

# The STUDIO NEWSLETTER

Helen R. Weems Piano Studio \*\*\* September/October 2020

## Parent's Practice Tip # 34:

### Equipment and Settings (deep breath)



As we learn, learn, learn, and then learn more, about how to communicate with online video conferencing, there are simple and inexpensive ways to improve both the quality of the lesson and the audience experience of your child's performances.

**Purchasing an external microphone greatly improves your sound quality.** I suggest a Blue Snowball, or any of the suggestions found on Peabody's Remote Teaching and Learning pages, easily googled with those words. **Further, there are several settings to adjust in Zoom:** first ensure that your external mic is on, plugged in, and selected. Then enable original sound, turn off automatic volume control, disable all "background noise" settings, put "echo cancellation" on "auto." I have a pdf from Peabody that walks you through these settings in case you cannot find them under advanced settings.

**Simple tips:** Power the device down and back up; ensure other applications are turned off, ask family not to overload the internet during lessons, and to avoid it during performances.

Many heartfelt thanks to the children and families who participated in the Summer Concert for Those We Love. It was enthusiastically received, including by informed patrons of the Candlelight Concert Society, and at least one veteran Peabody professor. Let's keep up the good work, and share our music again in the fall.

A STUDIO CALENDAR FOR UNCERTAIN TIMES: 2020-2021



<b>Tuesday, September 1</b>		<b>First day of studio year</b>
Tuesday, September 15	7pm	Adult Seminar (Lost Pianos of Siberia) Zoom
Saturday, September 26	7:30pm	Online CCS Concert: Pianist Maxim Lando
<b>Sunday, October 11</b>	<b>3:45-5pm</b>	<b>Fall Rep Class Zoom</b>
Sunday, October 18	3pm	Online CCS Concert: Russian Renaissance
Saturday, Oct-Nov-Never	8am-5pm	MSMTA Keyboard Exams
Saturday, November 21	7:30pm	Online CCS Concert: Piano Trio Karénine
Thursday, November 26		Thanksgiving Holiday (closed)
<b>Saturday, December 5</b>	<b>3:45-5pm</b>	<b>Holiday Rep Class</b>
Sunday, December 6	3pm	GCMTA Outreach Recital (??)
Tuesday, December 8	7pm	Adult Piano Bar
Saturday, December 12	7:30pm	Online CCS Concert: Borromeo Quartet
Sunday, December 20	6:15pm	Holiday Caroling Party (??)
Thursday-Thursday, December 24-31		Holiday (closed)
<b>Saturday, January 16</b>	<b>3:45-5pm</b>	<b>Winter Rep Class</b>
Sunday, January 17	3pm	CCS Concert: Marc André-Hamelin pianist
Saturday, January 23	11am-6pm	GCMTA Music/Story & Friends Fests
Sunday, February 7	7pm	GCMTA Outreach Recital
<b>Sunday, February 21</b>	<b>3:45-5pm</b>	<b>B2N Rep Class</b>
Tuesday, February 23	7pm	Movie Night for Adult Students
Saturday, February 27	all day	GCMTA Judged Recitals
Sunday, March 21	all day	MSMTA Ensemble Competition
Sunday, April 11	3pm	GCMTA Outreach Recital
<b>Sunday, April 18</b>	<b>3:15-5pm</b>	<b>Spring Rep Class</b>
Saturday, April 24	all day	GCMTA Spring Piano Competition
Saturday, May 1	all day	MSMTA Spring Solo Competition
Sunday, May 2	3pm	Nikolai Lugansky, pianist! CCS @ HCC!
<b>Sunday, May 2</b>	<b>7:30pm</b>	<b>The Studio SPRING CONCERT!</b>
Wed & Fri, May 12 & 14	9am-1pm	MSMTA High School Exams
Tuesday, June 22	7pm	Adult Piano Bar
<b>Wednesday, June 30</b>	<b>6pm</b>	<b>MOVIE PIZZA ICE CREAM REP CLASS!</b>
Wednesday, June 30		last day of studio year