



# Sharon Music Academy

## Newsletter

Carnivale 2006

We would like to invite you to a piano concert, featuring celebrated concert pianist Karine Bagdasarian, a Sharon Music Academy faculty member. The concert is organized by International Student and Scholar Institute at Northeastern University and will be held on February 10, 2006 at 7 PM in the Curry Student Center Ballroom. Contact ISSI at (617)373-2310 for complimentary tickets and concert information.

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## Why you need Music Theory

Playing a musical instrument without knowing the musical theory behind it is like playing a game without knowing the rules – it makes it all the more difficult to get good. When it comes to musical theory, you just need to know it. Just search the web for “music theory” and you will find million reasons why music theory is such an important part of music education. That’s why Sharon Music Academy, as a serious music education establishment, offers group music theory and harmony classes. How will you or your child benefit from these courses? Here are a couple of reasons you may consider:

1. *Cohesive and continuous instruction* - Music theory is a necessary part of instrumental study and teachers therefore must teach it anyway. However, when that music theory instruction happens in the context of a private lesson, it is often disjointed and incomplete as teachers try not to take time away from instrumental instruction and address only one specific knowledge area. Sharon Music Academy’s group music theory classes provide a comprehensive and continuous method to learning music theory. The classes provide a systematic approach to learning Music Theory through fun group settings and at a cost that is a fraction of private music lesson fees.

2. *More value from private lessons* – When a student understands music theory then much of studying an instrument becomes less mechanical. A student sees logic behind the notes and the learning process becomes faster and much more enjoyable. A student can learn more and achieve more in the same time period.

3. *Creativity stimulant* – understanding Music Theory allows students to view music as more of an art rather than a science. It stimulates creativity and deepens their understanding and appreciation of music. Compositional games and techniques taught through the Academy’s music theory class will uncork their creative powers and encourage the creation of original pieces of music. The course also provides necessary tools to open new musical horizons – ability to be able to play music by ear.



The course is created according to the Royal American Conservatory syllabus, which is an official program of the Music Teachers Association and is in essence the same program that is taught at the Julliard School of Music and New England Conservatory. The Level A Course will prepare students for Preparatory A and B exams. Level I class is a continuation of the course for those students who completed Level A and will prepare students for Level I examinations.

Please sign-up for the classes in the lobby or call us.

**Join community of friends and students of Sharon Music Academy.** Share your thoughts and photos, receive timely notifications and much more at SMA Yahoo Group:  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sharonmu1>

## Music For All Ages



Sharon Music Academy students are redefining community service. They are not donating food or money; they are donating their talents and the gift of music. Ten young musicians from Sharon, Canton and other local towns gave a concert for senior citizens at Stony Brook Court, the elderly housing community in Sharon, on January 15th and at Youville House in Cambridge on February 5th. Though Sharon Music Academy students have performed in some of the world's most famous concert halls, their performance on the 14th took on a different meaning. The audience was much less critical and significantly more appreciative. The concert, a far cry from the one Sharon Music Academy students gave at the Goethe Institute in New York the following week as part of the American Fine Arts Festival, deeply touched the seniors of Stony Brook on the cold Saturday afternoon. One resident, Ninel Wortman a published poet, was so moved by the youngsters, she wrote a poem dedicated to them, titled, "The Group of Children Came to Us. It can be read in its entirety on the Sharon Music Academy website ([www.sharonmusicacademy.com/testim.html#poem](http://www.sharonmusicacademy.com/testim.html#poem)). The youngsters created a connection with the seniors by means of classical music and the experience was rewarding not just for Ninel and her neighbors but for the children as well.

Angelique Scully, age 8, the winner of several international music competitions, said, "One of the grandmothers said she used to play Bach when she was my age but that I played it better. Then she gave me a hug and a big smile. I'm glad I made her day better." Overall, it was an affecting experience for the young and old alike. Ninel writes, "I thought about music, it's perfection / That could penetrate through generations, / About music's eternal life / Which could conquer space and time."

### DVD of Winter Recital

DVD of Winter Recital is currently available courtesy of Sharon Community Cable. If you are interested to make a copy please let us know.

## How Steinways are made

From February 1 through February 13, Steinert's Pianos in Natick will have the Steinway Construction Display in their showroom, and will be presenting "Secrets of Steinway" for interested groups. The display includes a Steinway Model B grand piano, broken down into its integral components for closer inspection and discussion. A Steinway grand piano takes 365 days to craft by hand, but we will present it in 90 minutes. The event includes a video tour of the Steinway Factory, a hands on discussion of the Steinway grand piano, and information detailing what makes Steinway the finest piano in the world. You can go yourself or join a group that will visit Steinert's Pianos on Saturday, March 18. Please sign-up in the lobby or call us. .

Please visit us online at

[www.sharonmusicacademy.com](http://www.sharonmusicacademy.com)

# American Fine Arts Festival

In January and February, sixteen students of the Sharon Music Academy earned the honor of performing at Carnegie Hall and the Goethe Institute during Finale of the third annual American Fine Arts Festival, dedicated to Mozart's 250th anniversary. They earned this honor competing with hundreds of students from all over the country.

Many young musicians from Sharon, Canton and other local cities and towns traveled to New York to represent local music traditions.

Sophie Tollefson, Angelique Scully and Brandon Bloch performed at Carnegie Hall and Sophie Tollefson, Matthew Freyman, Sophia Belilovsky, Michelle Cao, Renee Yang, Brooke Yang, Donna Zhang, Rodger Lu, Alex and Amelia Yu, Emily Xu, Grace and Gloria Han, Christopher Chen, Andrew and Catherine Song, Alai-

**Brandon Bloch, Tanya Schwartzman, Angelique Scully, Sophie Tollefson after performance**

to meet other young musicians from all corners of the United States and made a few new friends. Just like the way athletic



sha and Kaleala Kadish-Ferriter played at the wonderful concert hall at the Goethe Institute.

During the several days of the festival, the young musicians had a chance to visit museums and experience New York City. They also had the opportunity

competitors do, Sharon Music Academy performers traveled to New York together as a team, by way of a chartered bus sponsored by the Academy and accompanied by their parents, teachers, and movies for the long ride.

***“If I don't practice for one day, I know it; if I don't practice for two days, the critics know it; if I don't practice for three days, the audience knows it.” - Ignacy Paderevsky, Famous pianist and Prime Minister of Poland***



**After performance at German Cultural Center**





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Since 1990 the Sharon Music Academy has been providing complete music education on the South Shore and earned its reputation of one of the best music schools in Massachusetts. Several generations of children and adults from more than 23 local communities have learned their first notes at the Sharon Music Academy and proudly represented Sharon's culture at the famous music stages around the world and at local, national and international competitions. We provide complete music education and unrivaled opportunities for our students to express themselves through music.

**We help you find your own tune**

