



TESSI Newsletter

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 2

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2009

QUICK CALENDAR:

11/15/09 -- Tuition Due

*Tuition payment 4 of 11
\$10 late fee as of 11/23*

Week of November 23rd

Thanksgiving Break –
*see your teacher for their
specific schedule*

12/1/09 - Festival Fees Due

12/6/09 -- RECITAL

Carbondale Civic Center

Wiggles N' Tunes - 1:00 pm
Piano and Guitar - 2:00 pm

**See kitchen bulletin board at
TESSI for refreshment sign up*

12/15/09 -- Tuition Due

*Tuition payment 5 of 11
\$10 late fee as of 12/23*

**** DECEMBER 22ND ****

Winter Break begins

*Lessons will resume
on January 4th, 2010*

1/15/2010 -- Tuition Due

*Tuition payment 6 of 11
\$10 late fee as of 1/23*

2/14/2010 -- RECITAL

-- Carbondale Civic Center
-- Time(s) TBA

2/15/2010 -- Tuition Due

*Tuition payment 7 of 11
\$10 late fee as of 2/23*

SAT-SUN 2/20 - 2/21/2010

NFMC JUNIOR FESTIVAL
-- SIUC CAMPUS

Winding up 2009

Wow, the holidays are just around the corner!



We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for being a part of our school and our lives, and to offer our warmest wishes for a safe and happy holiday season. Whether you will be traveling to visit, or hosting company at your homes over the holidays we hope you have a wonderful time with your loved ones!

Life tends to get rather hectic this time of year. As always, the calendar at left is your quick reference for dates of events and other items to keep in mind. We will add (or reiterate) reminders for a few more things below.

2010 NFMC Junior Festival information

The dates for the next Junior Festival are Saturday, Feb. 20th and Sunday, Feb. 21st, 2010. If your children are participating in Festival this year, be sure to keep these dates clear in your schedule!

*** Festival fees are due to your teacher by December 1st. ***

Piano students are reminded that they must purchase the original sheet music before the Festival. Your music is being kept in a bag with your name on it at the register at Baldwin Piano & Organ in Herrin.

Guitar students are also required to have original scores. Mr. Stoecker will finalize arrangements for any additional sheet music needed with you before Thanksgiving break.

The Festival will be held at SIUC in Altgeld Hall and the Old Baptist Foundation as usual.



WELCOME !!

CJ and Jazmyn Lowery

New piano students!

CONGRATULATIONS !!

To the Baughman family.

**Joshua Matthew
Baughman**

Born November 2nd, 2009



**MUSIC OLYMPICS
WINNERS !!**

Srinivas Panchamukhi

1st Place, Music History

Radia Lahlou

1st Place, Rhythm

Adam Lahlou

2nd Place, Music History

*Each in their respective
age categories !!*

TESSI

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Send Us Your News!!

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Other Upcoming Events

Don't forget our recital on Sunday, December 6th. Wiggles N' Tunes will have a program at 1:00 pm, followed by piano and guitar students at 2:00 pm. We hope everyone can attend!

The Klassics for Kids program at SIUC continues its monthly series of free (and informal) concerts geared towards young children.

- Tues. Dec. 1st - 10am – Altgeld Hall Room 112 (Pre-K)

There will undoubtedly be numerous other performances taking place around the holidays, so keep up on the local events calendars in the newspapers and try to get out and enjoy some of them. And by all means, keep us informed if your children are participating in any events. We are always in need of more news items to print here!

Are You Listening?

From time to time, it is important to revisit and discuss key elements in the process of learning music through the Suzuki method. One of those "keys" is listening to recordings of the repertoire. Why so much emphasis on listening?

Consider this thought – if you were asked to draw a picture of something you had never seen before, how would you go about doing it? Trying to learn a piece (even with the score at hand) without hearing it first is much like the problem posed in the above question.

Familiarity with a piece of music gained through listening provides immediate feedback to the student (and parent!) as he/she begins learning to perform it. Inaccuracies in rhythm and pitch are immediately apparent and can be addressed before they become ingrained through practice and repetition. It is very difficult to make corrections once mistakes have been learned and practiced, and requires many, many more repetitions to "erase" the faulty note or rhythm from memory than what was needed to put it there to begin with. Listening is a major time-saver!

Parents – the responsibility to ensure that listening takes place as an integral part of the learning process lies with you. We are counting on you to embrace and actively promote this "key" to your child's musical progress. We can't do this without you!

--- *That's all until next time – thanks for reading!*