions.

Get involved:

1. Sign students up to perform! (sign up form: <https://forms.gle/kywmjjhd3SkJw5ct6>)
2. Host or co-host/assist with a musicale.
3. Donate to DAMTA's scholarship fund.

Next Musicale: September 25, 2022, at 2:00 p.m., at Classic Pianos of Denver (1332 Broadway, Denver, CO. 80210) Hosted by: Joshua Zabatta, JoshuaZabatta@gmail.com

THEME: TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK

Performers are encouraged to collaborate with other students or teachers for this musicale. But all performers are welcome, even if their piece is unrelated to this theme.

Upcoming Musicales:

- October 23, 2022, 2:00 p.m.
- November 13, 2022, 2:00 p.m.
- December 11, 2022, 2:00 p.m.
- February 12, 2023, 2:00 p.m.
- March 12, 2023, 2:00 p.m.
- April 23, 2023, 2:00 p.m.
- May 14, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

DAMTA'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND AT WORK

September Report: Ruby Garlow

Submitted by Loretta Notareschi

Thank you very much to DAMTA for the scholarship funds for my daughter, Ruby Garlow, age 9. Ruby used them to attend The Walden School Young Musicians Program in Dublin, NH. At Walden, she took classes in instrumentation, musicianship, composition, and choir. She composed two pieces while she was there: one was an inside-the-piano piece with her musicianship classmates, and the other was for violin and kitchen bowl. She wrote out a traditional score for the violin part and a graphic score for the kitchen bowl part. In musicianship class, she also practiced the lines and spaces of the treble and bass clefs, and learned and drilled perfect fifths and perfect fourths. Besides learning music, she also participated in mountain hikes, swimming trips, and dances. Overall, it was a great three weeks. In the photo, Ruby is answering questions about her composition at the Composers Forum where it was performed.

Best,
Loretta



Submitted by Nazila Nekoerad



Iranian Music Solo Concert

Sirvan Manhoobi

Oud, Setar & Tanbour

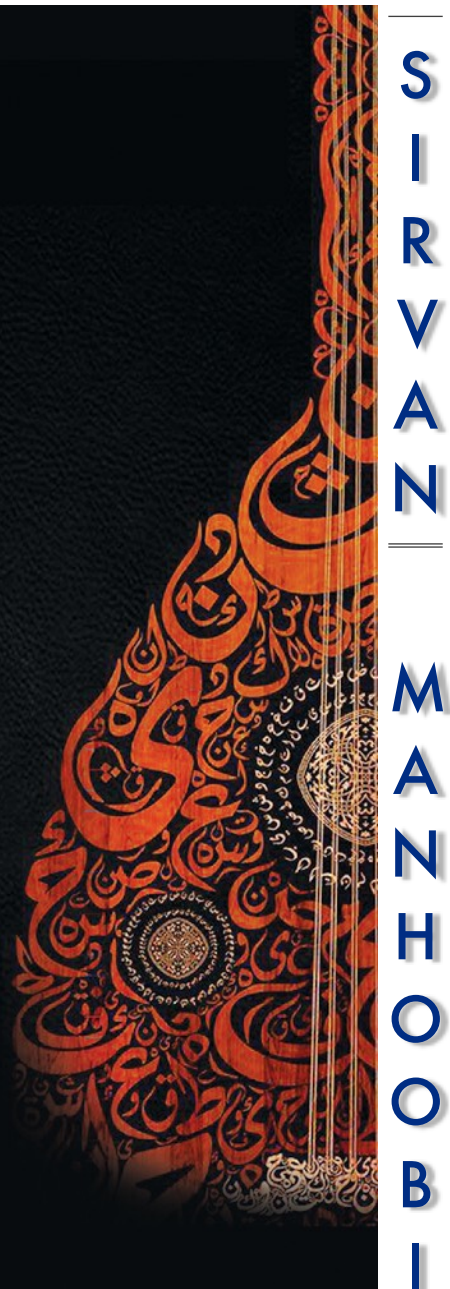
Facilitated by **DAMTA**
(Denver Area Music Teachers Association)

Saturday, September **10**, 7pm

Address: Classic Pianos, 1332 S
Broadway, Denver, Co, 80110

Email: nekoeradnazila@gmail.com

Ticket: [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)



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Mojgan Khalafi

@Mojgan-Khalafi

IN CONCERT



venmo

Those of you who attended Sirvan Manhoobi's remarkable class on Iranian Classical Music as part of DAMTA's Fall Course 2021 will know not to miss this special event!

Submitted by Betsy Nelms, Foothills MTA



ECO's 2022-2023

YOUNG ARTISTS SOLO COMPETITION

The Evergreen Chamber Orchestra is very excited to announce that our **Young Artists Solo Competition** will return for the 2022-2023 Season!

Calling all talented young musicians - would you like the **opportunity to perform a piece of your choice with the Evergreen Chamber Orchestra?** Now is your chance!

Colorado musicians of high school age or younger are encouraged to apply to audition a piece of their choice for solo instrument (or voice!) and orchestra before ECO's panel of distinguished jurors on Wednesday, September 21st, 2022 in Denver and Monday, October 10th, 2022 in Evergreen.

The jurors will provide feedback and guidance regarding execution, performance practice, and the musical interpretation of the piece.

Click the buttons below to learn more about the upcoming competition!

[About the Competition](#)

[Competition Application](#)



Looking Ahead:

JENNIFER HAYGHE
WILL PERFORM the
FLORENCE PRICE
PIANO CONCERTO

with the

PRO MUSICA
COLORADO CHAMBER
ORCHESTRA

“Apotheosis of the Dance”

Saturday, November 19, 2022, at 7:30 p.m.

Ben Morris: The Hill of Three Wishes

Florence Price: Piano Concerto in One Movement (Jennifer Hayghe, piano)

Ludwig van Beethoven: Symphony No. 7

The first concert of the season spotlights Florence Price’s Piano Concerto in One Movement. As the first African American female composer to have a symphony performed by a major orchestra, Price was well known in the 1930s and 1940s. Her music is enjoying a much deserved resurgence in recent years, and Pro Musica is proud to present the regional premiere of this concerto with soloist [Jennifer Hayghe](#). Its lively dance forms, including a juba, pair well with Beethoven’s Symphony No. 7, often called the “apotheosis of the dance.” The concert kicks off with the world premiere of *The Hill of Three Wishes* by [Ben Morris](#), the 2021 CU Composition Competition Winner.

Consider purchasing a [season membership](#), which includes two weeks of on-demand access to this concert!

Venue

Mountain View United Methodist Church
355 Ponca Place
Boulder, CO 80303

A BIG THANK YOU TO DAMTA'S GENEROUS SPONSORS!



<https://www.boulderpianogallery.com>



WOODS & SON PIANO COMPANY
<https://woodspiano.com>



<https://denver.classicpianos.net>



<https://flesherhinton.com>



<https://www.schmittmusic.com>



LAN VO PHOTOGRAPHY