

The STUDIO NEWSLETTER

Helen R. Weems Piano Studio *** September/October 2016

OUR BIG CONCERT OUTING!!



The exciting, young pianist from Uzbekistan, **Behzod Abduraimov**, will give us a preview of his Carnegie Hall debut recital HERE @ HCC on Saturday evening, October 29. We get preferential ticket pricing and a nice area to sit together with good visibility, and a visit with Mr. Abduraimov after the concert. He was the grand prize winner at the London International Piano Competition! He will play Bach, Schubert, Prokofiev AND Balakirev's Islamey – legend has this to be the hardest piece ever written for piano.

BE THERE!

RITA'S REP CLASS!!!

On July 27, seven intrepid students appeared at the studio to play for each other and eat Rita's Italian Ice -- cotton candy ice, mango ice, and vanilla custard – yum!

The picture tells the story better than I can.



Upcoming Dates:



Sunday, September 4, 3:45pm: Kick-Off Repertory Class
Tuesday, September 13, 7:30pm: Adult Seminar
Sunday, October 16, 3:45 pm: Fall Repertory Class
Saturday, October 29: MSMTA Keyboard Exam @ HCC
Saturday, October 29, 8pm: CONCERT OUTING Behzod Abduraimov PIANIST @ HCC
Sunday, November 13, 2 & 4pm: Pradhanica! Indian Table & Dance @ HCC
Thursday, November 24: Thanksgiving Holiday (studio closed)

Practice Tip No. 15 for Parents – Surviving the Keyboard Exam



The Keyboard Exam is already upon us: October 29 will arrive before we know it. From the receipt of this newsletter, your child has only six weeks (that's only six lessons!) to master all the tasks for his or her level. You can help your child's success, even without having any keyboard skills yourself, by using these ideas and encouraging your child to do these activities:

1. Print a few copies of the Random Game for your child's level from my website (there's a link on the homepage) and have your child fill out the tasks on the corresponding keys. Please note that the Random Game is not important until a child is preparing for Level 3 or higher.
2. Encourage lots of sight reading, every day. Good things to sight read: old (easier) piano books, holiday music, jazzy music, excerpts from the exam booklet, Four Star Books (same volume number as test level). If you need more material than what you find around the piano at home, let me know and I will loan you appropriate materials.
3. Have your child "perform" an improvisation or transposition for the test. Encourage them to play these pieces with strong rhythm and confidence.