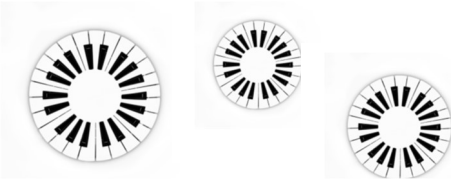
Blanchard Piano Studio

March 2020 Newsletter



MTASM Spring Festival for Piano

Spring Festival for Piano is a noncompetitive, adjudicated event where students perform two memorized pieces of at least 16 measures (without repeats) from different historical periods that contrast in style (age 9 and below may simply play two contrasting pieces.). Students are grouped according to age and will receive a certificate and performance ribbon as well as constructive written comments from a judge.

Those students from Blanchard Piano Studio who are participating on Friday, March 13th at Grace and Peace Presbyterian Church at 6:00 pm are: Jeremy Liang (age 7), Alisa Gant (age 8).

Those students from Blanchard Piano Studio who are participating on Saturday, March 14th at Grace Chapel, 39245 Chaptico Rd, Mechanicsville, MD:

Ages 9-10 (9:45-10:35 am): Nate Corbin, Simon Bowling, Katherine Morgan, James Wort
Ages 11-12 (10:45-11:50 am): Kelvin Baldwin, Nate Bankston, Isadora Chorney, Zorianna Chorney, Sebastian Delgado, Marlin Smith, Kayli Werner, Lorraine Zarborsky, Kristen Wort, Jane Liang, Clara Wilson
Ages 13-14 (12:45-2:00 pm): Selam Taylor, Jared Werner, Kristina Chan, Grace Wilson
Ages 15-18 (2:00-3:10 pm): Claudia Gemmel, Emma Levin, Mia Levin, Joseph Ensminger, Andrew Rioux

Tips for success:

Please arrive at least 10 minutes early.
Bring your music.
Recital dress code in effect:
- Girls: Modest dress or skirt. Dress shoes. No high heels or backless shoes. Long hair should be pinned back away from face, preferably in a bun.
- Guys: Dress pants, dress shoes, dress shirt and tie.

Students are required to stay for the entire event.
Please know your jump points and remember that judges love good dynamics!

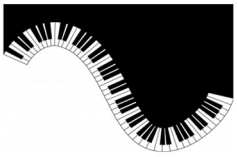
MSMTA Theory Testing

The following students are registered to take the Maryland State Music Teachers Association Theory Testing on Saturday, March 28th, at 1:00 pm, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 22375 Three Notch Rd, Lexington Park, MD 20653. We will have a drop in study hall on March 27th at Grace and Peace from 4:00 to 6:00 pm.

Level Prep: Alisa Gant, Jeremy Liang, Maya Smith
Level 1: Nate Corbin, Sebastian Delgado, Katie Loesch, James Wort, Lorraine Zaborsky
Level 2: Nate Bankston, Simon Bowling, Marlin Smith, Kayli Werner
Level 3: Kelvin Baldwin, Isadora Chorney, Zorianna Chorney, Selam Taylor, Jared Werner, Kristen Wort
Level 4: Clara Wilson, Grace Wilson
Level 5: Emma Levin, Mia Levin, Jane Liang, Andrew Rioux
Level 6: Kristina Chan
Level 7: Joseph Ensminger
Level 9: Elizabeth Lawlin

We are looking for adult monitors. Please let Mrs. Blanchard know if you can help that day.

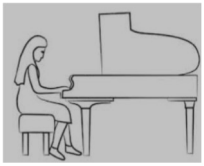
MSMTA High School Piano Exam



The Maryland State Music Teachers Association High School Piano Exam will be held April 3rd from 10:00 to 11:30 am at Grace and Peace Presbyterian Church.

10:00 am Kristina Chan	11:00 am Emma Levin
10:15 am Grace Masiello	11:15 am Claudia Gemmel
10:30 am Laurel Eckenrode	11:30 am Joseph Ensminger
10:45 am Andrew Rioux	11:45 am Elizabeth Lawlin

You must have all pieces labeled with post-it notes and all measures numbered. Recital dress code is in effect even though this is a private audition. Please arrive 15 minutes early.



Congratulations to Jane Liang...

who won the COSMIC Concerto Competition in early December! Jane will play Mozart's K. 459 Concerto in its entirety at two concerts with the orchestra on March 21st and 22nd. It would be wonderful if many from Blanchard Piano Studio could go to support Jane!

Sounds of Tomorrow Auditions

Auditions will be held on April18th at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church on Rt. 4 for all instrumentalists and vocalists age 18 and under. Those qualifying will play in a concert on June 14th at 7:30 PM and will receive a monetary award at the reception following the concert. Please see the studio bulletin board for details and an application form. The application must be received by Lyn Schramm by April10, 2020.

Anyone is welcome to audition, but Mrs. Blanchard especially recommends the following students:
Joseph Ensminger, Kelvin Baldwin and Kristen Wort Duet, Kristina Chan, Jane Liang solo, Jane Liang and Kristina Chan Duet, Elizabeth Lawlin, Domonique Smoot, Joseph Smoot.

Piano Tuning

Pianos need to be maintained regularly. You should have your instrument tuned at least twice a year. Call today to set up your appointment: Patrick Presnell: 410-326-3780 or email at patvick@comcast.net. Patrick is a registered piano technician and has tremendous expertise and experience. Did you know Mr. Presnell tuned the pianos for the presidential inauguration in 2005?

Activities 2020

March 13 or 14 (Fri. or Sat.)	*MTASM Spring Festival at Grace and Peace (Duets / younger ages will play Fri. eve) ($13.50)
March 28 (Sat.)	*MSMTA Theory Testing at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Lexington Park ($15) (1:00 pm)
March 29 (Sun.)	*MSMTA Elizabeth R. Davis Memorial Piano Competition, Washington Adventist University
April 3 (Fri.)	*MSMTA High School Piano Exam at Grace and Peace (am) ($35) (Deadline passed)
April 3 (Fri.)	Blanchard Piano Studio Master Class (pm) ($25-35, depending on your level.)
April 17 (Fri.)	Blanchard Piano Studio Sonatina Recital at Grace and Peace
April 18 (Sat.)	Sounds of Tomorrow Auditions at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church ($15)
April 18 (Sat.)	MTACC Spring General Recital, Christ Church, La Plata (Deadline 4/6/20)
April 25-26 (Sat. -Sun.)	*MTACC Sonatina/Sonata Festival in La Plata ($15) (Deadline 3/16,/20)
May 2 (Sat.)	*MSMTA Festival for Solo Piano in College Park ($15) (Deadline 3/21/20)
May 9 (Sat.)	*MTACC Scholarship Competitions ($15-20, depending on your age.) (Deadline 4/7/20)
May 16 (Sat.)	*MTASM Honors Competitions ($12.50-15.50, depending on your age.) (Deadline 4/30/20)
May 17 (Sun,)	*MSMTA Gottlieb and Sonata Competitions in Baltimore ($20) (Deadline April 5, 2020)
May 29 (Fri.)	Royal Conservatory Assessments at Grace and Peace (Fees depend on level.)
June 6 (Sat.)	Blanchard Studio Awards and Recognition Recitals
June 14 (Sun.)	Sounds of Tomorrow Concert (Auditions are April 18th) ($15)