



Piano Notes

July 2010  Volume 9  Number 3

“A painter paints pictures on canvas, but musicians paint their pictures on silence.”

~Leopold Stokowski.

A Night at the Movies

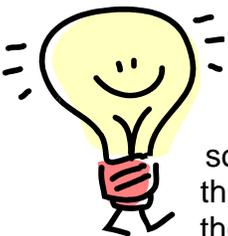
Our recital is held Saturday, August 7. This formal recital will take place at the [Brentwood Community United Methodist Church at 809 2nd Street](#). In order to keep the length of the recital less than an hour, there are two performance times, 4:30 and 5:45pm. Please let me know by August 1st if you prefer a specific time.



Group Lessons

Group lessons are scheduled for July 26 and 27. Students will be playing their recital pieces memorized. Click [here](#) for more information on group lessons.

What Works?



Here are some golden tips parents have shared with me to motivate and encourage their children. There are also some great ideas of how to use the piano as a means to teach their children responsibility, the joy of learning, and pride in doing their best.

Elementary-Aged Pianists

- Younger children need more supervision to help them understand and follow directions.
- Let them have the spotlight by creating a special family recital in your home.
- Establish and maintain a regular practice routine. (Because learning is both exciting and hard, praise their efforts and hold consistent practice expectations.)
- 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders usually prefer to have more “say” when it comes to practice. To model planning skills, sit with them and decide on the best days/times to practice (5 days, 30 minutes each day)

Middle School-Aged Pianists

- Older children like sharing what they’ve accomplished in each piece (even if they don’t act like it!)
- Have your child teach you! Concepts such as proper hand position, posture, rhythms, or the location of notes are best reinforced by teaching.... plus, it’s always cool to show mom and dad something new! 😊
- They usually don’t like to be told when to practice, but appreciate help remembering to stick to their commitments.
- They want more control in when they practice. Some thrive at detailed practice logs where they can write down their daily practice goals.
- They love to be praised (again, even if they don’t act like it!)

High School-Aged Pianists

- As they carry heavier homework loads, they appreciate help fine-tuning their time-management skills.
- They like being praised for being self-sufficient (even if they still don’t act like it!)

Have other tips for practice, performing, or life skills? Email me so others can benefit from your expertise!



Questions? Visit [PianoObsession.com](#) or contact me: 925-783-4147 or Alexis@PianoObsession.com

Quick Notes

- ♪ Group Lessons July 26 & July 27
- ♪ A Night at the Movies August 7 at 4:30 & 5:45
- ♪ Studio Closed for Fall Break September 27 – October 8
- ♪ Lessons Resume October 11