



Talent Education Suzuki School

December 2011 Newsletter

♪ Notes ♪

Happy Holidays to all of our families! Hard to believe the year is almost over...

Congratulations to all of our students, who performed so beautifully in the November recitals. Performance is truly the best motivation for continued practice and progress - no one performs more than TESS students!

The 50 Days of Practice Party from the fall is scheduled for Sunday, December 18th from 3-4pm. Head over to Norwalk City Hall afterwards for a Holiday Music Celebration at 4:30pm with the Norwalk Youth Symphony (free!). If you haven't turned in your practice card please do so immediately! The next 50 Days of Practice will begin on January 2 when we return from the holiday break.

We're making another collage: during the holidays, send us a picture of a performance at a family or holiday gathering! The photo should show the performer and the instrument, and if possible some of the audience. Please send a caption with the photo for accurate labeling.

Our Scholarship demands are greater than ever, and the challenge of raising the funds has never been greater given today's challenging economy. We have received two new requests for scholarship since the last newsletter went out! Many thanks to UBS, Fairfield County Bank and HBO for recent donations to the Fund as well as 32 TESS families (and counting!). We appreciate all of the support we've gotten and hope that you will consider us for a year-end donation. Tax deductible donations can be brought or mailed to the school, and checks should be made payable to the TESS Parent's Association.

This Saturday is the last day to register before the late fee kicks in! If you can't make it to TESS to drop it off, please put it in the mail! The exception are the beginning families who started mid-term and have been given their own registration period. You should have received your registration forms in your private lessons this week. We are adding an improv orchestra for violinists and cellists books 2-4 on Saturdays - the ScatCats! Please contact Becki for details.

The Norwalk Symphony Orchestra is giving a holiday concert on Saturday, December 17 at 5:00pm at Norwalk Concert Hall. There are five special guest musicians - flute, violin, piano, soprano and tenor - joining the orchestra for this musical celebration. Tickets are available online at www.norwalksymphony.org.

Keep Twinkling!
Becki

November Graduations



Congratulations to cellists Auden Masotta and Ivey Rao, who both graduated from book 1 and study with Mr. Justing. Andrew Qin, Harry Graney-Green and Beatrice Low all graduated from violin book 3. Andrew studies with Miss Jennifer, and Harry and Beatrice study with Ms. Becki. Travis Stuart (shown here) and Drishti Soni graduated from guitar book 1, and both students study with Mr. Jesse. Mrs. Marija's students, Justin Chau and Emma St. Raymond, graduated from piano book 1 and book 3, respectively. Congratulations to all!

Student Profile



Sarah Mitchell is an Advanced violin student at TESS. She has played the violin for about 10 years and is in Miss Becki's studio. She is a junior at Norwalk High School. Sarah likes music, because it is creative. She also likes to play the pieces she has learned. Sarah says that practicing is hard and can be boring but is worth it when you sound good. She thinks studying music has made her a better student at school and has improved her ability to memorize. She plays violin in her high school orchestra and in the Principal Orchestra of the Norwalk Youth Symphony. In junior high she performed in the Fairfield County Strings Honors Orchestra. Often she plays in church or for her family. Her brothers play piano, and in the past she has played with them as well. Sarah likes to read and write, cook, listen to music and watch movies.

Calendar Notables

We are CLOSED the week before Christmas and the week between Christmas and New Year's. We reopen on Monday, January 2 according to the FALL TERM schedule. Winter Term schedule begins Monday, January 30.

Weather Closings

Just a reminder - we try to stay open in all kinds of weather! Because roads are typically cleared by the time lessons begin, please check your email or the school's recorded message at 203.956.6708 to find out if we are open. Individual teachers who travel farther may find it necessary to cancel even if the school stays open and will contact their students individually. All private lessons cancelled due to inclement weather will be made up according to our standard make-up policy. Unfortunately, group classes cannot be made up.

2011 TESS Calendar

Thurs. Dec. 1	SoNo Tree Lighting Performance, 5:30-6:00, 50 Washington Street, v/c/f/g/p
Sat. Dec. 10	Music for Youth Violin Concert and Free Masterclass
Sat. Dec. 17	Graduation Recitals
Mon. Dec. 19	Holiday Break, CLOSED
Sun. Dec. 25	Christmas Senior Center Concert Community Performance, v/c/f/g/p
Mon. Jan. 2	OPEN
Sat. Jan. 7	Music for Youth String Quartet Concert and Free Masterclass
Mon. Jan. 9	Sign up week for March Concert Advanced Violin Ensemble, Angry Birds Theme Song
Sat. Jan. 14	Advanced Recital, Advanced Recital, 3:00pm (all ensembles, advanced soloists)
Sat. Jan. 21	Graduation Recitals
Sat. Jan. 28	Improv Workshop, Last Day Fall Term
Mon. Jan. 30	First Day Winter Term (20 weeks)
Sat. Feb. 18	Graduation Recitals
Mon. Feb. 20	President's Day, CLOSED
Tues. Feb. 21	OPEN
Sat. March 3	Advanced Rehearsal and Angry Birds Rehearsal, 2pm, Mandatory for March Concert Participation
Sat. March 10	Advanced Rehearsal and Angry Birds Rehearsal, 2pm, Mandatory for March Concert Participation
	Graduation Recitals
Sat. March 17	March Celebration Concert

Mon. April 2	Nominating for TESS Veteran Begins (for the seat of honor on the Memorial Day Parade float!)
Sat. April 14	Graduation Recitals
Mon. April 16	Spring Break, CLOSED
Mon. April 23	OPEN
Sat. April 28	Advanced Master Class, 2-5
	Nominations for our TESS Veteran Due
Sat. May 5	Student Recitals
Mon. May 7	Distribution of music for Memorial Day Parade
Sat. May 12	Student Recitals
Sat. May 19	Graduation Recitals
Mon. May 28	Memorial Day Parade, 9am
Sat. June 2	Advanced Master Class, 2-5
Sat. June 9	Advanced/Honors Recital, 3pm
Sat. June 16	Graduation Recitals
Sat. June 23	Last Day Winter Term
Mon. June 25	First Day Summer Term (8 weeks)