

# The STUDIO NEWSLETTER

Helen R. Weems Piano Studio \*\*\* January/February 2020

## Calendar Changes for February 2020



This has been a year of change, and the schedule going into 2020 has some changes, as well. Please review the Calendar listed on the reverse of this page, and note that the changes are also now reflected on the studio website.

1. I'll take a little break in February, not as long as originally scheduled. I will offer TWO February lessons here in the studio (rather than doing one electronically on a different schedule). The previously announced reduced rate remains in effect. There will be no e-lessons during the break.

Here's your February Tuition and Schedule:                    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

February \_\_\_\_\_ February \_\_\_\_\_ February \_\_\_\_\_ February \_\_\_\_\_

2. The famous "Back 2 Normal" Rep Class is moved up to Monday, February 17 (a school holiday) and the rep class will be that day at 12:45 pm. There will be no lessons on the 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup>.

3. The very enjoyable Movie Night for my adult students has been moved to February 25 @ 7pm. The movie is still being chosen.

Note that there are two performing opportunities in February: **February 9 Outreach**, and **February 22 Judged Recital**. Prepared students are eligible to be entered in either or both events.

While I am on break, my students should feel free to communicate any questions or videos to me at my email address, [weemspianostudio@gmail.com](mailto:weemspianostudio@gmail.com).

\*\*\* I still encourage my students to send frequent videos via Google Drive, Mail Drop, or link to private YouTube, and I will respond to your work as many times as you send it to me – this is perhaps the best value I can offer my students during my time off.\*\*\*



Saturday, January 18	3:45pm	Winter Repertory Class
Saturday, January 25	1-6pm	GCMTA Story & Friends Fests @ Chr Ep
Saturday, February 1		Postmark deadline for MSMTA HS Exam
February 5-18		Studio Closed
Sunday, February 9	7:30	GCMTA Outreach @ Vantage House
**MONDAY, February 17	12:45pm	Back2Normal Rep
Saturday, February 22	all day	GCMTA Judged Recital @ First Pres HoCo
**Tuesday, February 25	7:00pm	Movie Night for Adults
Sunday, March 1	all day	MSMTA Ensemble Comp @ UMCP
Saturday, March 28	7:30pm	Abduraimov Concert Outing @ UMBC

\*\* -- note date changes from the policy and calendar!!

### Practice Tip No. 31 for Parents - Lack of Motivation



Everyone has days (weeks? months?) when they lose the motivation to do what they love. Some of us have trouble maintaining motivation for projects not at the top of our heart, or projects that we didn't even choose. How do we encourage piano students who are experiencing a loss of motivation?

One of the most powerful incentives for piano practice is enjoyment of what we hear coming out of our hands. For students starting new pieces, or just beginning to learn to play, that is a rare incentive. That's what the stickers and pencils are for – to offer something else to work toward for students who are struggling to achieve anything. But after a while, what we hear coming from our own two hands becomes pleasurable and something we want to repeat.

It is so important that students that enjoy the sound of the music they choose, and begin to enjoy the feel of it rolling steadily and rhythmically off their hands. Until that happens, your parental encouragement is priceless towards developing that intrinsic incentive.

**\*\*\*\*Do not underestimate the power of your attention to your child's success.\*\*\*  
Your attention and your encouragement are *powerful incentives*.**