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# FMTA April Newsletter

**You are invited to join our April General Meeting and Program via ZOOM!!!  
Our April 15th General Meeting will be at 9:30am.**

**We will be joined by Elizabeth Leger at 10:30.**

Her program will be “The Sensory Friendly Studio,” and will be especially helpful in this time of audio/visual lessons, which can be a trigger and over-stimulating to many students.

\*Zoom link is (copy and paste into your browser)

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/837807987>

Zoom ID is: 837-807-987

## **ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS AND TIPS**

**\*Please download Zoom at least 30 minutes before our meeting so that we will be able to start on time.**

**Device:** All you need is a computer, tablet, or smartphone with a camera and microphone connected to the internet or cellular data.

**Call in for your Meeting:** Click on the link provided. You will not need a password. OR go to zoom.us, click on JOIN A MEETING and enter the ID for the meeting.

**AUDIO:** When you enter the call you will need to turn on your audio. Even though I have unmuted everyone in my controls, for some reason you still have to manually turn it on. Make sure your video is on as well so that we can see you! **These controls are in the lower left corner of your viewing window.**

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**Echo sounds:** Video conferencing echoes are easily avoided by wearing headphones with a microphone on the cord and/or turning your volume down.

**Software:** For the best experience, install the Zoom app associated with our platform.

**Check your connection:** Streaming video is very demanding on your Internet connection. If you are on Wi-Fi, the closer you are to the router, the better.

**\*\*\*\*Reduce demand:** Encourage those around you who are on the same connection to take a break from the internet or, at least, refrain from downloading large files or streaming video during the duration of the lesson (this includes movies and games like Netflix and Xbox Live).

**\*\*\*\*Close unnecessary programs: Close down all software, apps and browser tabs on your device,** except what you need to view the lesson. This includes online storage programs that sync in the background such as Dropbox or Google Drive.

**Gallery View:** In the upper right corner you can change the view of how you see everyone on the call. You can “Spotlight” the speaker, or the person running the meeting by hovering on their video and click on the three dots-then select “Spotlight Video.”

Please text Davina if you have trouble logging in: #225-301-2058

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### **About Elizabeth Leger:**

Elizabeth Leger is a faculty member at Parlando School of Musical Arts in Boulder where she works as a private and group piano instructor as well as an administrative team member. Ms. Leger completed the M.M. in Piano Performance and Pedagogy at the University of Colorado at Boulder under the guidance of Dr. Andrew Cooperstock and Dr. Alejandro Cremaschi, and the B.M. in Piano Performance from Ithaca College in New York in the studio of Dr. Jennifer Hayghe.

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### **TAKE NOTE:**

**Our new location for future (post-COVID-19) FMTA meetings:  
Our Savior's Church @ 1975 S. Garrison St. Lakewood, CO 80227**

We will make a decision on our May Musical by the end of April, as we monitor COVID-19, and per President Trump and our governor's safety orders.

**Sonatina Festival:** We had a successful event, with 25 teachers and 97 students participating! Thank you to Evelyn Billberg for running this event!

**Register [HERE](#) for the CSMTA State Conference:**

The conference is May 28-30th at St. Andrew Methodist Church in Highlands Ranch. It is still planning to be held, but they are monitoring COVID-19 and safety precautions.

\*Our very own Past President April Larsen will be presenting.

Early bird registration is \$115 through May 1st.

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**We are in need of a few good volunteers!!! Our amazing events cannot run without help from our members!**

Here are the OPEN positions for the FMTA 2020-21 calendar year:

1. \*Winterfest Co-Chairs (two people). This event happens the last Saturday in January.
2. \*Sonatina Festival Co-Chair to work with Evelyn Billberg

Email Carrie Christensen at [carrie.pianoteacher@gmail.com](mailto:carrie.pianoteacher@gmail.com) if interested in volunteering or have questions about responsibilities involved in these positions.

**Community Outreach Chair Update:** Mark your calendars! The next Farmers Market Festival will take place at Four Seasons Farmers & Artisans Market in Wheat Ridge on Saturday, August 29th from 10 am to 2 pm. The FMTA Farmers Market Festival offers students and teachers the opportunity to perform in an atmospheric, community-based indoor settings. This is the perfect opportunity for students to gain performance experience in a non-competitive setting. Sign-up will take place at the upcoming spring member meetings. For more information, please contact Lorian Bartle at [info@BartleGuitarStudio.com](mailto:info@BartleGuitarStudio.com) or 720-353-2902.

**Website Chair Update:** If you would like to share photos of FMTA events on the FMTA website, please e-mail them to Lorian Bartle at [info@BartleGuitarStudio.com](mailto:info@BartleGuitarStudio.com). Photos of students must be accompanied with a photo release form or email granting permission for the photos to be included in on the website. Also, the end of the school year is on the horizon--event chairs, please email event dates/times/form updates for the 2020-21 calendar by July 1st.

**Do you have an announcement for the monthly newsletter? Please email [davina.perret@gmail.com](mailto:davina.perret@gmail.com) by the first of the month to have it included in the next edition.**

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# President's Corner

Dear FMTA Members,

It is interesting to read last month's message and compare it to our circumstances today. What a stark difference! I was disappointed that I was unable to attend the MTNA National Conference, but I am also excited that they are providing a virtual conference that **everyone** can enjoy. That's wonderful!

Because of our circumstances surrounding COVID-19, I know many of us have had to adjust to teaching lessons online. In the same regard, we will need to adjust our FMTA meetings to online as well. Our meeting on April 15<sup>th</sup> will be through the Zoom app. This allows you to use any device in order to participate in the meeting or you can call in from a phone as well. Please see Davina Perret's step-by-step tutorial about how to access Zoom. Elizabeth Leger has agreed to do a virtual program for us on "The Sensory-Friendly Music Teacher." This will be the program for our meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April. Please join us for this meeting. I am not a tech savvy person, but I have enjoyed learning how to use Zoom and am able to continue "socializing." I'm looking forward to what Elizabeth will teach us.

Lastly, we had our board meeting in March and have become aware of positions that need to be filled for next year. Please consider volunteering to help FMTA continue as a successful organization for music teachers and students.

I'm grateful that we as music teachers can continue to be a positive influence on our students through this trying time. I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy.

Warm Regards,  
Carrie Christensen