

Talent Education School of Southern Illinois, (618) 457-6300

## Quick Calendar

### TUITION PAYMENTS DUE

Due 11/15 – Payment 4/11  
\$10 late fee after 11/22

### THANKSGIVING BREAK

**Tuesday November 23rd –  
Sunday, November 28th**

*Piano students will have a  
pre-makeup lesson for MLK  
day on Monday Nov. 22nd.*

### JUNIOR FESTIVAL FEES

*Due by Dec. 1st – see your  
teacher for details*

### **\*\* TESSI RECITALS \*\***

Sunday, December 5th  
Civic Center Room 108

**Wiggles & Tunes: 1:00 PM**  
**Piano & Guitar: 2:00 PM**

### TUITION PAYMENTS DUE

Due 12/15 – Payment 5/11  
\$10 late fee after 12/22

### HOLIDAY BREAK

**Tuesday December 21st –  
Sunday, January 2nd, 2011**

*Piano students will have a  
pre-makeup lesson for  
President's day on Monday  
Dec. 20th.*

### TUITION PAYMENTS DUE

Due 1/15 – Payment 6/11  
\$10 late fee after 1/22

*Happy Holidays!*  
*- Your teachers ☺*

## Thanksgiving Thoughts



This will be our last newsletter of the year.  
We'll be back after 2011 arrives!

With the Thanksgiving holiday almost  
upon us, it is a good time to reflect on  
all that we have to be thankful for.

We, your TESSI teachers are thankful for  
your commitment to making music a  
part of your children's lives. Music fills a  
space in each of us that nothing else  
can. We are thankful that we get to  
share our love of music with our students,  
be a part of their overall education, and  
see their growth as musicians as well as  
individuals. Of course, we are also very  
thankful for your support of TESSI !!

We hope all of you have a wonderful  
Thanksgiving, filled with family, friends  
and good times. It won't be long after  
before the winter holidays and new  
year will be upon us. With so much  
hustle and bustle going on, we hope  
everyone can find some free time for  
rest and relaxation. It seems to be  
hard to come by these days!

*- Happy Holidays!*

## 2010 End of Year Reminders

### Junior Festival:

**Fees for the Festival are due to your  
teachers by December 1st.**

Payments can be made by cash or  
check (payable to your teacher).  
Teachers will then pool the fees and  
submit them to the Festival organizers.  
See your teacher for details and  
amounts due.

**The dates for the Festival are  
Saturday, Feb. 19th, and Sunday,  
Feb. 20th.** If your children are  
participating in Festival you must keep  
these dates free. Scheduling  
information will be made available as  
soon as possible, but it is a difficult and  
time consuming job to complete.

**Piano Students:** If Ms. Ward did not have  
music to loan you for Festival, your original  
music scores are at Baldwin Piano and  
Organ in Herrin, and are being held for  
you at the register. Please note that the  
store is closed on Sundays and Mondays.

### December Recital:

Sunday, Dec. 5th at the Civic Center.  
Wiggles N' Tunes at 1:00pm.  
Guitar and Piano at 2:00pm.

A refreshment sign-up sheet is on the  
bulletin board in the kitchen at TESSI.

Please be sure to inform your teacher if  
cannot participate at the recital.

*We look forward to hearing you play!*



### Welcome New Students

Aron Taylor, guitar



**Wiggles N' Tunes gift certificates are available for the preschooler on your holiday gift list!**



**Open slots are available for preschoolers - ages 8-months thru 4 years.**

**See Teacher Alyce**

*Send Us Your News !!*

If you have news to share, please send e-mail to [newsletter@tessimusic.org](mailto:newsletter@tessimusic.org) with your submission, and we'll include it in the next issue.

*(You can also deliver them to us in person.)*

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### We're on the Web!

See us at:  
[www.tessimusic.org](http://www.tessimusic.org)

## Even More Reminders

### Break Schedules:

**Thanksgiving break** will start on *Tuesday*, Nov. 23rd. Monday piano students will have advance makeup lessons on the 22nd, to cover for Martin Luther King day in January. No lessons for the rest of the week for ALL students.

**Christmas break** will begin on *Tuesday*, December 21st and last through Sunday January 2nd. Lessons resume on the 3rd. Monday piano students will have advance makeup lessons on December 20th, to cover for President's Day in February.

Also, please be sure to get your December tuition checks in during the week of 12/15 (or sooner). Thanks!

### It's Getting Colder...

OK, all you Piano students can skip this, as you don't have to carry your instruments around with you. (*good thing, right?*) Guitar students – listen up!

Dry air and cold temperatures wreak havoc on wooden instruments. Don't leave your instrument in an unheated space for too long (like a car) when it is very cold outside.

Likewise, dry winter air (*made worse by heating*) can cause the wood to shrink, resulting in cracks, or glue joints failing. Please use a humidifier at home, and/or a case or instrument humidifier. These can be purchased at most shops that sell guitars and other wooden instruments.

Nylon guitar strings are also very sensitive to temperature changes and will require a lot of adjusting. Keep your guitar at a stable temperature, and tune it often during the winter months!

## Student News

### Our congratulations go out to...

#### Anthony Stoecker

Piano Book 3 Graduate!

#### Samara Steinbock

Guitar Book 1 Graduate!

## Random Finds

Every now and then we find some pretty neat music-related stuff on the internet, so we thought we should start mentioning some of them in the newsletter.

Music Mind Games is the web site of Michiko Yurko, a well known and highly respected teacher, trainer, and creator of many great games designed to help students improve their music theory and note reading skills. In fact, Ms. Ward uses some of these games in piano group classes at TESSI.

On Yurko's site is a free online game titled appropriately - *Rhythm Solitaire*.

<http://www.musicmindgames.com>

It works much like the solitaire playing card game, but uses notes and rests in place of the usual Aces, Kings, Queens etc. It is a fun game, and perhaps a bit more challenging than some students might expect, while still requiring a bit of luck as with any card game.

There seems to be a plethora of online metronomes and guitar tuners, so we won't bother listing addresses for those as a quick Google search will turn up more links than anyone could ever need!

*Have you discovered any really interesting and useful music web sites?*

Please let us know, so we can share them with others and link them on our web site and Facebook page. Thanks!