



Piano Studio Update **October/November 2011**

Current News . . .

As we approach “recital season”, I always feel the excitement growing! This is such a special time of the year! Recitals are definitely enjoyable for everyone, but they are also a very important part of learning to play any instrument. It is expected that all students will participate. If you have a conflict, or other issue, that prohibits participation in any recital, please let your teacher know as soon as possible.

Make up Lessons . . .

There will be **no scheduled lessons** during the week of October 31. This week is set aside for makeup lessons only. You will be notified if your child will need a makeup lesson during the week. Otherwise, there will not be a lesson that week.

Many of our Lower School students will miss a lesson due to **Christmas play practice** in December. The teachers are aware of the schedule and they will notify you of the date for the makeup lesson if needed.

Recital Information . . .

- **Tuesday, November 1** at 1:45 p.m.

Community Outreach Recital at [Southern Plantation Retirement Home](#) in Loganville.

This is an early release day for LS parent conferences. Please schedule your conference accordingly.

US will not have an early release. However, students who would like to participate will be granted an excused absence to attend.

Attire is school uniform or “dressy” casual.

- **Monday, December 12**

Christmas Recital at [Woodlake Baptist Church](#) in Loganville.

6:00 p.m. - *Session 1: PreK through 4th Grade*

6:45 p.m. - *Intermission - light refreshments will be served*

7:00 p.m. - *Session 2: 5th Grade and up*

The Christmas Recital is divided into two sessions so that it is not as lengthy for our younger students. However, everyone is welcome to stay for both sessions. Please invite family and friends!

Attire for the Christmas Recital is “**Concert Attire**”. Dressing appropriately for all events is part of training our students socially.

- Girls should dress modestly in “Sunday” dress. Tailored, classic attire is generally more appropriate than trendy styles.
- Boys should wear slacks, a collared shirt, and tie (if you have one). For older boys and young men, a suit or sport coat, tie, and slacks would be appropriate if you have it.

Practice & Recital Tips . . .

Preparation:

- ♪ Practice, practice, practice! Know your music **very well** at least 2-4 weeks ahead of time. This will give you time to refine it and become comfortable.
- ♪ You may want to record a “mock” performance at home.

Performance:

- ♪ **Do not** chew gum or have anything in your mouth when you are performing.
- ♪ When you sit down at the piano, be sure that you are directly in front of middle C.
- ♪ Before you begin, take your time to be sure you are ready. Count a full measure to set the tempo in your mind. This will also help you relax.
- ♪ Do not look around while you are playing. Keep your eyes on your music and stay focused. Try hard not to become distracted by external noise such as a crying baby, a cell phone, people moving around, etc.
- ♪ If you make a mistake, just keep going. Most of the time, no one will know. If you just can't recover, feel free to start over (you won't be the first – and you will not be the last).
- ♪ **Most importantly** – have fun! You have worked hard and now is the time to enjoy it. Remember, you are playing for people that love and support you – everyone is on your side!

Reminders . . .

If you are new to Piano Studio this year, please consult your policy brochure if you have questions.

Please remember:

- Tuition is a yearly, not monthly, fee. There are no partial month discounts.
- If you are paying tuition in monthly installments, payment is due at the first lesson of the month. If not received, a reminder invoice will be sent on or about the 10th of the month. A late fee is assessed on the 15th of the month.
- Most students will only have one or two lessons in December and again in May. However, the recital fees are included in tuition.
- All students receive 30 lessons during the school year, so no student will be “short changed”.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need directions to either one of the locations for our upcoming recitals.

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