



112 N. Main St  
Sharon, MA 02067  
Tel: (781)784-9079

# Sharon Music Academy

## Newsletter

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*"I have no pleasure in any man who despises music. It is no invention of ours: it is a gift of God. I place it next to theology. Satan hates music: he knows how it drives the evil spirit out of us."*

-Martin Luther

### Have a Wonderful Year of Music!

Dear Students and Music Lovers,

I want to welcome you back from summer vacation and tell you about many wonderful music events, programs and experiences that we have planned to bring to you this year.

We will have all our favorite traditional events: Halloween Party with a guest magician, Christmas recitals, Annual Concert of Family Ensembles, Faculty Concert, and, of course, End Of The Year Recital. Our students will have an opportunity to play for a very appreciative audience at Stony Brook and Orchard Cove senior living communities. Those who have not experience performing in the best concert halls of New York City will again have an opportunity to audition for the American Fine Arts Festival. Young musicians who want to compete will have a chance to participate in

MMTA Bay State Competition, Piano Extravaganza at URI, Young Promise International Competition and International Young Artist Competition in Washington, DC. High school seniors will have an opportunity to participate in Chaminade Club Music Contest.

Every year we work on special projects, which are both educational and fun. I am sure that many of you still remember "Carnival of the Animals" show and "Music of the Birds" concert featuring bird themes in music. This year we plan Music Of The World concert that will present music from all over the world.

For preschoolers we offer new Suzuki violin program as well as updated and improved "Jolly Notes" and "Music Rainbow" programs. We are also introducing a new program "Music FUNdamentals". Please read about these programs on our website.

Music Theory is important element of music education and helps students with practice, in many cases removing the burden of memorization. Please ask us about Music Theory course.

For our adult students we will continue our popular "Music Evenings at SMA" where our adult students perform for each other and socialize with fellow music lovers.

We are striving to provide all our students with great music education and different music experiences. Please let us know what else what you like to see in our curriculum.

We look forward to all students and parents participating in all our events. It is your participation that makes our school year a success!

Tanya Schwartzman,

Music Director

### Fall Registration

Dear Students and Parents,

We have announced Fall Registration in May to give our students priority in securing a convenient slot for the fall. The registration process works on first come ,first served basis. We have new students registering every day. To be fair, we would like to remind everyone that though we will make every effort to accommodate you it will be very difficult to find a convenient slot in September. We urge you to re-register online as soon as possible.

## Sounds of Summer

Though this summer has been rainy and hot it has not prevented many of our students to enjoy wonderful music experiences. At the end of May Danielle Oh performed at Carnegie Hall in New York. In June our guitar, saxophone and piano students played at the Beach Tree Park in Sharon. Large group of our students had a wonderful trip to New York to perform in Dicapo Opera Theater in the finale of American Fine Arts Festival. In July Andrew and Catherine Song, together with Christopher Chen performed with the Bristol Chamber Orchestra at the Borderland Park. Sabrina Zhang, Angeli-que Scully, Christopher Chen, Andrew and Catherine Song, Kevin Lee, Miranda and Melanie Tan have collected an impressive collection of awards at the Young Promise International Music Competition and Festival. Angeli-que Scully won the third place at the 53rd World Piano Competition in Cincinnati, OH. In August Kunwoo Shin and Kevin Lee travelled with the Music Director Tanya Schwartzman through Germany and Austria visiting the places associated with life and work of the famous musicians and composers. They had master classes with the world renowned European professors, gave the concert at the Liszt's house and played his piano, visited the house of Mozart in Salzburg and have made a lot of new friends from all over the world.



Danielle Oh at Carnegie Hall



Beach Tree Park Concert



## Just Wanted To Be Her Best

Life always make people to make hard choices. And at the beginning of the last year 11 year old Angeli-que Scully had to make a hard choice when she decided to participate in the 53rd World Piano Competition in Cincinnati, OH. This is one of the oldest and the most prestigious piano competitions in the country and it has a very unusual format. Young pianists compete not in the age groups but in the level groups, where level is determined by the complexity of the pieces the contestants need to play. There are 12 difficulty levels and though there is a loose correlation between an age and a level it is not uncommon to see big age difference among contestants. The program that Angeli-que was playing at this time corresponded to the 11th level. It was obvious that if she decided to compete at this level she would be at least 3-4 years younger than the majority of the contestants in this group. So she had a choice—perform the pieces that she had played several years ago and compete at the level 8, where contestants would be her age and her chances of winning would be very high. Or compete at the level 11, where she would be the youngest and least experienced among all contestants. What would you do in this situation?

Angeli-que decided to challenge herself and compete at the 11th level. And her hard and dedicated work has paid off. Competing against much older pianists she has won the 3rd place in this very prestigious contest and has been invited to perform at the Carnegie Hall in the Winners Concert. We would like to congratulate Angeli-que not only on her achievement but also on her competitive spirit.

## Piano Tuning

Well maintained instrument makes a lot of difference in practicing and performing. And like a house, a piano holds its value if it is maintained properly. That's why it is important to service

your piano regularly by a professional tuner. For your benefit, Sharon Music Academy arranged a special deal with several reputable piano tuners. If more than 6 pianos in the area need tuning, the

tuners will give 10% discount to everybody, who signs up. So, our goal is to sign-up 6 people. If you are interested, please leave your name and telephone number on the sign-up sheet in the lobby.



Concert at Borderland Park

