

MMTA 2020 Teacher of the Year

Ellyses Kuan



A native of Hong Kong, Ellyses began playing piano at age 3. She received a full scholarship for her master's degree, studying Piano Performance with Barry Snyder at the Eastman School of Music, and was selected to represent Hong Kong at the International Kirishima Music Festival in Japan. Among her other major teachers were Dr. Siu-Wan Chair Fang and Paul Odette. She has also performed in masterclasses by John Perry, Dang Thai Son, Malcolm Bilson, Alan Chow, Andrew Cooperstock and Jane McGrath. As a soloist and collaborator, she has performed in the Greater Boston area, New York City (NY), San Diego (CA), Salt Lake City (UT), De Pere (WI), Greensboro (NC), Toronto (CANADA), Japan and Hong Kong, and in 2017 performed at the 42nd Annual Classical Music Festival at Esterhazy Schloss (Austria). She is also a founding member of the Boston-based piano cello duo, Duo Amie (www.duoamie.org).

Aside from being an active performer, Ellyses is currently the music director of EKS Music School in Quincy, MA. In 2014, she was an invited panelist on the Boston Guitar Fest Roundtable on Entrepreneurship and Making a Career in Music Work, and her music school was featured in the Boston Globe the same year. In 2017, she was invited to speak at the Piano Seminar Teacher's Roundtable at the Classical Music Festival Eisenstadt Summer Academy. She received a Steinway & Sons Top Music Teacher award 2 years in a row in 2017 and 2018. She is also president of the Massachusetts Music Teacher Association (an affiliate of the National Music Teacher Association), pianist for the Choral Art Society of the South Shore, and piano instructor at Milton Academy and Noble and Greenbough School.