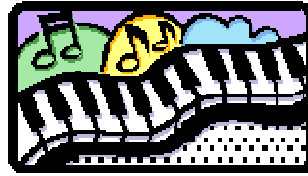


Cedar Valley Music Academy

www.cvmusicacademy.com



*Lucinda M. Lear, NCTM
Nationally Certified
Teacher of Piano and Voice*

New Season of Music

- New Books!
- New Programs
- New Instruments!
- New Faces!
- New Opportunities!

It's always fun to get new things and throughout the summer many updates to the studio and technology has been made. It is exciting to welcome new students, returning students, students young and old, and those rediscovering music after a relocation. Communication is a

HIGH priority with me, so please email, call, leave messages, write notes and I will do all I can to make you or your child successful at music study and enjoy making music for a lifetime!

The next best most exciting event we have is the Clavinova Festival. If you are not participating, then please come on October 20 for the Keyboard Orchestra concert at 5:00 p.m. in the lobby of the Gallagher-Bluedorn PAC. (See article on page 3 for more de-

tails)

There is a smorgasbord of musical events so take time now to decide which you can do and make music come alive each day in the life of your student and in YOURS! Have the time of your life—Play Piano!!



lmllear@mchsi.com

September 2007

Special points of interest:

- *Clav FUN Fest at GBPAC is October 20.*
- *October Monthly Tuition due October 1*

Practice Tips—Starting out Strong!

September is National Piano Month and to start our year out strong, each student has been given a practice challenge.

The best way to be consistent with practice is to pick a time that can be set aside each day for practice.

A specific time each day will produce a habit that will help to make your student successful at their music study. A weekly goal has been set for each student and a door has been given to use as a reminder of that time. At the end of Septem-

ber, students who have been able to meet their weekly practice goal will be able to select a reward from the Academy store. Points will be totaled for each group and a "traveling" trophy awarded to that group.

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Where playing music is fun & smart

Opportunities Abound

Music is a living part of our lives. When students pay tuition to CVMA, those fees include privileges to a number of contest opportunities through the Iowa Federation of Music Clubs and the Iowa Music Teachers Association. These opportunities go well beyond performance. All students are encouraged to take advantage of as many of these as meets their goals. Here are just a few:

- ◇ Write a music essay on "Music...A Sound Foundation for Life" A \$50 award for the winning essay in grades 3-6 AND 7-12. Entry deadline is Feb. 1—no entry fee
- ◇ Write your own composition. Entries are judged by age categories: Under age 9, ages 10-12, 13-15 and 16-18. Winning entries in each category received \$20 cash prize. Entry deadline is January 22 —Entry fee of \$6.50
- ◇ Perform in the Clavinova Fun Fest! (see article on p. 3)
- ◇ Play in Christmas Recital at Friendship Village, Waterloo (December 13)
- ◇ Play in Christmas Recital at CVMA (Date TBA)
- ◇ Compete in IMTA Pre-College Piano Auditions—February 5 at GBPAC. Entry Deadline is January 5—Entry fee of \$15.00
- ◇ Perform in Federation Festivals and earn points and ratings—February 23 at Central Christian Church, Waterloo. Entry deadline is January 19—Entry fee of \$15.00
- ◇ Participate in spring ensemble recital (ALL, please) at CVMA (Date TBA)

Write these opportunities in your calendar and plan around these music activities in the same way you plan for sports activities or school programs. Some students have already expressed interest in performance opportunities and pieces are in the process of being memorized for those.

Groups—Day and Time

KE Kids 3—Monday 4:00-4:45

Simi Mitra & Lauren Harter

KE Kids 2—Wednesday 3:30-4:15

Alex Gudgeon & Natalie Harris

Music for Little Mozarts—

Level 1: Wednesday 2:45-3:30

Corinne Gudgeon & Jona Hogle

KE Kids 1—Monday 5:00-5:15

Benjamin Paxson
Emily McVicker

KE Kids 1—Wednesday 4:30-5:15

Madison Harris
Megan Fritz

Alfred Level 2A—Thursday 6:30-7:15

Seth Harwood
Daniel McVicker

Hal Leonard, Level 1—

Wednesday 5:30 -6:15

Nathaniel Harwood
Alexander Paxson

PERFORMANCE MONTHS:

October—Autumn/Clav pieces

December—Christmas Songs

February—Festival songs (2)

April— Duets/original compositions /ensembles

Those that are in private lessons will be asked to join with a group once a month for these performance classes.

Clav Fest Piano Ensemble Concert Practice Schedule. If you are involved in one of these pieces, please make note of the times and dates. Practices will take place on **Tuesday's, October 2, 9, 16** at the Academy and **Friday, October 19** at GBPAC:

6:30-6:45 – Sailor Jack
6:45-7:00 – Party Cat
7:00-7:15 – Basketball Bounce
7:15-7:30 – Sport of Kings
7:30-7:45 – Calypso Cat
7:45-8:00 – Joe's Walk
8:00-8:15 – Rock-a-My-Soul
8:15-8:30 – A Minor Contribution

8:30-8:45 – May There Always Be
8:45 – 9:00 – Hopak
9:00-9:15 – Court of Lions

Singers of every range are needed for a volunteer choir on May There Always Be—Sign up with me!

Studio UPDATE

It has been a summer of renewing and updating my teaching skills as I attended first, the Iowa Music Teachers Association convention in June at Luther College. It was at this convention that I received the IMTA Distinguished Service Award for 2007.

Then off to Salt Lake City where I represented the state of Iowa as it's president at the National Federation of Music Clubs convention. This organization has much to offer ALL ages in monetary awards and I would LOVE to see more of my students take advantage of these opportunities in composition, performance, and even essay writing!

In August I immersed myself in technology as I attended the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy in Oak Brook, IL I purchased a couple of new teaching software programs and renewed my commitment to harnessing 21st century power and technology to teach age-old concepts.

Finally, it was off to Minneapolis to take a two-day intensive training on the music notation pro-

gram, Finale! I have at least one student using this software to compose and plans to enter her composition into three different contests.

When coming for lessons, I suggest you use the West door to the lower level (across from Fareway) and come down the hallway past Dr. Zwanzinger's office. I am working with management with my schedule, but you might find the South entrance locked if arriving or picking up after 5:30. If you experience difficulties getting in during teaching hours, try the CVS pharmacy entrance and/or call my cell at 290-8465. I would appreciate knowing when and if you find the doors locked and cannot get in.

The website is undergoing some updating, but that should be a good resource for upcoming Academy activities.

Be sure to review the Academy policy sheet that your signature was required on and as always, please call if you have any questions or concerns at all.

I am looking forward to a fantastic fall!

Clavinova FUN Fest—October 20 @ GBPAC

The Yamaha and West Music sponsored Clavinova FUN Fest is set for October 20.

This is a creative outlet for students to use the features of the Yamaha Clavinova in their choice of performance materials. Students can play with a pre-packaged accompaniment disk, make up their own tracks, create a sound story by using the 400+ sounds available to them, or just join with other students in an ensemble performance. Any song is acceptable and students should have selected their solo or ensemble part to learn. This song will be a primary focus during lessons in

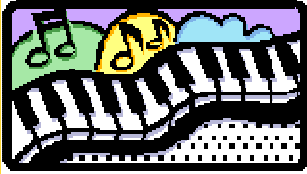
September and October.

Entry forms with students chosen solo recital time on that Saturday of either 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1:30 p.m. 3:00 p.m. need to be turned in ASAP. Students can also be chosen to play in the 5:00 p.m. Finale Ensemble concert. If your child is playing in the Final Ensemble concert they will need to be available to practice Friday night before the Clav Fest and also the Tuesdays before Festival—Oct. 2, 9 and 16 (see schedule on opposite page). ALL entrants will be eligible for the give-away drawing of a new Yamaha

CLP Digital piano and receive a free t-shirt, pen, wrist band and participation certificate.

All students from the youngest to adults (even family members) can participate. We need a volunteer choir of all parts so volunteer and your name can be added to the Clavinova giveaway. For a practice schedule of ensemble pieces see opposite page.

Write this date on your calendars ASAP and come on that Saturday at 5:00 p.m. to hear 8 Clavinovas in an Ensemble Concert with Guest conductor and composer, Susan Ogilvy.



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