

2015 Elizabeth Ann Reed

Elizabeth Ann Reed was born in Lisbon, Portugal. Her parents emigrated to the U.S. when she was five years old. She holds Bachelor and Master of Music degrees in piano performance from Boston University's School for the Arts. Her principal teachers were Edith Stearns and Anthony diBonaventura. As a Rotary Foundation fellowship recipient, she studied with Gilbert Schuchter at the Internationale Hochschule für Musik in Salzburg, Austria.

She is a former faculty member of The New School of Music, Brookline Music School, South Shore Conservatory of Music and Milton Academy. Currently Ms. Reed operates a home studio in Belmont. She adjudicates throughout New England and has presented lectures for the North Shore Piano Teachers, The Schubert Club in Connecticut, Steinert's in Boston and the Connecticut Music Teachers Association.

Betty, as she is known, performs extensively as a duo-pianist with her sister, Lydia. Some of their past performances include First Night programs, the inaugural opening of the Concord Auditorium in New Hampshire, and a performance for the First Lady of Portugal. For years they collaborated with Petit Papillons, a dance company in Concord, New Hampshire. The Reed Sisters have presented family concerts in communities all over Massachusetts and New Hampshire to further their goal of creating new audiences by engaging young listeners. Both sisters take students on field trips to age-appropriate concerts as part of their curriculum. Together they have released two recordings.

A champion of contemporary music ever since her work under Theodore Antoniou at BU, Betty teaches prepared piano pieces and avant-garde compositions to students of all ages. She has invited guest composers to class lessons to introduce her students to modern, living composers. With her sister, she commissioned a two-piano piece, The Visconti-Sforza Tarot Cards by Thomas Oboe Lee.

Ms. Reed is a former writer for Clavier, having dozens of published software reviews, pupil saver columns and articles about contemporary piano music for intermediate students, setting up a motivating curriculum and how to make plans for a leave of absence from your studio. She is a member of and has started a mentoring program for NEPTA. Betty has served on the Massachusetts Music Teachers Association Board for twenty years as Newsletter Editor, President-elect, President and Chairperson for the Nancy Oliva Scholarship. She deeply appreciates and thanks her colleagues for the honor of receiving the Teacher of the Year award.