

MARCH NEWSLETTER



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In This Month's Newsletter:

- What happens over the summer?
- Important Dates
- Did You Read Your Newsletter Contest
- Student of the Month - Surina P.
- Welcome To Our New Students!
- Teacher of the Month - Austin Smith
- Monthly Referral Contest
- Waiting List
- Did You Know?



Did You Read Your Newsletter Contest!

Mar 2019

To increase readership of the MMA Newsletter, each month we'll feature a new contest winner or a new contest.

Be sure to read your newsletter each month to see if your name has been drawn or you might miss out!

This month's winner is

The Lin Family!

You can win \$15.00 free music retail from Spectrum Music in Lexington on 1844 Mass Ave!

To redeem your prize just bring this to the store and spend a minimum of \$15 for the discount. Limit one coupon per family per year.

Be sure to read our newsletter each month!



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MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

School Open
March 17
(St. Patrick's Day)

School Closed
April 15-21
(School will be open by appointment if needed for snow day make-ups)

School Open
May 25-26

School Closed
May 27
Memorial Day

School Closed
July 4
Independence Day

How Does the Summer Work?

In Feb. we surpassed 70 students in Greater Lexington for the first time.

If you've tried to make a schedule change you've seen first hand how busy things are at the Academy.

Each Spring I often get asked these questions:

Q. "How do lessons work in the summer?"

A. The Academy is open year round, and we do not close during the summer.

Q. Do a lot of students quit during the summer?

A. June is a very popular enrollment month for music lessons. While some students do withdraw, based on industry trends, we expect a huge influx of students in June and many will continue into the fall and beyond.

Q. How Popular is the Academy?

A. Many teachers are sold out between the hours of 3:00-8:30 p.m. As a result, many of our most popular instruments are getting harder to schedule in the limited space we have at the church, in particular.



Q. If we withdraw for the summer, can we keep our spot for Fall?

A. Lessons are first come first serve, so if you withdraw for the summer, we cannot guarantee that we will have a spot for you in the fall, as we will open the spot to new students.

The big question for all parents and students to consider is:

Do you want to stay with the same teacher in the Fall?

If the answer is YES there are 2 ways to do this:

1. Take advantage of our summer make up lessons

We realize that some of you will go on vacation for a portion of the summer. By signing up for the summer make ups, you can make up your lessons and keep the same teacher and spot for fall. There is no limit to the number of make-ups!

It's very easy to do:

E mail Daniel at lessons@maestromusicians.com to request the make-up calendar. If you don't know the dates yet, you can let us know anytime during the summer. **GET A HEAD START!** You can start making up lessons for the summer in advance starting ASAP!

2. Sub lease your spot to a family or friend.

You can send a family member or friend in your place for the dates you will miss. Just let the office know who is coming in your place and when. Make sure that they reimburse you directly for the lessons. **If you are taking summer lessons and need a specific time for Fall, please contact me around late July and I will do my best to accommodate you.**

Recital Prep Ideas

1. Before a concert, eat a good meal but avoid sugar and caffeine

2. If you are a singer, avoid dairy as well

3. Some people do well practicing right up until they practically go on stage. Others need time away from their instrument. Do what feels best!

4. Remember that your ultimate reason for performing is to share beauty, joy, emotions, and ideas - not to show how perfect you can play!

5. Think about and decide what story the music is telling. There are no wrong answers!

Please welcome the NEW students who enrolled since our last newsletter!

- Jin L.
- Daksh M.
- Cody A.
- Sasha G.
- Zachary L.
- Lea L.
- Helene Y.
- Emily S.
- Liam G.
- Sophie G.
- Nicholas J.

Did You Know?!

Czech composer Leoš Janáček (1854-1928) was fascinated with animal sounds and incorporated them into his pieces. His music is heavily influenced by Czech folk songs and language.



Teacher of the Month - Austin Smith

1. What do you love the most about teaching?

Teaching is a learning process for myself as well as my students. I'm always learning new ways to explain musical concepts and techniques to students of all ages. This puts me in a constant process of discovery where I am able to delve deeper into the fundamentals of music and be in the best position possible to help any student gain a thorough understanding of musical materials. It is an endlessly rewarding experience.



2. How do you inspire your students to practice more?

I believe I inspire my students to practice with my passion for music. Students each week and share my experiences as a performer and composer. When a person speaks with someone who truly embodies their work it is impossible not to feel some of that energy rub off on you. Students come to me interested in the mysteries of music and when I tell them about all of the wonders that lie ahead for them, if they remain diligent in their practice, they dig deep and work hard.

3. What part do you feel that the recital experience plays in a student's development?

Having recitals for students brings them into a professional environment.

They get to take center stage and showcase all of their hard work. It gives them the opportunity to rise to challenges that appear when performing in front of a crowd and this builds a tremendous sense of confidence. The lessons learned from recitals helps prepare a person to confront the many difficulties life presents.

4. What is your favorite type of music?

I truly love all styles of music from Rock to Jazz and Hip Hop to Country. While I love all the different musical genres I spend the most time listening and studying Classical music.

5. Tell me about an ensemble that you are playing in!

Most recently I have been performing with the Kat Kennedy Band. I just recorded the guitar parts for her new album, Drifting, this past September. Currently she just released her third single of the album called "Sound The Alarm". Kat has recently moved to LA so we are not performing as often as we were in the past, however we will be playing this summer on the main stage at the Boston Pride Festival.

6. If you could give a quick tip to piano students, what would it be?

Here are a few tips I still remind myself of.

1. Don't judge yourself from day to day. Look in the mirror month to month because musical growth takes longer periods of time.
2. Stay diligent with your practice. Sometimes it might feel like you aren't making progress when you are tackling difficult material, but trust me, you are. As long as you are working hard and have the right guidance, improvement is inevitable.
3. Don't compare yourself to other musicians. Compare yourself to the musician you were yesterday.

Student of the Month - Surina P.

1. What instrument do you play/sing?

I play the piano and I take singing lessons.

2. How long have you been taking lessons at Maestro Musicians?

I started at the beginning of this school year.

3. What are your other hobbies besides music?

I am a part of my middle school musical, softball, and I dance.

4. Do You Have a Favorite food?

Brownie Sundae

5. Who is your favorite artist?

I like a lot of different artists. Katy Perry and Adele are two of them.

6. What is the coolest thing you have learned in your music lessons in the last 3 months?

I guess learning that you have to exercise your mouth to sing!

7. Do you have any performances coming up?

The Diamond musical, Annie, is in March.



Waiting List!

Due various teachers being sold out on given days, the following students are on our waiting list:

- Kinshuk R.
- Sebastian S.
- Nele J.



Monthly Referral Contest!

Do your neighbors have kids?

Tell them about our program and if they sign up for a month, you win a free lesson!

Make sure that they fill in this online form at <https://maestromusicians.com/refer-a-friend/>

