

# The STUDIO NEWSLETTER

Helen R. Weems Piano Studio \*\*\* May/June 2020

## The Students Prevail!!



Look at those faces. A lot of heart and soul went into the passion these children displayed at the Spring Concert on Zoom on May 3, and our families were the benefactors.

I am considering ways to use this moment as an opportunity to share our music as much as possible. I am open to suggestions. There has got to be a silver lining! The use of zoom, which allowed many of our more distant family members to attend the Spring Concert, is a sign that we can prevail and make our part of the digital world a little better through our cheerful love of music.

I am also convinced that live performance, even with degraded sound, is preferable to stat videos. Then again, videos can be easier for lots of people to access. Who can we reach, and how?

Let's have a conversation about how to make this moment our musical opportunity. Let's share our joyful music with lots of people!

air hugs from a proud and hopeful Miss Helen



Saturday, May 2	by midnight	MSMTA Piano Solo Competition ONLINE
Sunday, May 3	7:30pm	The Spring Concert @ ZOOM
Wed+Fri. May 13+15	morning	MSMTA HS Exams ONLINE
Tuesday, June 16	7:00pm	Adult Repertoire Event
Tuesday, June 23	6:00-8:30pm	Movie Pizza Ice Cream!
Tuesday, June 30		LAST DAY OF REGULAR LESSONS
July 1 – August 22		SUMMER LESSONS BY APPOINTMENT
Wednesday, July 29	10:00am	Rita's Rep Class!
Sunday, August 30	3:45pm (4:00)	Kick-off Rep!
Tuesday, September 1		FIRST DAY OF REGULAR LESSONS

### Parent's Practice Tip # 33:

ummmmmm . . . . .

We are all coping in our best way, to live our lives one day at a time, and not think about the future too much, while still being wise about what we must plan for and what we must do. It is a serious moment.

I have been encouraged by the musical energy shown by my students and me during this last month. I don't know what my neighbors think (actually I can guess), but for me, sitting down and working out musical problems for 30 minutes at a time several times a day, combined with some Bach sight-reading, is a tremendous stress reliever and brings a sense of competency before, say, venturing to the supermarket to dodge too many nice people in masks.

So, as we begin our time of choosing music for the next season, followed by the wind-down and summer, I find it comforting that my advice to my students concerning our 18<sup>th</sup>-century instrument is not much different from previous years.

1. Let's pick **attractive music** for you, and **start learning** it, for May and June.
2. Come July, **schedule regular practicing** every week over the summer.
3. Even **two lessons every summer** make a difference. (More is divine.)
4. **Nervous and novice performers** benefit from the plethora of performance opportunities I provide, but **only if they are ready for them.**