

Molly Morrison



Molly Morrison is a true Montanan, born in St Ignatius at the base of the magnificent Mission Mountains, and growing up in Plains. She began music lessons in 3rd grade when her family received a 1904 Brambach piano and many boxes of wonderful old sheet music from her grandmother's estate. Her early piano studies were with a local teacher, Florence McClenahan. When she decided to formally pursue music in college, she was 30 years old and as she says, "naïve". She remembers auditioning to study with Dennis Alexander at UM looking like a nature loving "granola" wearing her hiking boots! She went on to study with him at UM, receiving her undergraduate degree in Piano Performance with an emphasis in Piano Pedagogy. She continued her studies at Arizona State with Robert Hamilton (solo performance) and Lois McCleod (accompanying) and served as a teaching assistant in accompanying. There she received her Master's in Music in Piano Performance with an emphasis in piano accompanying and received the highest music honor awarded by the keyboard faculty.

Molly has been a member of the Music Teacher's National Association (MTNA) since 1984 and is a nationally certified teacher of music. Locally, she has served the Missoula Music Teachers Association (MMTA) as President, Spring Festival Co-coordinator, Scholarship Chair, and Program Chair. At the state level, she has served as President, Librarian/Workshops Chair, Independent Music Teacher Forum Chair and Fall Festival Adjudicator. And at the national level, she has served as NW Division Adjudicator, and as NW Division Certification Chair during which she assisted in the re-writing of the national certification standards. Molly is a familiar presence around the state having adjudicated spring festivals, district festivals and state festivals in many communities and in having presented numerous workshops for her fellow teachers.

Molly teaches students of all ages with a particular focus on adult students.

Her goals in teaching are to: explore the basic elements of music through the study of piano, to inspire a love and curiosity about all kinds of music and through self-discipline, to instill a heightened sense of pride and accomplishment in the skills one develops thereby developing artistry rather than just note reading.