

The STUDIO NEWSLETTER

Helen R. Weems Piano Studio *** January/February 2024

Message #44 to Parents

SHE'S BANGING ON ABOUT PERFORMANCE AGAIN



THIS CUTE KID IS LUCAS DEBARGUE our performer with Candlelight Concert Society on January 28, 4pm. Purchase your tickets (each adult purchase gains one free child ticket) at candlelightconcerts.org. Irina Kaplan Lande, our Artistic Director, is a savvy musician: I purchase every concert she books, and I love all of them.

I keep urging you to take your children to concerts. I'm not always in the mood myself! Because I'm so dedicated to CCS I focus on them the most. But in the local, budget department, I tend to ignore Sundays at Three, which is a the series at the church where our Spring Concert takes place.

This is more of a blog entry, and confession, than practice tip. Last week a colleague urged me to attend the January 14 concert. I had the afternoon free, so I drove to the church, handed the door person a \$20 bill, and sat down. (Teens and children attend free there, too.) On the program was Tchaikovsky's Piano Trio Op. 50. Never heard of it. The pianist explained before the playing began that it's not programmed much because it's long (an hour!) and difficult. And then they began.

It was – this word is used too much, but nothing else works – **transformative**. I was in the Swiss Alps, I was at the ocean with my late husband, I felt myself lift from my chair and fly. I love music so much, but I've never experienced this before, and neither had the audience – there was audible sigh and gasp at the end, before the applause. We couldn't believe what we had heard. We looked at each other in wonder. I woke up Monday still thinking about it.

So here's the pitch: Go. Just go. All these concerts, CCS and Sundays @ 3, are listed online. All can be had for last minute tickets. Do this for your kid, and for yourself.

Love, Helen



Saturday, January 13	3:45pm	Winter Repertoire Class
Saturday, January 20	11-4pm	GCMTA Story & Friends Fests @ Chr Ep
Sunday, January 28	4pm	Lucas Debargue, pianist @ HCC
FEBRUARY SCHEDULE SEE BELOW!		
Sunday, February 18	7pm	GCMTA Outreach @ Vantage House
MONDAY, February 19	10:45am!!!	Back2Normal Rep
Saturday, February 24	all day	GCMTA Judged Recital @ First Pres HoCo
Sunday, March 3	all day	MSMTA Ensemble Comp @ UMCP
Sunday, March 17	3pm	GCMTA Outreach @ Morningside
Tuesday, March 26	7:00pm	Movie Night for Adults
Saturday, March 31		Postmark deadline for MSMTA HS Exam
Sunday, April 21	3:15pm!	Spring Repertoire Class

February Schedule!!

I love spending February NOT in Maryland. The dream is sunny skies and highs in the 60s. Every February that I've spent in Napa resulted in unusual rainfall and cool temperatures. I have to do my part to save Napa! So I'm again returning this year for two weeks. The changes to your children's schedule is minimal this year, thanks to some different planning. The changes commence after February 1.

- All lessons (read carefully) February 6-12 will be regular schedule, and online only.
- The studio is closed February 5 and February 13-15 for annual vacation. Progress videos are encouraged and welcome!! (Please upload to Youtube and send link.)
- The studio is open for in-person lessons the week of February 19-22 and forward.
- Back2Normal Rep is that Monday, February 19, at 11am!!! And there is a GCMTA Judged Recital on February 24.
- Tuition for February remains normal amount.
- For adult students – there are no scheduled lessons for the month of February, and no tuition due.