

Blanchard Piano Studio

January 2024 Newsletter

Ensembles

Our Ensemble Recitals will be held Saturday, January 27st at 10:00 and 11:00 am in the recital halls at Dodge Performing Arts Center, 47855 College Dr, St Marys City, MD 20686. There is a fee of \$10 per student to help pay for the venue rental. If you have a conflict that day, please get your recital request to Mrs. Blanchard early. We have set aside Fridays, January 19th and 27th from 2:00-5:00 pm, at Grace and Peace for ensemble practice. You must sign up for rehearsal a time. Some of you will also want to participate in the MSMTA Ensemble Festival on Sunday, March 3rd, as part of your performance requirements for the MSMTA Distinguished Musicianship Award. The MSMTA fee is \$15 per student.

Here are the ensemble assignments so far:

Izzie Chorney, Zoe Chorney, Lena Zyga	Simon Bowling, Nate Corbin	Izzie Chorney, Zoe Chorney
Zoe Thomas, Anna Morgan	Jeremy Liang, Jane Liang	James Moritz, Ellie Wort
Zoe Chorney, Angela Hou	Katherine Morgan, Ben Morgan	Kayli Werner, Jared Werner
Chaya Thomas, Zoe Thomas	Katherine Morgan, Anna Morgan	Nate Bankston, Jared Werner
Chaya Thomas, Kayli Werner	Paige Bankston, Faustina Pontzer	Daniella Cha, Alex Hou
Saleem Habeebullah, Wyatt McDonald	Lillian Nuhfer, Graham Nuhfer	Joshua Herrera, Alex Hou
Wyatt McDonald, Emma McDonald	Saleem Habeebullah, Sebastian Delgado	
Christina Sullivan, Ethan Corbin	Sebastian Delgado, Saleem Habeebullah, Nate Corbin	
Hannah Mack, Izzie Chorney		

Music Mind Games will be held on the following Fridays **February 2, 9, 23 and March 1, 8, 22**. We will meet at Grace and Peace Presbyterian Church, 22646 Benswood Road, California, MD. Please check the list below for the class most appropriate for your level. **There will also be a few workshops offered this semester on February 16, March 15, April 12. Stay tuned for more information.**

4:00 pm Intermediate Group: Paige Bankston, Daniella Cha, Ethan Corbin, Alex Hou, Eden Huckabee, Johnny Keeler, Jeremy Liang, Sam Loesch, Ben Morgan, Hannah Mack, Emma McDonald, Wyatt McDonald, Anna Morgan, Katherine Morgan, Graham Nuhfer, Lillian Nuhfer, Carden Parmer, Chaya Thomas, Zoe Thomas, Julian Uzhca, Ellie Wort, Lena Zyga

4:45 pm Beginner Group: Khalid Habeebullah, Joshua Herrera, Lingly Hou, Tzipporah Mack, Micah Mack, Sutton McDonald, James Moritz, Lillianna O'Brien, Zachary Riviere, Mikaela Saucier, Christina Sullivan, Jadon Thomas, Ellie Wort, Julia Zaborsky

5:30 pm Advanced Group: Nate Bankston, Simon Bowling, Izzie Chorney, Zoe Chorney, Nate Corbin, Sebastian Delgado, Saleem Habeebullah, Angela Hou, Addison Riviere, Jared Werner, Kayli Werner, Lorraine Zaborsky

GUIDELINES

To help lessons run smoothly this year, Mrs. Blanchard asks for students to follow these protocols:

1. **Arrive early** enough to play folder games and check your theory. When checking theory, please use a red pen and be prepared to ask Mrs. Blanchard about anything you don't understand.
2. **Bring all** books and folder.
3. **Practice record** must be filled in with the minutes practiced each day. This should be done each day so that it is completed when arriving for lessons.
4. **Put books in the order** they are listed on the assignment sheet.

Spring 2024 Calendar

January 27: MTASM Ensemble Recitals, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 2:00 pm (if needed), Dodge Performing Arts Center, \$10 per student
February 17: MTASM Winter Recital Day, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm at St. Aloysius, Leonardtown
March 3: MSMTA Ensemble Festival (competitive), Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, University of Maryland, \$15 per student
March 9: MSMTA Theory Testing, 1:00 pm, Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Lexington Park, \$15 per test
March 23: MTACC Spring Evaluation (non-competitive), Times TBA, Grace Lutheran Church, La Plata, \$15 per student
April 5: Party for those who reach their practice goal!
April 13: MTASM Spring Festival (competitive), Location TBD, Times TBA, \$15 per student
April 18: Masterclass, Grace and Peace, OR Blanchard Piano Studio, \$40 per student
April 27 and 28: MTACC Sonata Festival (competitive), Grace Church, Waldorf, \$15 per student
May 4: MSMTA Solo Festival (competitive or non-competitive), Times TBA, University of Maryland, College Park, \$15 per student
May 11: MTACC Scholarship Competition Day (by invitation), Christ Church, La Plata, \$15 or \$20 per student, depending on level
May 17: MSMTA High School Exam, video submission, \$35 per student
May 18: MTASM Honors Recital (by invitation), Dodge Performing Arts Center, St. Mary's College, \$20 per student
May 19: MSMTA Gottlieb Competition, Times TBA, UMBC, \$20 per student
June 7: Royal Conservatory Assessments, Times TBA, Grace and Peace, California, Fees on the website: rcmusic.com
June 7/8: BPS Awards Recitals, Times TBA, Grace and Peace, California

Practice Buddies

Some of the older students in the studio are available to serve as practice buddies for your young pianists this school year. They can help when preparing for adjudicated events. Please let Mrs. Blanchard know if you are interested in this service. They will work for your generous tips!

Dress Code Reminders



Lesson Attire:

Shorts must be longer than finger-tip length. Please, no exposed mid-sections or low-cut tops for girls. Guys, no tank tops, sleeveless tops or cut out t-shirts. Shoes may not be worn in the studio.

Recital Attire:

Guys: dress shirt, tie, dress pants and dress shoes.

Gals: modest dress or skirt and piano shoes (No flip flops, backless sandals, or platform shoes as this affects your pedaling technique.)

Community Choir Opportunities 2024

Deo Cantamus Children's Choir for children, ages 7-13, meets on Thursdays, 5:00-6:15 pm, at Grace and Peace Presbyterian Church, from January 4th through March 21st. New singers should register at <https://tinyurl.com/DeoCantamusRegistration>.

Voices of Grace for adults, meets Thursdays, 6:45-8:15 pm, at Grace and Peace Presbyterian Church, from January 25th through April 25th. Auditions will be held Thursday, December 14th, 6:45-7:30 pm. To register, go to <https://tinyurl.com/VoGRegistration>.