



## School Newsletter November 2011

**Make this holiday special...  
give the gift of music!**



### Holiday Sale & CD Workshop

**Monday, December 12 through  
Friday, December 16  
3-8pm each day!**

Join us for this annual event **featuring special pricing on pianos & guitars** available **exclusively for Lacefield Music School students.**

Our friendly sales staff will help you record **your own CD** on one of our digital pianos to give as a gift to family & friends!

**Pick up a gift certificate** for sheet music or a month's worth of lessons to give to the aspiring musicians in your life!

**Hope to see you there!**

### Congratulations!

**Siddharth Santosh** completed My First Piano Adventures Book A.

**Elliot Murray** advanced to Music for Little Mozarts Book 2.

**Anirudh Kalathil** completed My First Piano Adventures Book A.

**Wyatt Catlin** advanced to My Piano Adventures Book B.

**Nicholas Chang** completed John Thompson's Easiest Piano Course Part One.

**Ayush Naik** completed Alfred Level A Lesson & Technic.

**Semhar Habib** completed her Prep Course Activity & Ear Training book.

**Alexander Hayes, Kendall Little, Ben Pillsbury & Krish Sardesai** completed Piano Adventures Primer.

**Nur Yusrin** completed Piano Town Primer.

**Allison Vernon** completed Dozen-a-Day mini book.

**Katie Marberry** completed Alfred Level 1B.

**Prisha Choudhary** completed Alfred Premier Performance 1B.

**Katelyn Bruno** advanced to Alfred Level 2.

**Stella Gilfoil** advanced to Piano Adventures Level 2A.

**Tanay Parwal** advanced to Fingerpower Level 2.

**Hayden Miller** advanced to Piano Adventures Level 3A.

**Melati Havard** completed Succeeding With the Masters Baroque, Vol. 1 & Classical, Vol. 1.

**Prisha Choudhary, Tanner Dutton, Kaci Hoesli, Trisha Iyer, Meghna Kommu & Nur Yusrin** memorized 25 pieces & received a trophy from their teacher.

**J.T. & Raye Armstrong** played in their school talent show.

**Colin Levins** played in 2 events at the MAMA festival in Kansas City.

**Raye Armstrong, J.T. Armstrong, Keerthana Maderreddi & Sadhanah Matheswaran** each played in 3 events at the MAMA festival. **Sadhanah** won a trophy for her solo. **Keerthana** won trophies for both her solo & jazz/blues performances.

### Practice Hints for the Parent

Learning to work independently is difficult. Therefore, it is sometimes a good idea for a parent to sit in the room with a young child while she is practicing. Criticism is inappropriate in such situations, but quiet guidance and suggestions will be very helpful to the youngster.

It is okay to reward a child for practicing successfully with a small treat as well as with kind, positive words. Robert Cutietta suggests a random system of rewards that can be either extrinsic (a book about music, for example, or a musical tote bag) or intrinsic (a performance for the family). Both types should be related to music.

Some parents of young children like to sit in on a lesson so that they can be of more assistance during practice times. This is fine, but be sure not to be intrusive. It is your child's lesson, not yours!

It is important to praise your child often! One can applaud effort as well as accomplishment.

Remember: "Only time, positive parental support and excellent teaching can achieve satisfactory results."

If your young child is resisting practice, ASK him why he doesn't want to work. It may be because he doesn't like the music he is playing, or that he doesn't relate well to his music teacher. Or, perhaps the practice session is taking place at a time that conflicts with another desirable activity. You won't know the reason unless you discuss the situation openly.

A parent should not assume the role of "practice police." Before a child starts lessons, the rules and guidelines for practice should be carefully discussed and decided upon. Practice should therefore be non-negotiable.

If a piece cannot be learned in a relatively short period of time, it may be too hard for the student. This can cause frustration and lead to a desire to give up learning to play the instrument entirely.

A child may not want to practice because the sessions are too long. Parents of young children should adjust the length of time spent working at an instrument so that the child stops before she becomes tired.

If your child is having difficulty during practice sessions, tape them so that her teacher can hear what is really going on.

**\*Article taken from [www.classicsforkids.com](http://www.classicsforkids.com)\***

Join the fun!

**Music, Mommy & Me**  
currently enrolling!

Tuesdays, 10-10:45 am  
Going on now!

- Music, Mommy & Me is Lacefield's preschool music appreciation class, open to kids 2-5 years.
- Students learn major musical concepts using handheld percussion instruments that are theirs to keep!
- Tuition is just \$10 per class!
- Contact our music school director, Kelly Stinnett at 314.799.0963 or Music, Mommy & Me program director, Gayle Kramer at 314. to enroll.

### Upcoming Events

**December 12-16, 3-8pm daily** – Holiday Sale & CD Event

**Late December** – Holiday teacher vacations. See your teacher for specific dates