

MMTA TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2011 DR. NILLY SHILO



Dr. Nilly Epstein Shilo (D.M.A., M.M., B.A.) earned her undergraduate degree and Artist Diploma with distinction from the Rubin Academy of Music in Tel Aviv. Deeply inspired by her Prague-born piano teacher, Frank Pelleg - a known pianist and harpsichordist, and a student of Wanda Landowska - she was fortunate to study the music of Bach and Mozart with a true master. The winner of the America-Israel Cultural Foundation Competition, she appeared in solo and chamber recitals, and performed in master-classes and seminars with artists such as Gina Bachauer, Isaac Stern, Leonard Bernstein and Claude Frank. Upon her arrival in the U.S. in 1980, she continued her studies at Boston University, receiving a Master's and Doctoral degree in Piano Performance.

Nilly joined the Massachusetts Music Teachers Association in 1995 and has been a board member since 1998. She has helped organize various events, including the 1999 and 2003 State Conferences, and served as the MTNA Competitions Chair from 1998 until 2005. She became MMTA President in 2006. In addition, she has been active in the New England Piano Teachers Association for many years and served as the NEPTA Intermediate II Recital Chair. She is currently a board member of the Concord Area Music Teachers Association and the CAMSA Honors Recital Chair. She is also a frequent judge in piano competitions throughout New England, New York, and New Jersey.

Nilly maintains a private studio in Newton, MA. She enjoys teaching, and her students include winners of numerous piano competitions. They have performed both as soloists and with orchestras in major venues such as Merkin Hall, Steinert Hall, Killian Hall, and Carnegie Hall.

Outside of her professional life, Nilly enjoys poetry, cooking, gardening, and a good book. She is the mother of two children, Karen and Dan.