



Talent Education Suzuki School

May 2009 Newsletter

From the Directors

Student recitals are this weekend! These joyous celebrations of your child's music are a special time to reap the rewards of the year's efforts and enjoy your success! Recitals take place at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 208 Newtown Ave. From 95, take exit 16 and turn towards Rt. 1. After crossing Rt. 1, East Avenue becomes Newtown Avenue and the church is on the right, about 3/4 mile.

Join us for a Solo Guitar Concert on Sunday, May 3 at 5:00pm at Grace Episcopal Church in Norwalk (1 Union Square, down the street from the Norwalk library). Austin Moorhead, a rising young star in classical guitar, will be giving a solo concert. The concert is free and open to the public but donations are encouraged!

The Scholarship Fund tag sale is fast approaching - we will be selling the items from 9am to 5pm on Sunday, May 17 in SoNo, 35 S. Main Street across from Chocopologie. Items may be dropped off at the school until Friday, May 15. Many thanks to the families who have already donated so many wonderful new and gently used items. If you desire a tax receipt for your donations, please send us an email stating the value of your donated items. Emails may be send to admin@musicattess.com. Families wishing to donate directly to the Student Scholarship Fund should write the check to the TESS Parent's Association to receive a tax receipt. Many thanks to Rick's Main Roofing for providing trucks to transport everything from TESS to the tag sale site!

Stories from the trenches... in getting ready for Book 1 graduation, violin dad Mark Famous helped Emma prepare by videotaping one song each evening. Sometimes they got a great performance the first time, sometimes it took several takes. This helped build her concentration skills as well as the confidence she needed to know she was ready to graduate. Great idea!

We need a parent or teenage volunteer to "man the desk" on Saturday mornings between 9:30 and 10:30 as the school is growing in leaps and bounds! If you can help, please let Becki or your private teacher know.

Keep Twinkling!
Becki & Jen

New Performing Opportunity

We will be playing marching in the Memorial Day Parade. Many thanks to the Joffe Family, who have offered a decorated truck for us to use. Students will meet at Veterans' Memorial Park in Norwalk and march through the city, ending at city hall. We will be playing all Suzuki songs everyone remembers (!). Guitarists and cellists will have cushioned seats on the truck and are encouraged to participate! Younger students can rest on the truck when they get tired. It is recommended that some families park at city hall to drive other families back to Vets Park.

Teacher Sponsorships

At TESS, we have hired teachers who are wonderful musicians and performers who have made a commitment to teaching in the Suzuki Method. Suzuki training is gained above and beyond college degrees and costs about \$1000-\$1500 per unit, including travel, room and board, and tuition. Teachers who are continuing their training this summer are Mrs. Marija and Miss Claudia. A tax-deductible gift may be made to the TESS Parent's Association in the name of your teacher and the funds will be paid directly to the institution providing the training. Sponsor your teacher today!

Composer/Teacher Birthdays and Recommended Listening

Claudia Cali	April 28	Happy Birthday Miss Claudia!
Alessandro Scarlatti	May 2	Piano Sonatas and other works for keyboard
Johannes Brahms	May 7	Lullaby, Waltz, Symphonies, violin & piano sonatas
Peter Tchaikovsky	May 7	Swan Lake, Sleeping Beauty, The Nutcracker, Symphonies 1-6, Violin Concerto
Giovanni Viotti	May 12	29 violin concertos, string quartets
Gabriel Faure	May 12	Requiem, 2 violin sonatas, many piano works
Becki Christopherson	May 20	Happy Birthday Becki!
Richard Wagner	May 22	Tristan und Isolde, The Ring of the Nibelung

Graduations

Congratulations to our April graduates! In the violin department, Nora Kliczewski, Daniel Hong, and Connor Cummings graduated from Twinkles, and Erin Famous graduated from violin book 2. All of the students study with Miss Becki except for Nora, who studies with Mr. Gary. In the piano department, Saitrisha Gulappa and Delaney Smith, who study with with Mrs. Marija, and Rohan Goswami, who studies with Miss Claudia, graduated from Twinkles. Great job everyone!

New Website Launched

The address is the same - but the look is completely new! Check out our new website at www.musicattess.com. The home page has a listing of our most current activities, updated weekly. This comprehensive website has ongoing academic and performance calendars as well as complete program descriptions. This is a great resource for your friends who have been thinking about signing up... the next Open House is Saturday, May 16! Perfect timing for a family ready to experience the joy of music!

2009 TESS Calendar

Mon. April 27	Fall Registration Begins
Sat. May 2 & 3	Student Recitals (Saturday and SUNDAY), St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 208 Newtown Avenue, Norwalk
Sat. May 9	AYA Auditions Fall Registration Due
Sat. May 16	Graduation Recitals Fall Registration Late Date
Sun. May 17	TESS Parent's Association Tag Sale Scholarship Fundraiser, SoNo
Mon. May 25	Memorial Day, Closed for lessons but <u>marching in the parade!</u>
Sat. May 30	AYA Honors Recital, 5:00pm, Unitarian Church in Westport All students are encouraged to attend
Sat. June 13	Graduation Recitals
Sat. June 20	Last Day Winter Term 1st Day Summer Talent-Ed Kids, 9:00-9:30am; also Mondays 3:00 and Tuesdays 4:00 Party at the Park Performance, all Twinkle graduates (non-piano), Maritime Aquarium in Norwalk, 12-2PM (students will sign up for 1 hour)
Mon. June 22	First Day Summer Term
Sat. July 4	Independence Day, Closed
Sat. Aug. 1	SoNo Celebration Performance, Children's Stage, time TBA All Twinkle graduates, 7-8 weeks summer participants only;
Sat. Aug. 8	Informal Recital for Summer Term participants, 8 weeks only
Fri. Aug. 28 - Sun. Aug. 30 Audition Boot Camp Days	
Mon. Aug. 31	First Day Fall Term
Mon. Sept. 7	Labor Day, Closed
Sat. Sept. 12	First Day Talent-Ed Kids, Graduation Recitals
Sat. Sept. 19	Rosh Hashanah, OPEN, Non-TESS AYA Auditions
Mon. Sept. 28	Yom Kippur, OPEN
Sun. Oct. 4	TESS Scholarship Fund Fundraiser, 5-7PM
Sat. Oct. 4	Student Recitals Due
Fri. Oct. 9	Yom Kippur, OPEN
Mon. Oct. 12	Columbus Day, OPEN
Sat. Oct. 17	Graduation Recitals
Mon. Oct. 19	Week of Parent Nights: Mon, Beg - Bk. 2., Tues, Bk. 3-4, Wed, Bk. 4+/AYA
Mon. Oct. 26	Winter Registration Begins, last week to register for Fall Term
Tues. Nov. 3	Election Day, OPEN
Sat. Nov. 7 & 14	Student Recitals
Sat. Nov. 7	First Day Talent-Ed Kids, ages 3-5, Saturdays, 9-9:30 for 8 weeks
Wed. Nov. 11	Veterans Day, OPEN
Sat. Nov. 21	Graduation Recitals
Wed. Nov. 26	Thanksgiving Break, Closed
Mon. Nov. 30	Open
Sat. Dec. 12	Open House, Graduation Recitals
Mon. Dec. 21	Closed, Holiday Break
Mon. Jan. 4	Open