

Musicians in the Making

MUSIK
GARTEN and Piano Instruction
West Windsor & Plainsboro, NJ
www.musiciansinthemaking.com 609-750-0600



Notes and News!

Spring 2010



From the Director:

As trees and flowers start to bloom, it reminds me of our youngest students, who also blossom in the spring. Babies, barely babbling in the fall are now keeping time with the music, even echoing short tunes! Toddlers play rhythm instruments with joy and confidence; preschoolers show increased language skills and musical awareness. Rhythm and tonal notation is coming alive for Kindergarteners and 1st graders. Fall enrollment will start soon. This spring why not sprout your own “money tree” with Early Enrollment Earnings – up to \$100! (Details on website) Plan now to nurture the growth that’s showing. Happy Springtime!

Linda Triebel

Important Dates

Registration for 10-11 school year starts soon

May 16 wk: Spring Semester ends

May 23 wk: Make up week for any teacher cancellations

Large Demo Class Featured in Spring Preview - Our Third Annual Musikgarten Spring Preview for area teachers was on April 10. Ten music teachers, (including two of our own, as well as two from Connecticut!) learned about the joy and advantages of teaching Musikgarten. Mrs. Fields did a great job of presenting to the attendees, in addition to teaching the demo class for observation. A hearty thank you goes to the ten participating MitM families.

COMING EVENTS: Spring Piano Recitals, Sunday, June 6th, 2:30 and 4:00pm at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. Come hear our piano students in their end-of-the-year performance!

MUSIKGARTEN CLASS REPORTS

Family Music – Mrs. Eng

This class is such a joy to teach! The children really catch on quickly and enjoy doing repeated activities with the instruments. They are enjoying singing about birds and trains. Their absolute favorite though is any type of dancing, especially if it involves jumping. We keep the energy levels up and moving with these active music makers!

The Cycle of Seasons – Mrs. Fields

Singing games encourage individual singing; in “Down Comes Johnny” the students in this class love singing their answers to “Who’s got the money (or the key)?” demonstrating their growing confidence and beautiful voices. As the season changed from winter to spring, we changed to a new CD and listening cards!

Music Makers...

...At Home in the World – Mrs. Fields

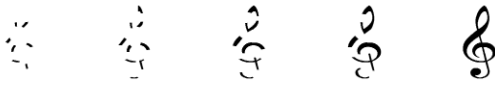
After a fun time in The Cattail Marsh, we are now exploring The Meadow, where we met a host of noisy insects, and their music counterparts: the stringed instruments. Soon we will be reading the notation for patterns we are singing in songs such as Mouse, Mousie and Steeple Bells.

...Around the World – Mrs. Fields

African American music was fun – singing “Mary Mack” with body percussion, using resonator bars to accompany “Wata Come a’ Me Eye” (imitating Caribbean steel drums), dancing the Charleston with Louis Armstrong’s “Over the Waves.” Now in Germany, we’ve already studied Mr. Bach, and even played a real pipe organ!

KCCNS – Mrs. DiGioia

Our classes at Kids Corner are going very well. During all of the classes the children love using the instruments and scarves and are eager to sing, dance and play along with me. In all of the age groups, the children are able to echo basic rhythm and tonal patterns in one large group. Most of the children are matching pitch and are also correctly repeating rhythm patterns. The favorite activity for all classes is the listening sounds and their favorite song is “The Three Little Kittens”. The children also love to make scarf flower gardens for their teachers!



Musicians in the Making



and

Piano Instruction

West Windsor & Plainsboro, NJ

www.musiciansinthemaking.com 609-750-0600

Notes and News!

Spring 2010

Piano

From the Director:

Congratulations to those students who have participated in the many Spring Festival events. They are all to be commended for their fine performances! We are looking forward to exciting events ahead - the Composition Contest and our end-of-year Recital. Please watch for news regarding summer lessons and re-registration for 2010-2011.

Haney Merkel

Important Dates

- May 1:** Deadline for entering the Composition contest
- May 1:** Piano Interview sign up: Music Maker Yr. 2 students
- May 15:** Piano Interview sign up open to the public
- May 31:** Studio closed for Memorial Day
- May 31-June 4:** Make up Week #2
- June 3:** Piano recital rehearsals at Prince of Peace church
- June 6:** Spring Recitals at 2:30 and 4:00pm
- June 7 & 8:** Piano Placement Interviews
- June 8:** Summer Piano lessons start
- June 14 – July 1:** Piano Prep camp (Mon & Thurs 4:30pm)



You are invited: Come and enjoy An Evening of Fantasies: Miss Vickie's Graduate Piano Recital Sunday, **May 9th, 2010, 7:00PM**, Bristol Chapel, Westminster Choir College, 101 Walnut Lane, Princeton, NJ 08540. Featuring:

- Bach - Chromatic Fantasy and Fugue
- Mozart - Fantasy in c-minor, K. 396
- Brahms - Fantasy in d-minor, Op. 116
- Mendelssohn - Fantasy in f#-minor, Op. 28
- Chopin - Fantasy in f-minor, Op. 49
- Wilberg/Bizet - Fantasy on Themes from Bizet's Carmen for Two Pianos, 8 Hands (featuring Rebecca Leshures, Ben Houghton and Anthony Baron)

PIANO CLASS REPORTS

Beginners – Mrs. Topham

These girls have completed their goal of practicing 500 days collectively! This dedication to practicing shows in their ability to perform their favorite pieces in the first half of Music Tree Book 1. They have learned how to move their fingers, wrists, and arms to make different sounds, and can interpret all the notes and markings on the page to make beautiful music on the piano. In the next few weeks these girls will show off their skills by playing duets with each other!

Advanced Beginners – Miss Vickie

The boys are having a great time learning triplets, scales, feature pieces, musical terms and much, much more! Their practicing has improved drastically with our new incentive to reach 500 checkmarks for a pizza party at the end of the year! Please continue to support them as they work hard to reach their goal! You can do it, boys!

Intermediate Repertoire – Mrs. Topham

This class continues to enjoy exploring the fun sounds of the Twentieth Century by creating music using parts of the piano other than the keyboard. They have also composed a piece of chance music as a class which was accompanied by a lot of laughter! They continue to improve their dictation and note reading skills through singing, writing, and the ever-popular note naming races. In the next few weeks each student will play a different piece composed in the 20th Century as well as prepare for the end of the year recitals.

Advanced Repertoire – Mrs. Topham

The clock in the classroom has been turned into a circle of fifths, and this class can interpret what that means. Each student is working on learning the scales, key signatures, and chord progressions for all 12 keys. This class is also working on setting poetry to music. This means determining the time signature and dictating the rhythm of the poem as well as choosing a key, creating a melody, and adding accompaniment. These students are beginning to truly understand the dedication it takes to compose a great piece of music.

Performance Classes – Ms. Lehrer

The March performance classes were exciting to hear. All the students have grown so much throughout the year and their accomplishments shined in each performance. The April class will be a masterclass with my mother, Phyllis Lehrer, teaching the class.

What About Summer? Summer lessons are available for currently enrolled students. Fall 10 Beginners should save Mondays and Thursdays at 4:30, June 14-July 1 for Piano Prep Camp! For more info visit our website or look for the brochures in our studio!