

Louisiana Academy of Performing Arts
316 Girod St.
Mandeville, LA 70448
www.laapa.com | 985-231-0875

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LAAPANOTES

Welcome to Our Newest Students Who Began Lessons in December!

Alyssa B., Brennan S., Camille C., Cristian A.,
Emily M., Grace H., Haley H., Johnathan C., Kenneth P.
Maci C., Olivia S., Rita G., Sahithi K., Sarah C., Wade R.

It's a true pleasure to have all of you joining us and in some cases returning to us or adding additional programs here at LAAPA!

Faculty News

Ryan Cullen (School Director and instructor of piano, woodwinds, jazz ensemble) has a brand new jazz CD out entitled "People In Time". The CD features all original music composed by bassist George Alvey as well as Ryan.

Musicians include George Alvey - bass, Ryan Cullen - piano/electric piano, David Cappello - drums, Brian Graber - trumpet/saxophone, Phillip Manuel - vocals, James Singleton - bowed acoustic bass and effects, Mike Dillon - vibes. CDs can be purchased at the frontdesk or purchased online at cdbaby.com, iTunes.com, and Amazon.com (search for Alvey-Cullen Group). Be sure to also keep up with upcoming performances via Facebook at facebook.com/alveycullengroup.



Maggie Probst (Instructor of piano, voice) will be a spirit and a chorus member in The Magic Flute at Loyola University on January 24 at 7:30 PM and January 26 at 3:00 PM.



LAAPANOTES

January, 2014

Fostering a Long Term Love of Music & Dance

IMPORTANT DATES:

March 15
LAAPAFEST
Covington Campus

March 22
LAAPAFEST
Mandeville Campus

March 29
LAAPAFEST
River Ridge Campus

Covington School of Music
985.590.4545

857 N. Collins Blvd. Ste. A
Covington, LA 70433

Mandeville School of Music
985.674.2992

316 Girod St.
Mandeville, LA 70448

River Ridge School of Music & Dance
504.738.3050

2020 Dickory Ave. Ste. 200
Harahan, LA 70123

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E-mail us:
contact@laapa.com

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



It's a brand new year and the PERFECT time to get started in new projects, lessons, activities, hobbies, and pastimes. At LAAPA of course, we are thrilled to welcome so many new families to our school and help them get started within our diverse music and dance program.

When beginning new activities such as music and dance - everything is so new and exciting. Here at LAAPA - there is an enthusiastic new

teacher to meet, new books or dance attire, perhaps a new instrument that you just received for Christmas?, and of course the new experience of learning and playing music or dancing! It's all so new and exciting at first!

However, like everything that is new in life, eventually that "new car smell" of music lessons and dance classes can fade, and without proper attention to this transitional period, it is possible for students to begin to lose interest no matter how wonderful the instructor may be (and of course all of ours are here at LAAPA!).

At LAAPA, our instructors are given a variety of tools within their classrooms to continue to make every lesson as exciting and new as possible. Our teachers all have access to iPads and the latest in music education and dance apps, brand new fun and comprehensive methods from our own teachers via our new LAAPA PRESS music publishing division, and an academy wide intranet which allows our teachers at all campuses to share a variety of pedagogical documents and multimedia with each other.

So what else could possibly be needed then for new students (or even existing students) to remain interested in their new lessons or classes?

Go out to a live concert.

We live in one of the most robust areas in the world as far as the Performing Arts are concerned. It's of the utmost importance that as a new and interested student of music or dance that you get out and

experience it live in person. The true essence of music does not culminate as notes on paper or as a digital file on your iPod, and certainly there is so much more to experience in the art of dance outside of the bubble of our rehearsal studio!

By going out and seeing real performances by real artists, you should receive instant inspiration allowing for the rejuvenation of the spark of interest that got you started! I know that every time I've attended performances in the past, I was always excited to go home and practice.

In fact, a great event to mark on your calendar now is our Faculty/Honors concert where you can see your teacher perform - Sunday, April 27 2 PM at the Fuhrmann Auditorium. Free admission!

Listen to Music for the sake of listening to music.

We all lead such busy lives today that more and more we don't take the time outside of the car or home to just sit down and listen to music and really experience it as it was intended. Students of all ages need to be exposed to many different styles of music to learn what they enjoy and know who the important people are both in history and their instrument(s). Many times, the initial training exercises necessary for learning a new instrument are tedious. By listening to examples of WHY they are important, students get a preview of the end result to come. Ask your teacher for recommended listening every week!

Of course there are many more than we have space to list, but these two recommendations should allow you to transition well into fostering a long term appreciation for music and dance for years to come!

Happy New Year!



2013 Christmas Concerts - A Huge Success!

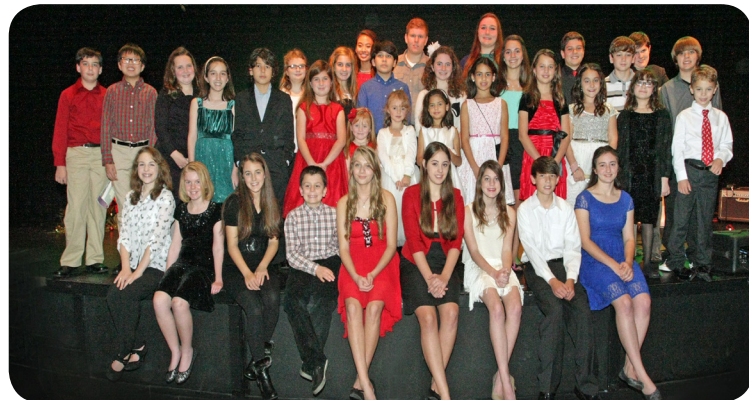


A HUGE congratulations to students, faculty, staff, and parents for some outstanding Christmas performances at our 2013 Christmas Concerts. In addition to the wonderful performances, your generosity helped many children and families who would have literally had nothing this holiday.

We filled our trucks and trailer to the brim with your donations of toys and basic need items - and as usual when we unloaded them at the Teresian Sister's main provincilate in Covington, we literally filled their living room!

Additionally, we were so pleased to present the Sisters with your most generous cash donations of \$2,442.00! This is a new record for us - so thank you so much once again for your support. A big thanks also to Lowe's in Covington for the beautiful poinsettias donated for our concerts, that was truly most appreciated! Photos from the concerts will be available at the school shortly - and we will also be posting all of the group shots below on our Facebook page. Be sure to like us on Facebook if you haven't already at <http://facebook.com/laapaface>!

On Saturday, December 14, the Covington and Mandeville Schools of Music presented six Christmas Concerts at the Fuhrmann Auditorium in Covington. Below are this year's student performers!



On Sunday, December 15, the River Ridge School of Music & Dance presented five Christmas Concerts at St. Martin's Solomon Theatre in Metairie. Below are this year's student performers!



Student Shout Outs!

"I just wanted to take a minute and send a message regarding my Instructor, Josh Theriot. As a new adult student, I didn't quite know what to expect when signing up for guitar lessons.

I had some experience, but wanted to refine some techniques and learn from a true professional.

Josh has not only met, but exceeded my expectations, and he has a very easy and comfortable approach to teaching. I don't often take the time to commend someone, but in this case, it is well deserved! He is an excellent resource and Instructor.

Sincerely,
Tod Lee

Is Your Teacher Completely Booked? - Teachers with Waiting Lists!

As the New Year begins, many of our teachers are already nearly or totally booked! Due to demand however, we have opened several new music and dance classes. If you need a schedule change or would like to be added to a waiting list for a particular teacher, day, or time, please contact any of our office staff team and they can add you to the waiting list.

Here's just a partial list of who's currently full at all campuses:

PIANO/VOICE

- Kathleen: WED 1 spot!
- Cara: WED 1 spot! MON, TH & FRI - BOOKED!
- Bonnie: TH & SAT 1 spot! MON & WED - BOOKED!
- Jennifer: MON - BOOKED!
- Russell: TH 1 spot!
- Meredith: MON 1 spot! TU & TH - BOOKED!
- Katarina: WED 1 spot! TU, TH & SAT - BOOKED!
- Meghan: FRI 1 spot! WED & TH - BOOKED!
- Rebecca: WED & TH 1 spot! TU - BOOKED!
- Carolyn: MON & WED 1 spot! TU & FRI - BOOKED!
- Daniel: TU 1 spot! TH - BOOKED!
- Bethany: TU, TH & SAT 1 spot! WED - BOOKED
- Victoria: MON 1 spot!

- Jessica: TU 1 spot!
- Catherine: SAT - BOOKED!

GUITAR/DRUMS:

- Bill: WED 1 spot!
- Curtis: TH 1 spot!
- Josh: TH 1 spot! MON, TU, WED & SAT - BOOKED!
- Ben: TH 1 spot! TU - BOOKED!

VIOLIN/CELLO:

- Kate: MON - BOOKED!
- Gabriel: MON 1 spot!
- Simona: WED 1 spot!
- Denise: MON, TU & TH 1 spot! WED - BOOKED!
- Vanya: MON 1 spot!

BRASS/WOODWINDS:

- Ryan: TH - BOOKED!
- Reid: WED 1 spot! TH & FRI - BOOKED!