

# LAAPANOTES



## Fall Routine Fun with Music & Dance Lessons



Dear Students and Parents,

It's hard to believe that it's already "Back to School Time!" I trust that you have all had your fair share of swimming, snowballs, trips, summer camps, afternoon thunderstorms, and plenty of rest and are ready to get back into a regular routine!

At LAAPA we had another awesome summer here with some of our best music concerts to date as well as 3 fantastic weeks of summer music and dance camp! Summers are always fun here at LAAPA, but we always look forward to the routine and structure that the Fall brings!

While many people tend to enjoy the structure and organization of a routine (especially in education), the very word to be honest has bit of a "boring" and "humdrum" connotation to it doesn't it?

So this month I thought I'd share how the Faculty at LAAPA are asked to structure their music and dance lessons to establish healthy routines that are both fun and rewarding!

### 1.) Settle In / Decompress / Warm Up Time

Life can be tough at all ages! Whether you had a trying day at school or work, it's important to take the first few minutes of your lesson to transition out of the burdens of everyday life and into the magical world of music and dance. Our faculty help students to do this through breathing exercises (especially for vocalists), stretches and basic movements for dancers, scales for pianists and so on.

### 2.) Variety in Lesson Planning

The key word here is indeed "variety". Especially in the case of the young, beginning student, attention spans can be brief. Even with older beginners, most do not want to spend their entire 30-60 minute lessons playing the same piece or dancing to the same music over and over and over. Can you say "BORING!?" During a lesson, our teachers focus on introducing a variety of concepts, techniques, and songs to both maintain the interest of the student and create well rounded lesson plans that are tai-

lored to the individual needs of the student. Your teacher at LAAPA will certainly take enough time to help you address areas of technical proficiency where needed, but the majority of the "playing over and over to master" should take place outside of the lesson during your personal practice sessions (which we recommend be as little as 10-15 minutes a day for beginning students).

### 3.) Student Choice of Repertoire

During recent student interviews, we asked students about their about their favorite things about taking lessons at LAAPA. Current student, Holly Schilleci, said (paraphrasing), "I'm glad we don't all have to sing the same songs because, well, when I took singing lessons at another school, everyone had to sing 'Frozen' and I really don't like that song (laughing)." While our faculty will recommend many age/level appropriate pieces for our students, they are also all very much open to teaching students the songs, styles, and steps that THEY like and want to learn. While it's not always possible to perform certain songs/choreography before having some basic fundamentals in place, our faculty members are very creative people and are often able to come up with an introductory version that the student can successfully play at his/her current level.

### 4.) The Lagniappe Nugget

What's the lagniappe nugget you ask? It's that special little something extra that our teachers try to work into each lesson. Perhaps it's a new technique, new guitar riff, cool new paradiddle, concept, piece of music customized for a student that they've been requesting, a musical game on the studio iPad, new instrument or musical equipment brought in to lessons for students to observe and learn about, improvisation time, and the list goes on! The nugget usually occurs toward the end of the lessons so that there is always something new and exciting to anticipate!

How does your lesson routine go each week and what do you like about it? Share it with us and we may feature it in an upcoming newsletter!

Ryan Cullen, Academy Director

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### IMPORTANT DATES:

**August 1**  
Fall Registration Begins

**August 20**  
Open House - River Ridge

**August 27**  
Open House - Mandeville  
Open House - Covington

### CONTACT US:



E-mail your news,  
comments, etc. to us:  
[contact@laapa.com](mailto:contact@laapa.com).

"Providing students of all ages with the education, inspiration, & motivation conducive to a lifetime appreciation for the performing arts since 1978."

### REGISTER NOW FOR THE FALL!

It's Easy to Get Started in Music Lessons and Dance Classes! Call us Today to reserve your Time.

**Covington - (985) 590-4545**  
**Mandeville - (985) 674-2992**  
**River Ridge - (504) 738-3050**

### Welcome to Our New Students who began lessons in July!

Alyssa A.  
Annabelle H.  
(thanks to Angie P.)

Anointed Y.  
Arrolyn P.  
Brady D.  
Brandon W.

(thanks to Ned C.)

Cameron R.  
Carolina P.  
Catherine M.  
Charles E.  
Christian C.  
Clayton B.

(thanks to Gracyn D.)

Daisha K.  
Dominic S.  
Doreen M.  
Elliott B.  
Finley T.  
Glori S.

(thanks to Shae S.)

Hayes D.  
Holli Marie M.  
Hunter V.  
Isabella W.  
Jack H.  
James O.  
Jashan G.  
Katelyn B.  
Liam C.  
Lydia C.

(thanks to the Guerra family)

Madisson H.  
Mallorie C.  
Matthew B.  
Olivia V.

(thanks to Abbey A.)

Petra P.  
Peyton P.  
Rebekah S.

(thanks to Sarah A.)

Rodney C.  
Rowan H.  
Ro'ziah B-S.  
Samyra P.  
Sarah F.  
Sarah D.  
Skye C.  
Teegan D.

(thanks to Barbara R.)

Thomas P.  
Tia S.  
Trinity B.  
Warren C.  
William C.  
Zachary D.

## Student News

Mandeville School of Music piano and voice lessons student, **Hannah Hubbard**, auditioned for and was accepted to Oklahoma City University's 5 week Music camp. The first two weeks will be a vocal intensive, followed by three weeks of Musical Theatre training. Hannah takes voice lessons with Ms. Rebecca.

**Thomas Sachitana**, student of the Covington School of Music, auditioned and was admitted into the University of Lafayette School of Music and Music Business. This Fall Thomas will be studying Music Business with a concentration in Jazz Guitar. He will also be participating in the Marching Band playing Saxophone. Thomas takes guitar lessons with Mr. Evan.



**Allie-Grace Greene and Lily Foster (pictured above left and center)** will be performing in Paramount Academy's production of "The Music Man" this summer. Allie-Grace will be playing "Winthrop Paroo" and Lily will be performing in the vocal quartet as "Ewart Dunlop" as well as portraying the Conductor. They both take voice lessons with Ms. Rebecca at the Mandeville School of Music.

Covington School of Music student, **Jamie Planchard (pictured above right)**, will be the featured vocalist August 19th for the Next Generation Annual Banquet at the Sheraton in New Orleans. Jamie takes voice with Mrs. Carolyn.

**Holly Manders** leads worship on the weekends for adults and on Wednesday's for Teens at Church of the King, Little Creek Campus in Mandeville and South Shore Campus in Metairie. She takes voice lessons with Mrs. Carolyn.

**Have News to Share? E-mail your news to [studentnews@laapa.com](mailto:studentnews@laapa.com)!  
Connect with us on Facebook at [facebook.com/laapaface](https://www.facebook.com/laapaface)**

## Happy August Birthdays!

**(Students)** Aidan H. (11), Aimee L. (10), AJ S. (7), Allie L. (10), Alyssa L., Amelie B. (12), Anna Kate B. (7), Annabelle H. (6), Annie L. (6), Austin F., Benjamin V. (8), Bo F. (11), Brian F. (16), Brina F. (11), Brynn H. (10), Casey E., Chanel C. (14), Cole C. (16), Dayana E. (7), Diana K., Elise F. (12), Emily A., Emily L. (6), Gary S., Gianna A. (6), Grace G., Grayson B. (14), Hailey S. (11), Hannah F. (9), I'Janae (12), Isabella W. (8), Jackson C. (14), Jackson W. (5), Jarrett G. (12), Jayci D. (5), Jazz S. (5), Jeremy N. (11), Josephine G. (2), Jossy A. (8), Julianna W. (9), Justin T. (16), Kali H. (5), Karlee B., Katherine C. (14), Kathlyn G. (16), Kenedi L. (5), Kennedy S. (4), Khalinh N. (3), Kylie C. (5), Leanna M. (14), Lucas W. (15), Lynne D., Mary D. (7), Maya R. (6), McKenzie G. (14), Mercy M. (7), Michael F. (7), Michelle M. (8), Micole G. (11), Namratha M. (10), Nicholas B. (11), Nora E. (5), Paige A. (6), Petra P. (11), Reagan D. (8), Rebekah S. (15), Riley P. (11), Rochelle H. (12), Ryan D. (13), Sami S., Sara C. (7), Sawyer T. (5), Tammy T., Timmy H. (12), Travis G.

**(Faculty/Staff)** Mr. Llolowen, Ms. Katherine, Mrs. Joy, Mrs. Catherine

## Students of the Month - Glori & Shae Storms



Covington School of Music students, Glori and Shae Storms, take piano, voice, and guitar lessons here at LAAPA! We recently had a chance to speak with them and learn a little more about their lessons and interests!

**Tell us about yourself and how long you've been taking lessons at LAAPA?**

Glori: I am a homeschool Mom and business owner. I have been taking Piano and Voice at LAAPA for one month.

Shae: I have been taking Voice and Guitar lessons for about 3 months.

**What has your instruction helped you to accomplish?**

Glori: I feel like my brain is sharper from doing piano scales, and I have fun at every lesson.

Shae: It has helped me feel much more confident in my abilities as a musician, and I've become less shy of performing in front of people.

**What are some of your other interests and hobbies?**

Glori: I am a 4th degree black belt in Karate; my husband and I own Mike Storms Karate.

Shae: Art, Horseback riding, Karate, and Volleyball.

**What are your goals for the future?**

Glori: My ultimate goal is to be able to accompany myself on Piano while I sing.

Shae: Someday, I hope to start a rock band.

### Student Shout Outs!

"Erika loves ballet class with Mrs. Mary and looks forward to it every week!"

*~Drewitz Family*

"Alicia has had a great time in Preschool Music classes and recently turned 5 and is now ready for private lessons!"

*~Jill Acevedo*

"Lessons have been going very well! We are very impressed with how Jacob has worked with Lindsey and what they've accomplished in just a few short lessons!"

*~Lord Family*

## Did you win a Yamaha Digital Piano?



**Our Summer referral contest has now concluded and the winner will be announced August 1 on our facebook page at [facebook.com/laapaface](https://www.facebook.com/laapaface).**

Remember that everyone who refers a friend or colleague to the academy (who enrolls) receives a gift certificate for a complimentary lesson in the program of his/her choice!

Thanks to everyone who continually refers the academy - it's the highest compliment we can receive and truly appreciated! Stay tuned for our Fall Contest which will be announced next month!

# LAAPANOTES

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(pictured above) Violin student, John Glover Jr. performs at the Spring Recital

## August Edition:

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- Student News
- Happy August Birthdays!
- Students of the Month - Glori and Shae Storms
- Did You Win a Yamaha Digital Piano!
- Welcome to our newest Students!



## Back to School Open Houses - August 20 & August 27

Our Fall open houses were so popular last year that we'll be holding them again! The River Ridge School of Music & Dance will be holding an open house Saturday, August 20 from 12 PM - 3 PM and on August 27, the Covington and Mandeville Schools of Music will be holding an open house from 10 AM-1 PM. Come and discover the wonderful world of music and dance! Free classes and demonstrations in piano, voice, violin, guitar, and drums (at both campuses) and ballet, tap, musical theatre, and hip hop (River Ridge campus) for students ages 5-up. Light snacks will be served and we'll be raffling off some prizes as well. Walk ins are welcome but reservations are preferred to ensure that you're able to experience as many programs as possible. To reserve your spot or for more info, give us a call at (504) 208-2301.



## MUSIC & DANCE LESSONS - REGISTER NOW FOR FALL!

*What, it's Back to School Time Already?! At LAAPA, we are winding down our busiest summer to date in our 38 year history, and we are expecting an even busier Fall!*

As you can see, students are literally beating down the doors to come in and experience all of the exciting music and dance programs we offer! Many of our instructors have remained nearly or completely booked throughout the summer and only have a few openings remaining. **We encourage students who took a break over the summer to avoid the "Back to School" rush and give us a call as soon as possible so that we can try and accommodate your scheduling requests early before September arrives!**