



Donovan Piano Studio

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January 2016

IMPORTANT DATES:

January 1	Happy New Year!	
January 1	Tuition due please add a \$10 late fee if not paid by Jan 8th	
January 4, 2016	Classes resume	Studio open
January 22	Deadline to sign up for Guild Auditions	
January 18	ML King Day	Studio closed
February 1	Tuition due	
February 14-21	February break	Studio closed
February 21	Guild Auditions fees due	
June 18	Spring Recital	6:00 pm

Studio Holiday Recital

An exceptional recital! The students worked very hard on some difficult arrangements to have their pieces ready for the concert. Well done everyone! Congratulations to the following students who performed in the Holiday recital held on Dec.5th at the Nevins Memorial Library in Methuen. **Rachel Bucher, Melham Antar, Owen Ferguson, Michelle Muir, Carter Mathison, Lily Mathison, Daniel Gealow, Kerry Manuel, Braeden Mathison, Jack Mottram, Renee Muir, Sophie Da Silveira, Kayla Pham, Catherine Vasilenko, Nhan Nguyen and Liam Mulcahy** and for helping me out on our Merry Christmas “flash mob” Thank you all for a wonderful performance.

Welcome to new students: *Henry Hadley, Ana-Meeka Blum and Scarlett Blum!*

We are all so happy to have you here at the studio with us!

Guild Auditions:

The 2016 Audition dates have not been set yet but are traditionally a Wednesday through Saturday in mid-May. We will be attending the auditions in Atkinson, NH. I will be requesting a Friday & Saturday audition but cannot be guaranteed what day we will be assigned. **Please let me know by the Jan. 22nd** date whether or not you are interested in attending the Guild Auditions. Then I will send home an acceptance letter with the amount due for the fees. Payments will be due by February 21st. Please contact me with any questions about the auditions. The sooner that I can send in our application and fees, the better chance I will have to be assigned the audition dates that we want, so please be prompt with your payments.

Don't forget to "like" Donovan Piano Studios on Facebook for access to photos and videos of recitals & performances and much more!

Piano Maestro:

This is an app from JoyTunes which has been named the #1 educational app for 2015. I have been going through the levels along with the students and am impressed with the teaching aspects of rhythm and note reading as well as having a lot of fun. I encourage my students to play with this at home as much as they want. I am assigning "home challenges" through the app to student with an ipad available to them at home so please encourage your student to log on daily to complete the challenge and to do their 10 minutes of assigned sightreading. For those of you who do not have an ipad at home to use, we will still spend a few minutes in class on the songs.

Prepping for Performance practice incentive: Parent involvement is needed!

We began in September earning points for various things such as performing at home, church or school, in studio or MVMTA sponsored events, attending professional events and finding the composer of the week on the studio website. The student with the most points by June 18th will win and be presented an award at the recital in June. Parents can help by checking the performance points page weekly, enabling students to participate in studio events, encourage home, school and church performances and sign for them, bring your student to professional performances and log onto the studio website to find and read about the composer of the week.

Weather cancellations:

Generally, the studio is open even if school is cancelled because of bad weather. Please check the studio website www.donovanmusicstudios.com for any cancellations. You will be also informed by telephone and email if I cancel classes because of weather conditions. Please call or email if you will NOT be attending classes.

January Birthdays:

***Jan. 6: Sophie Da Silveira Jan. 14: Michelle Muir
Happy Birthday to all!***

