

2007 Joan Garniss, NCTM

Joan Garniss, NCTM, received Bachelor and Masters degrees from Boston University. She studied with Alexander Borovsky, Louis Cornell, and accompanying/coaching with Ludwig Bergman and David Blair McCloskey. She later studied with Andrew Wolf, Benjamin Pasternak and Anthony di Bonaventura, as well as jazz at Berklee College with Paul Schmeling.

Joan maintained a private studio in Waltham, MA for many years, retiring in 2011. She is a frequent evaluator throughout New England, both for competitions and evaluations. Joan served two terms as President of the Massachusetts Music Teachers Association and was on the Board of the New England Piano Teachers Association. She has retired as accompanist at UMASS/Lowell and is one half of the Duo con Anima. The Duo has performed throughout New England, both four hands and two pianos. In 2001 they released a CD of two piano music, "En blanc et noir", and in 2010 released a compilation of live performances, "Duo con Anima Live!", both on the HiRoc label. They were regular performers for 35 years in the First Parish Lexington Summer Concert Series, in Maine and Connecticut, and appeared in the Steinway Concert Artist series. Joan is a member of Pi Kappa Lambda.

In 2014 MMTA honored her as an Outstanding Member not only for her accomplishments, but also for her devoted presence as a volunteer and leader.