

# IMA Newsletter

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**.  
Winner of the **York Region Character Community Award**.  
Markham Board of Trade **Business Excellence Award** finalist.



4981 Highway 7, Suite 1  
Markham ON L3R 1N1  
Canada M1K 3K1  
Phone: 905.489.4620  
Fax: 905.489.4621  
www.internationalmusicacademy.ca  
info@internationalmusicacademy.ca

International  
Music  
Academy

Year XVII, No. 10

October 2013

## WELCOMING OUR NEW STUDENTS

Alaina N. (piano)	Ravinna R. (voice)
Sophia M. (piano)	Angelique E. (voice)
Ana C. (violin)	Lucy Z. (flute)
Emma M. (piano)	Rita T. (flute)
Audrey Z. (piano)	Jonathan W. (guitar)
Justin L. (violin)	Valeria S. (piano)
Shirley C. (piano)	Kaden N. (guitar)
Lara S. (guitar)	Charlotte L. (piano)
Layan S. (violin)	Joshua M. (guitar)

Jennifer T. (saxophone)  
Kin Wai W. (composition)  
Maria-Aimee T. (piano and voice)  
Charlotte G. (piano and voice)

## IMA STUDENTS BIRTHDAYS IN OCTOBER

Adit K., Todd G., Cameron D., Ellie W., John H.,  
Emily L., Rita T., Kenneth W., Janice C., Johnny K.,  
Evelyn A., Alex M., Trevor K., Aleyna A., Kerrah  
M., Minu K., Marian K., Jocelyn T., Briana C.,  
Rebecca F., Clement C., Mario Y., Darius B.,  
Stuart C., Markella K., Rishi B., Anika P., Sidney H.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

## IMPORTANT DAYS IN OCTOBER

October 1. International Music Day  
October 7-13. IMA Drawing Contest (see below)  
October 11. PA Day (YR). **School is open.**  
October 14. Thanksgiving Day. **School is open.**  
October 22. Richmond Hill Music Festival registrations  
deadline

## NEWS

### ACCEPTING NEW STUDENTS.

Registrations for the upcoming school year are currently being accepted on a first-come-first-served basis. **We have registered over 50 new students in August and September alone and hired 6 new teachers so that we can continue accepting new students. Call our office at 905.489.4620 to check the available times for lessons.**

### MRS. HASMIG SURMELIAN SENDS HER BEST WISHES

Mrs. Hasmig Surmelian is sending all of her students and their families best wishes for exciting and successful school year. She is currently going under tests and additional exams before she leaves to France. She thanks all of her students for their nice and supportive messages and hopes they continue practicing their instruments.

### IMA DRAWING CONTEST

Now that we have settled down and getting into the routine, it's time to have a little fun. Every year the IMA is putting together a drawing contest for its students. This year theme is "Music makes me feel..." and here are the rules: to enter in the contest, you have to be currently enrolled at the IMA and be 18 y.o. or younger. Drawings of any size are accepted and any technique may be used (water colours, pastels, crayons, black and white graphics, tempera etc.). You have to submit your drawing by October 15 directly to the IMA Office. On the back of the paper put your name and age. There will be 3 prizes: 1<sup>st</sup> (a \$50 gift card for Chapters/Indigo/Cole book store), 2<sup>nd</sup> (a pair of tickets for a concert at Markham Theatre) and 3<sup>rd</sup> (\$10 voucher for Cineplex Odeon Movie theatres). The drawing of the winner of the contest may also be published in the concert program of the Kindred Spirits Orchestra at Markham Theatre.

## GREAT COMPOSERS BIRTHDAYS IN OCTOBER

10/01/1865-05/17/1935	DUKAS, Paul	French
10/06/1882-03/29/1937	SZYMANOWSKI, Karol	Polish
10/09/1585-11/06/1672	SCHÜTZ, Heinrich	German
10/09/1813-01/27/1901	VERDI, Giuseppe	Italian
10/09/1835-12/16/1921	SAINT-SAËNS, Camille	French
10/12/1872-08/26/1958	VAUGHAN WILLIAMS, Ralph	English
10/14/1871-03/15/1942	ZEMLINSKY, Alexander von	Austrian
10/16/1679-12/22/1745	ZELENKA, Jan	Bohemian
10/20/1874-05/19/1954	IVES, Charles	American
10/22/1811-07/31/1886	LISZT, Franz	Hungarian
10/24/1882-10/30/1953	KÁLMÁN, Emmerich	Hungarian
10/25/1564-06/08/1602	HASSLER, Hans Leo	German
10/25/1825-06/03/1899	STRAUSS JR., Johann	Austrian
10/25/1838-06/03/1875	BIZET, Georges	French
10/25/1864-01/03/1956	GRETCHANINOV, Alexander	Russian
10/26/1685-07/23/1757	SCARLATTI, Giuseppe	Italian
10/27/1782-05/27/1840	PAGANINI, Niccolò	Italian

*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](mailto:info@InternationalMusicAcademy.ca) to let us know.*

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## 2013 GREAT COMPOSERS ANNIVERSARIES

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

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## FEATURED TEACHER OF THE MONTH



**Alexander Tikhonov, M.Mus.**  
Piano, Woodwinds and brass

Mr. Tikhonov has graduated with a Master of Music degree in performance from the St. Petersburg Conservatory of Music and with a second Master of Arts in saxophone performance degree from the St.

Petersburg Academy of Arts and Culture. He has regularly performed at the St. Petersburg Musical Theatre, the Conservatory Opera and Ballet Theatre, the Admiralty Navy Band, "Rio" Jazz Band, and others. Mr. Tikhonov is a Laureate of the International Maria Yudina Competition (St Petersburg), as well as of the Chamber Music Competition (Novomoskovsk). He is also the recipient of

the *Gartow Stiftung Wettbewerb* Award. Mr. Tikhonov brings to the International Music Academy over 15 years of teaching experience. He is a registered teacher with the Royal Conservatory of Music (RCME 62670).

*Mr. Tikhonov was happy to answer a few questions for our students and parents:*

**1. What do you like most about teaching?** I want to share my knowledge and experience with my students. I'm having a pleasure while teaching because I learn personally a lot how to be correct, patient and well prepared for my work at the IMA.

**2. How do you inspire students to practice more?** Usually we work together towards finding an interesting material for practicing. It could be a popular song, a melody from a movie or a video/computer game...

**3. What roles does performance play in student's development?** It is very important for the students to perform in front of a live audience. The result of the long practice should be shown in public. Then, observing and listening to the performers at the recitals definitely brings the necessary motivation to the others for improving their skills and achieving the best result in future. Finally, I believe that even though it is quite nervous for students to participate at the concerts, it is still one of the most exciting musical experiences they ever go through...

**4. Who are your favourite composers?** My favorite classical composers are Peter Tchaikovsky, Ludwig Beethoven and Carl M. Weber. Besides I'm a big fan of Jazz music... In that field I like to listen to compositions by Chick Corea, Herbie Hancock, Sonny Rollins, Dexter Gordon and many more...

**5. What was the last piece of music (sheet music or a recording) you purchased for yourself?** "Beyond the lights" by Keiko Matsui - a famous Japanese piano player and composer who writes mainly pop music based on classical roots and Jazz tradition in modern Asia.

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## FEATURED STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

### Rhea Pai

*What instrument do you play?* **I have been playing piano.**

*How long have you taken lessons?* **I have been taking lessons at the International Music Academy for 2 years.**



Who are your favorite musical artists? **Macklemore, Justin Timberlake, Robin Thicke, Britney Spears, Rihanna, Hedley, and Katy Perry**

What are your other hobbies, besides music? **Soccer, badminton, skiing, writing**

Favorite food? **I have a lot but some my most favourite are tacos, nachos, and cupcakes**

What is the coolest thing you've learnt in your lessons in the past three months? **All the cool new scales, and the new songs I'm playing**

Do you have any performance coming up? **I am looking forward to the IMA Winter concert.**

E-mail to [info@InternationalMusicAcademy.ca](mailto: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

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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

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### BBC NEWS

**How university students do their studies has changed significantly in recent years with the growth in online learning.**

By Matt Lee

Instead of physically attending lectures or going to the library, they can download lesson plans and lecture notes

to their laptop, have a Skype conversation with a lecturer and submit work online.

With more universities now offering e-learning and MOOCs (massive open online courses) is there now a need for them to still have classrooms and a campus?

The **University of Warwick was one of 12 to sign up with a company called Futurelearn** in December to enable them to offer free online degree-level courses and MOOCs to students around the world. The first of which in behavioural science will start in July. Mark Taylor, from the university, said he hoped it would help attract more students to come to study at the university rather than as a direct substitute for learning on campus.

He said: "There is a branding to it, getting people worldwide to realise the quality of work and teaching that is available and encouraging students to come and study with us more formally."

"Also with higher tuition fees, if somebody is charging you £9,000 a year you might want to have a look at what's on offer there before you actually turn up, which you can do with these courses."

**What is a MOOC?** MOOC stands for a massive open online course. It is an online course aimed at large-scale participation and open access via the internet. They are similar to university courses, but do not tend to offer academic credit. A number of web-based platforms - including Coursera and Udacity - supported by top universities and colleges offer MOOCs in a wide range of subjects .

'**Napster moment**'. At its peak, its photography and narrative class, **Phonar, attracted more than 35,000 participants worldwide over a four week period** . Lecturer Jonathan Shaw said: "The idea that these courses were free haven't meant students don't want to come to university. Within two years the photography course is the hardest to get into and we only accept one in 10 students that we interview. "People say we're at the Napster moment, the MP3 type revolution, and fundamentally these MOOCs will shake up what education is about. "But the music industry didn't die, it's become something different, and I think education will naturally face that too - people still go to pop concerts because they want the physical experience." Staffordshire University is planning to launch its first MOOC in Sports Law. It hopes to build on the success of online masters courses it offers. Adrian Sym, 45, who works in Germany, did an online MA in international policy and diplomacy while living in Nepal. "I never set foot in the university," he said.



Dr Steve Wyn Williams says universities are thinking about "bricks and online clicks."

**'Human interaction'**

"It was really the only option open to me because I was overseas but to be honest I think I would've done the same thing had I been in the UK because if you're a mature student or working, real life doesn't leave room for attending a university."



"It can be overplayed too much that technology is taking over because we essentially are communal beings and I don't see these courses overtaking that human interaction. "To me, it's not an either or option, it's about providing education for people and it's up to them how they want to access that." Staffordshire University has spent £10m improving its campus in Stoke-on-Trent over the last eight months.

Dr Steve Wyn Williams, who is the University's dean of policy and development, said academic organisations will always want to invest in buildings and facilities as well as technology. He said: "The phase for universities has lasted since the 14th Century where a campus is important. "It's a space where learning occurs and here you can hear students talking about their studies and academic work as well as what they did last night." "I don't think it can be either bricks or online clicks, it might veer more towards the clicks because of technology and given the pressure on students and finances but the bricks are always going to be here, the challenge for universities is how you work that together."

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.***



Music is sooooooooo beautiful!

Register for lessons by **October 15, 2013** and receive

**\$30 off**

*New students only*

**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.*

