November 2018- Heather Smith Piano Studio Newsletter



Beginning Group Piano Fall Semester



The Beginning Group Classes are nearing an end for Fall Semester. It has been so fun teaching these bright and eager young students! In just two and a half months, students have learned the following:

- Appropriate sitting and hand positions.
- 2. Identify finger numbers on both hands.
- 3. Read and clap rhythmic patterns involving quarter, half, and whole notes as well as quarter, half, and whole rests.
- 4. Play legato and staccato five finger patterns (pentascales) in C Major, G Major, and D Major, ending with tonic chords.
- 5. Draw and identify notes on the grand staff.
- Recognize intervals up to an octave.
- 7. Recognize the difference between the sound of major and minor triads.
- 8. Ability to play and count out loud at the same time.
- 9. Play in various formats such as solo, duet, and group ensembles.

Spring Semester begins the second week of January. During Spring Semester, we will be preparing for Royal Conservatory examinations and end-of-semester recitals.

Click here for 2018-19 Beginning Group Piano Calendar

Christmas Recital @ BDAC



Our Christmas Recital for private students is on Saturday, December 8th. Dress for students is semi-formal. Please have your children arrive 10-15 minutes early. Friends and family are invited to attend. This will be a great way to start the holiday season!

When: Saturday, December 8th

Time: 10:30 AM

Where: Bountiful Davis Art Center (90 North Main Street, Bountiful)



Congratulations to the students who accomplished great things these past several months!

1st Annual Royal Conservatory Southwest Celebration of Excellence

Students who received a grade of 90 and above in their Royal Conservatory examinations in May were invited to participate in the 1st Annual Royal Conservatory Southwest Celebration of Excellence on November 3rd at the University of Utah. Students across several Southwestern states performed in the honors recital. Congratulations to the following students who performed: Emme H., Maura W., Maeser R., Isaac W., Ava W., BettyRose T., Aleigha F., and Brooklyn H.

Royal Conservatory Examination Awards

The following students received the highest scores in the state and individual centers during the **Royal Conservatory Examination**s in May:

Ava W.

- State Certificate of Excellence, Level 3 Piano
- Center Certificate of Excellence, Level 3 Piano

BettyRose T.

- State Certificate of Excellence, Preparatory A Piano
- Center Certificate of Excellence, Preparatory A Piano

Hope T.

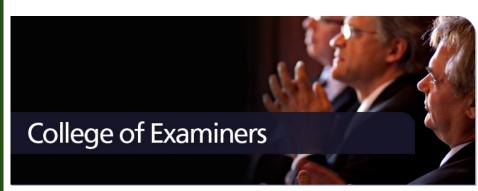
- State Certificate of Excellence, Level 5 Piano
- Center Certificate of Excellence, Level 5 Piano

Maeser R.

- State Certificate of Excellence, Level 1 Piano
- Center Certificate of Excellence, Level 1 Piano

Utah Music Teachers Association Intermediate Master Class

The Utah Music Teachers Association held an Intermediate Master Class at the Statewide Conference on November 2nd. Three students throughout the state were invited to participate. **Aubrey D.** was chosen to perform in the Master Class and beautifully performed the level 8 etude, *The Storm*, by Burgmuller. Way to go Aubrey!



After a year and a half in The Royal Conservatory's Adjudicator Certification Program, I was formally admitted to the College of Examiners on November 14th! Prior to being admitted to the College of Examiners, I had the opportunity to be mentored by many incredible Senior Examiners. Thank you so much to the parents and students who accommodated my ever-changing schedule so that I could travel to the various testing centers throughout North America to receive this training.



Starting in January, it is my goal to make music theory more of a priority for all students. Because I haven't required students to take theory exams, theory homework assignments often go uncompleted each week. Having a strong music theory foundation will greatly help students understand the music they are playing at a much deeper level.

For this next year, taking theory exams will remain optional. However, the best way to motivate students to do their their music theory assignments each week, is to hold them accountable with an end of level music theory examination. Please let me know if you would like your child to take their theory exam in August.