

Piano News

December 2011

Monday, January 2 – Lessons Resume!

I hope everyone has had a wonderful Christmas and winter break... maybe a few students have practiced a little! Lessons start back in on Monday – even though the Mead school district is still on vacation. A few Monday students have re-scheduled their lessons on that date; so if you have done so, please keep track of the new time. I am really looking forward to seeing everyone again – and Duke and all the kitties have missed getting the extra attention from the students!

Group Lesson Assignment Changes

The group lesson assignments (which were made in August) need a bit of adjustment in order for the groups to offer an outstanding experience for all the students. There have been some studio changes since then, and a few students would do better if they were in a different group – to accommodate for advancing skills, and to work around schedule issues.

I will be publishing a new group lesson assignment chart in the next 2 weeks. There are only 2 groups left in this school year: February 6/7 and April 30/May 1. It is my goal to place students within their age and ability levels. I truly want them to be in an ideal learning situation with other students who can become their “piano friends”!

Adjudications

We’re going into high gear for Adjudications preparation! Most students have one of their two pieces already well learned, so it’s just a matter of polishing up the 2nd piece. Remember each student will be playing two pieces from memory. Of course you can count on me to provide LOTS of opportunity to perform prior to the event:

- Group Lessons on February 6 & 7
- Mini Recital at Steinway Piano Gallery on Saturday February 25
- Surprise “Recording Lessons” tossed in along the way (I love using my audio recorder and my HD video recorder, too!)

I will have the exact dates and times by the 2nd week of February. Adjudications students will NOT have regular lessons the week of adjudications. We’ll all be learning new things from the guest adjudicators! Although as you read below, I will be using this week to make up a few missed lessons as time allows.

Music Library

I will be doing a mid-year music inventory in order to keep track of my music library materials. You will receive a separate email listing all of the music I show “checked-out” to your student(s). Some of this music they will be currently using, but there may be a few books that have been forgotten about. You can usually tell my library materials by looking for the card ‘pocket’ on the back of the book. Sometimes I misplace or incorrectly file the music, but would appreciate everyone taking a look. Watch for that email to come!

Calendar Change – Trip to New York for MTNA Conference

Some of you may recall that I was tentatively planning to attend the MTNA (Music Teachers National Association) conference in NY in March.... then was unable to go. But I have received an unexpected bonus from my family and now have the ability to attend! It’s very, very exciting – especially in that I have never been to New York before! But this will mean some lesson calendar changes. So:

- I will be gone from Thursday, March 22 thru Friday, March 30
 - The following week is Spring Break – **THERE WILL BE REGULAR LESSONS DURING SPRING BREAK – unless you are out of town.**

Calendar Change – Trip to New York for MTNA Conference (cont)

- I am happy to re-arrange lesson times to earlier in the day that week if it is convenient for you, but otherwise regular lesson times will apply;
- I will confirm EVERY student regarding this change
- Thursday & Friday students will be missing 2 weeks of lessons.
 - I would like to make up one of these lessons during Adjudications week if at all possible – but will not know the schedule until the 2nd week of February.
 - I will personally confirm each student as to his or her schedule for making up this lesson.

And as always – there will be LOTS of reminders about the date and time changes coming up. Please contact me if you have any concerns.

In the meantime – I would LOVE your recommendations about seeing the sights in NY!

Calendar Reminders:

Group Lessons

- Monday & Tuesday February 6 & 7
- Assignments to be published by January 8

Mini - Recitals

- Saturday, February 25, 2011
- Steinway Piano Gallery
- 1:30 2:30 3:30 p.m.

If you would like to request a specific performance time, please let me know by February 17. I am more than happy to accommodate for your schedule when possible.

MusicFest Northwest Entry Deadline (watch for information in January)

Thursday, March 1

Adjudications

State Recitalist Competition
Sunday, March 4
Whitworth University Music Building

Educational Performances
Monday, March 5 thru Thursday March 8
Exact date & Time TBA

MTNA Conference – NYC

No lessons Thursday March 22 thru Friday March 30

Spring Break

Monday – Friday, April 2 – 6
Regular lessons this week unless you are out of town – everyone will be contacted!

Spring Recital

Thursday May 10
Mt Spokane High School Theatre
4:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m

Musicfest Northwest

Monday – Friday May 14 – 18
Entry Deadline March 1