

iMA Newsletter

Markham Board of Trade **Business Excellence Award** finalist.
Winner of the **Consumers' Choice Award** for best music school in the GTA.
Winner of the Royal Conservatory of Music **Gold Medal for Teaching Excellence**.



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International
Music
Academy

Year XVII, No. 4

April 2014

WELCOMING OUR NEW STUDENTS

Jackie X. (Clarinet)
Claudia I. (Piano)
Matthew S. (Violin)
Vincent L. (Piano)
Shabana M. (Guitar)
Mannar I. (Piano)

IMA STUDENTS BIRTHDAYS IN APRIL

Rachel T., Daniel R., Emily J., Andrew S., Lana N.,
Brandon T., Claudia I., Mateo L., Anayraj G., Leodril J.,
Justin G., Jaison W., Bradley C., Kathy D., Steven G.,
Michael C., Mary J., Bernice C., Valerie C., Andrew C.,
Claudia T.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

IMPORTANT DAYS IN APRIL

- April 1. Easter Monday. School is open
- April 12-29. North York Music Festival
- April 15-20. RCM practical examinations (piano).
- April 27. Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra concert (MacMillan Theatre)

NEWS

THE DJOGO BROTHERS HAVE WON THREE FIRST AWARDS AT THE NORTH YORK MUSIC COMPETITION

Gligor Djogo (clarinet) has won a first place in the category of ARCT Performance at the North York Music Competition for playing Mozart's Concerto for clarinet and orchestra. His younger brother, Novak Djogo (flute), has won a first award and Radomir Djogo (trumpet) has won a first award as well. All three boys are students of Mr. Leonid Sprikut. Congratulations on their excellent performances and all the best in their future music-related endeavours.

Mr. Leonid Sprikut availabilities were fully "sold out" on Mondays, Fridays, and Saturdays. He has now added Wednesdays to his schedule at IMA. Mr. Sprikut teaches woodwinds and brass instruments, as well as music theory and piano/keyboard.

GREAT COMPOSERS ANNIVERSARIES IN APRIL

1/04/1873 **Rachmaninoff** was born
01/04/1917 **Scott Joplin** died
03/04/1897 **Brahms** died
06/04/1971 **Stravinsky** died
08/04/1848 **Donizetti** died
14/04/1759 **Handel** died
18/04/1936 **Respighi** died
23/04/1857 **Leoncavallo** was born
27/04/1891 **Prokofiev** was born
27/04/1915 **Scriabin** died
27/04/1992 **Messiaen** died

Where you born or do you know someone who was born on the same day as these famous composers? Drop us an e-mail at info@InternationalMusicAcademy.ca to let us know.

2013 GREAT COMPOSERS ANNIVERSARIES

- **Gesualdo** - 400th anniversary of his death on 8 September
- **Corelli** - 300th anniversary of his death on 8 January
- **Verdi** - 200th anniversary of his birth on 9 October 1813
- **Wagner** - 200th anniversary of his birth on 22 May 1813.
- **Mascagni** - 150th anniversary centenary of his birth on 7 December
- **Britten** - 100th anniversary of his birth on 22 November.

FEATURED TEACHER OF THE MONTH



Katherine Cao, M. Mus, B.Mus.
Piano studies, voice and music theory

Ms. Katherine Cao has graduated from University of New Brunswick with a Bachelor of Arts degree and with an A.R.C.T. diploma from the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto. She has taught piano, voice, music theory, and music history to students of all ages and levels. Ms. Cao is a Member of Toronto Mendelssohn Choir and is on the faculty of the Sonata Music School in Toronto. She is a registered teacher with the Royal Conservatory of Music.

Mrs. Cao was happy to answer a few questions for our students and parents:

1. What do you like most about teaching?

As a piano and vocal teacher I think what I like best about teaching is that students always bring me surprises. Some students could complete one RCM level 4 piece just in one week! Most of my vocal students are teenagers and they love to sing. As a teacher, I like helping them to develop their potential, built more confidence and increase their self-esteem. In addition, I like to prepare them for Also, give them advice about how to perform on stage. So that's the most like about teaching is enjoying the power of teaching.

2. How do you inspire students to practice more?

Most of my piano students are very young so I usually choose pieces with lyrical melodies and teach them to sing the melody and clap the beat. Once they get more familiar with the piece, they start to play it and enjoy it.

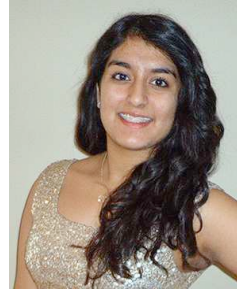
3. What roles does performance play in student's development? Once the students get a performance experience, they continue to improve much faster. I always suggest students to get involved more often in performing. Every student work hard before a performance and enjoy the moment of being on stage and receiving well deserved applauses form audiences. Also, students become more confident after every performance and encouraged to practice even more often.

4. Who are your favourite composers? My favorite composers include Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin and Verdi. I like Mozart because his music brings me happiness and it's fun to work with students. Beethoven is one of he composer really focused on finger skills. Chopin and Verdi are my favourite composers of Romantic period.

5. What was the last piece of music (sheet music or a recording) you purchased for yourself?

The last piece of music I purchased is "I dreamed a dream" from Les Misérables for one of my vocal students. I

FEATURED STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Sarika Chakravorty

What instrument do you play? **Piano and Voice.**

How long have you taken lessons? **I have been a student at the International Music Academy for 7 years, since 2006.**

Who are your favorite musical artists? **Rihanna, Adele, Beyonce, Justin Bieber, Justin Timberlake, and Adam Levine.**

What are your other hobbies, besides music? **I have recently taken interest in nature photography and creating music mixes for my friends and family.**

Favorite food? **I enjoy international foods, especially sushi, Chinese noodles, and butter chicken.**

What is the coolest thing you've learnt in your lessons in the past three months? **Learning new songs is always something I enjoy the most.**

Do you have any performance coming up? **I will be performing at the Shiamak Summer Funk at the Living Arts Centre with my dance class in June 2013. I am assisting with many musical performances at the Vedic Cultural Centre in Markham.**

E-mail to info@InternationalMusicAcademy.ca a photo of yourself (or your child) together with the answers of the following questions: What instrument do you play?, How long have you taken lessons?, Who are our favourite musical artists?, What are your other hobbies, besides music?, Favourite food? What is the coolest thing you've learnt in your lessons in the past three months?, Do you have any performances coming up?). The deadline for submissions is the 15th of every month. We will feature you in one of the next issues of the newsletter.

PET OF THE MONTH

Ria



What is the name of your pet?
My pet's name is Ria.

How old is she? **She is 4 years old and 4 months, she weighs 4 pounds**

What kind of breed our pet is (if applicable)? **Maltese**

How long have you had her for? **She came to join our family when she was only a month old.**

Any special circumstances around getting the pet (i.e. a gift, foster pet, etc.)? **She is a very low maintenance, she is very independent, loving and affectionate. She was born in Quebec in the home of a breeder specialized in Maltese and miniature dogs.**

The funniest story about your pet?

She loves to have the slide directional position with her heads sitting between her paws and her rear feet are up. So you could picture her like in a tiny slide position. She loves to eat vegetable and fruit, her favourite treat is strawberry and peach.

Any special skills or abilities? **She listens and understands the commands when she is being disciplined. She sings with me when I vocalize. She's tiny, but mighty. I remember once, when we were walking one time in a park, two huge dogs came to us (German shepherd and a Doberman), I was furious that the two unleashed dog may attack or bite Ria. When the two dogs started sniffing her she turned her back and started barking at them. The two dogs ran away and never came back.**

Send a photo of your pet together with following information and we will publish it in one of the next issues of the IMA newsletter.

What is the name of your pet? How old is he/she? What kind of breed our pet is (if applicable)? How long have you had him/her for? Any special circumstances around getting the pet (i.e. a gift, foster pet, etc.)? The funniest story about you pet? Any special skills or abilities?

FEATURED ARTICLE

HOW TO KEEP YOUR LESSONS CURRENT DAY, TIME AND TEACHER FOR SEPTEMBER 2013.

The summer is quickly approaching and it will, once again, offer a splendid array of possibilities to savour new experiences, learn new skills and continue developing current strengths and abilities.

Parents often ask: What makes Mozart famous? Or, what makes Tiger Woods great? We think we know: Each was a "natural" who came into the world with a gift for doing exactly what he ended up doing. Well, it's not so simple. For one thing, you do not possess a natural gift for a certain job, because targeted natural gifts simply don't exist. You are not a born CEO or investor or chess grandmaster or a world famous musician. You will achieve greatness only through an enormous amount of hard work over many years. And not just any hard work, but work of a particular type that's often demanding. The good news is that the lack of a natural gift is irrelevant - talent has little (or nothing) to do with greatness.

Scientists worldwide have conducted scores of studies since the 1993 publication of a landmark paper by Ericsson and two colleagues, many focusing on sports, music and chess, in which performance is relatively easy to measure and plot over time. But plenty of additional studies have also examined other fields, including education, business, and creativity. The first major conclusion is that nobody is great without work. It's nice to believe that if you find the field where you're naturally gifted, you'll be great from day one, but it doesn't happen. There's no evidence of high-level performance without experience or practice.

Reinforcing that no-free-lunch finding is vast evidence that even the most accomplished people need around ten years of hard work before becoming world-class, a pattern so well established researchers call it the ten-year rule. And as John Horn of the University of Southern California and Hiromi Masunaga of California State University observe, "*The ten-year rule represents a very rough estimate, and most researchers regard it as a minimum, not an average.*" In many fields (music, literature) elite performers need 20 or 30 years' experience before hitting their zenith.

You or your child has been continuously taking music lessons at the International Music Academy for several months or even years. Working with a professional educator is an important step towards improving the skills and abilities of every young musician. **Interrupting music lessons for 2 or 3 months during the summer will inevitably lead to forgetting a substantial part of what has already been already learnt and acquired.** Then, coming in September - it will take another two months (or even more) to get back to the same level you are currently at. Taking music lessons with the IMA teachers is fun and enjoyable, so why not continuing in the summer when children are more relaxed, more available, and parents are looking for more activities to

keep them occupied. Of course, making up lessons will still be available, in order to accommodate your summer holidays schedule.

CONTINUE TAKING LESSONS DURING THE SUMMER AND YOU WILL BE ABLE TO KEEP YOUR CURRENT TIME SLOT FOR SEPTEMBER. THE SLOTS THAT WILL BECOME AVAILABLE DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS WILL BE GIVEN TO NEW STUDENTS (OR TO CURRENT STUDENTS WHO ARE ON A WAITING LIST LOOKING TO CHANGE THE DAY/TIME OF THEIR LESSONS). ONCE TAKEN IN JULY OR AUGUST, THOSE SPOTS WOULD REMAIN OCCUPIED IN SEPTEMBER (AND BEYOND) AND ARE USUALLY NOT AVAILABLE TO OUR RETURNING STUDENTS.

As Luciano Pavarotti once said, "If I don't practice for a day, I know it. If I don't practice for two days, my neighbour knows it. If I don't practice for three days, the entire world knows it." Taking lessons during the summer will help you to stay focussed, continue learning, and becoming better and better so that one day you will get to a level of greatness that will make you feel good about yourself and about the live changing power of music.

International Music Academy

GIFT CERTIFICATE

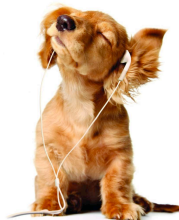
for new students only

ONE FREE LESSON

Call the IMA Office at **905.489.4620**
to schedule your first lesson.

Once scheduled, the lesson cannot be rescheduled. Cannot be combined with any other offer. No refunds, no exchanges.

International Music Academy
4981 Highway 7, Unit 8
Markham ON L3R 1N1



Music is soooooo beautiful!

Register for lessons by **April 30, 2013** and receive

\$30 off

New students only.

Cannot be combined with any other offer.

REFER A NEW STUDENT and GET ONE FREE LESSON!

When you refer a new student to the IMA, who registers for lesson, you will get one free lesson for every new student. So, if you refer the IMA to 2 new students, we will give you 2 free lessons; for 3 new students – 3 free lessons etc. Fill in the coupon below and leave it with the IMA Office administrator.

Your name: _____

Name of the new student: _____

You can print or photocopy this coupon as many times as you need.

Cannot be combined with any other offer.



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Flato
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LIVE ARTS MATTERS.

Sunday,
May 5, 2013
2:00 p.m.



Tickets: \$32 | \$22
www.MarkhamTheatre.ca
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Kristian Alexander | conductor
Mark Djokic | violin

Alexa Petrenko | host (*Classical 96.3 FM*)

Lutosławski, Symphonic Variations
Sibelius, Violin concerto
Stravinsky, Symphony No. 1, Op. 1
Kevin Lau, Artemis

905.305.7469

171 Town Centre Blvd., Markham