

## **Biography**

Amy Mitani started her piano studies in Sendai, Japan. She acquired her Bachelor of Arts in Music from the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, studied piano performance and pedagogy under Dr. Ann Gipson, and was a winner of OMTA Collegiate Piano Competition. Later, she acquired her Master's in Music from Portland State University, studied piano performance with Dr. Carol Rich, and received intensive pedagogy training from Professor Mary Kogen. While pursuing her degree, she taught college courses for music majors.

After that, she became fascinated with Latin rhythms and Jazz harmonies that she dove into discovering Latin Jazz, studying with a Grammy Award winning Latin-Jazz/Salsa pianist, Christian Tumulán which influenced her to perform with various Latin bands in San Francisco. Currently, she is further exploring Jazz Piano Skills with Dr. Bob Lawrence in Dallas.

Her passion is collaborating with other musicians from diverse backgrounds and she has been performing in a variety of cultural experiences: Broadway musical productions, various ensembles, piano duos, accompanying solo competitions, and gigging with Latin Jazz, Salsa, Cumbia, and Reggae bands.

Ms. Mitani is a performer, educator, and adjudicator to guide students to become well-rounded musicians who are able to express themselves through music in a unique, creative way to enrich their lives and give voice to which they have no words for. She has nearly 30 years of teaching experience in Japan, Oklahoma, Oregon and California, and then in Texas and online since 2012. She is a member of MTNA, TMTA, and PMTA and a founder of Mitani Music, helping young and adult students to experience the joy of music.

Awards and certification:

*2007 Most Dedicated Teacher* from Joyful Melodies Music School in Cupertino, California

*2016 Steinway & Sons Top Music Teacher* from Steinway and Sons New York

*2018 Best of Lessons.com*

*2022 Kawai Medallion Educator* from Kawai Piano Gallery

*Yamaha Teaching Certificate in Japan*

*Approved Plano ISD accompanist for solo competitions*

*Steinway Educational Partner*

Links: [Mitani Music Website](#)  
[Mitani Music Facebook](#)  
[Mitani Music YouTube channel](#)  
[Steinway Teacher](#)

updated January 2022