

LAAPANOTES



The Fourth Dimension with Music & Dance



I'd like to begin this month by congratulating all of the students, faculty, staff, and parents for 9 outstanding Spring recitals this past June! All of the group photos are published on pp. 2-3 of this edition, and if you still need to order a copy, please contact Romaguera Photography. The productions were some of our best yet, and we can't wait to see you all back at our Christmas concerts which will be here before you know it!

I'd also like to congratulate long time student, Kate Zenor (pictured above) in achieving the LAAPA Hall of Fame award for her outstanding accomplishments while here at LAAPA. This is a very special award that has been presented only 12 times in the 37 year history of the school. Kate was accepted on scholarship into the Louisiana State University Musical Theatre program and we wish her the best of luck!

Now, onward to my main thoughts for this month... I'm sure that by now most people have heard of or reviewed the numerous scientific studies that prove music lessons and dance classes help students in their math, reading, and general cognitive skills. Music lessons and dance classes additionally help students in the development of self esteem, confidence in themselves by performing on stage, hand-eye coordination, muscle memory, fine motor skills, and the list goes on.

It, therefore, seems to me a bit counterintuitive that schools continue to cut their band, music, and performing arts programs. Of course math, reading, writing, and other studies are important and provide critical life skills for students to be able to properly function in today's society. Sadly, training in music and dance do not hold the same status and are increasingly being labeled as disposable, auxiliary subjects.

With all of these studies, why is this? Is it because not everyone is thought to have a "talent" for music or dance and something from which few can fully benefit?

Most importantly, when someone says that they have no talent for music or dance, is that really true or is it because they weren't required school subjects deemed necessary for sus-

tenance in society? I'll be honest - I don't particularly have a "talent" for mathematics, but I know it and use it daily because it was a required of me to do so. I now appreciate math, I'm grateful that my instructors helped me with math, and my life is better because of math. A perceived lack of talent should never be a barrier for the acquisition of knowledge in any subject matter.

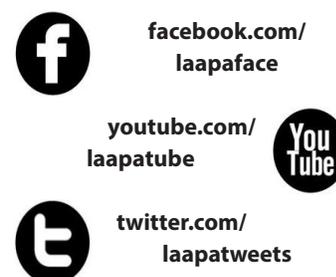
Music and dance is a full fourth dimension of life that so many may never be able to discover or appreciate because somewhere along the way they were either told or came to the conclusion that they "did not have the talent."

When discussing talent, "natural" talent is most often the understood subject at hand. However, "learned" talent is also very powerful as when someone sets his/her mind to accomplish something, amazing things can happen. That being said, having an appreciation for and a greater understanding of the arts doesn't necessarily require any immediate talent (natural or otherwise). It simply requires a basic commitment and interest (such as learning math in school).

My parents (thankfully) required me to take music lessons - it was not an option. Over the years I took just about everything including lessons in piano, violin, guitar, trumpet, saxophone, clarinet, flute, composition/arranging, jazz, bass. I now have a tremendous appreciation for all instruments (except bagpipes - I'm sorry if I'm offending anyone, but bagpipes and my ears were never meant for each other). Sure, I didn't always practice as much as I could have, and I probably wasn't the best student at many of my lessons as my enthusiasm waxed and waned (common with any interest over time), but I was committed. Through all of this, I eventually discovered and developed my talent and love for music. Even if I hadn't "discovered my talent," the knowledge and appreciation for the arts that I gained has given me a fourth dimension to life that I want everyone to experience. That's my mission here at LAAPA and what I hope we can help every new student to achieve!

Ryan Cullen, Academy Director

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE:

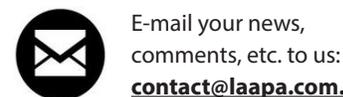


IMPORTANT DATES:

August 3
Fall Registration Begins

August 15
Dance Program Open House
at River Ridge School of Music & Dance

CONTACT US:



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

REGISTER NOW FOR ALL PROGRAMS!

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

Covington - 985.590.4545
Mandeville - 985.674.2992
River Ridge - 504.738.3050

2015 Spring Recitals - A Huge Success!

On Saturday, June 13, the Covington and Mandeville Schools of Music presented five concerts at the Fuhrmann Auditorium in Covington. Below are this year's student performers!



Welcome to Our Newest Students who began in July!

Abimbola M-P, Ann G., Annabell S., Areianna L., Ava H. (thanks to Leo F.), Bennett R., Braxton D., Cameron A. (thanks to Grace A.), Christian W., Claire S., Dane D., Dian K., Dorian L., Dory A., Elizabeth E. (thanks to Vito E.), Elle G., Erika D. (thanks to Alexander D.), Eva F., Harris T., Heaven G., Helen W., Hollianna T., Jackson S. (thanks Madison L.), James L., Janine O., Jinyu D., Katherine F., Kelliana H. (Elizabeth F.), Kinley G., Lauren G., Lauryn R., Laynie C. (thanks to Jamie K.), Londyn D., Luke R., Lynne D., Madalynn C., Madison P., Martine M., Mikey H. (thanks to Joe R.), Neha G., Olivia R., Pratyush S., Ryan W. (thanks to Carolyn R.), Sam R., Shriya G., Victoria M., Zane G. (thanks to Kinely G.)

On Saturday, June 20, the River Ridge School of Music & Dance presented four concerts at St. Martin's Solomon Theatre in Metairie. Below are this year's student performers!



Back to School Scheduling - Faculty Availability

Student Shout Outs!

EXCELLENT ACADEMY! My daughter attended NOCCA in New Orleans for one year, but found the commute every day along with her studies was too much. So, we had to look very hard to try and find a music school that could compare to NOCCA and this music school fit perfectly and more! Our daughter loves to go every week and the teachers and staff are exemplary. We are very glad we found this music school! Thank you very much!

~ Frederick Morton

This summer has been our busiest ever, and now with the Back to School rush it's important that you give us a call right away if you have specific instructor/scheduling needs this Fall. As you see each month, the following teachers continue to have very few openings. The days/times below are just a partial list of what is currently available for the Fall, so please give us a call for the most up-to-date information!

GUITAR

Curtis TH-1 spot! MON,WED,FRI-BOOKED!
 Chris WED-2 spots MON-BOOKED!
 Bill MON,WED,FRI,SAT-1 spot! TH-BOOKED!

GUITAR/DRUM

Josh TU-2 spots! WED,TH,SAT-BOOKED!
 Ben SAT-2 spots! MON,TU,WED,TH,FRI-BOOKED!
 Kirk TU-2spots! MON-1 spot!
 Aaron WED -2 spots! TH-1 spot! TU-BOOKED!

WIND/BRASS/GUITAR

Danielle TU-1 spot!
 Mark WED,TH-1 spot! MON- BOOKED!
 David TH-2 spots! FRI-1 spot!
 Layla SAT-2 spots! TU,FRI- BOOKED!
 Kaleb MON-2 spots!

PIANO

Russell MON -1 spot! TU,WED,TH-BOOKED!
 Mirka TU-BOOKED!
 Daniel WED,FRI-2 spots! TH-BOOKED!

PIANO/VOICE

Bonnie MON-1 spot! WED,TH,SAT-BOOKED!
 Rebecca TU-1 spot! MON,WED,TH,FRI-BOOKED!
 Meredith TU-BOOKED!
 Jennifer MON-1 spot!
 Kathleen TU,WED-BOOKED!
 Meghan MON-2 spots! WED-BOOKED!
 Katarina TU,WED,TH,SAT -BOOKED!
 Carolyn FRI-1 spot! SAT-1 spot! MON,TU,WED, -BOOKED!
 Autumn TU,TH,SAT-1 spot!
 Joy MON-1 spot! WED-BOOKED!
 Yulene SAT-2 spots!
 Amy MON,FRI-1 spot! TU,TH-BOOKED!
 Jessica TU-1 spot! ,WED-BOOKED!
 Bethany TU-2 spots! WED,TH,FRI,SAT-BOOKED!
 Jacob SAT-2 spots!
 Maggie FRI-BOOKED!
 Katherine SAT-2 spots! TH-1 spot!

VIOLIN/VIOLA/CELLO

Denise TH-2 spots! WED-1 spot! MON,TU,FRI-BOOKED!
 Vanya MON,WED-2 spots! FRI,SAT-1 spot!
 Gabriel MON-2 spots!
 Kate MON-BOOKED!
 Simona WED,SAT-2 spots! MON,TH-1 spot!
 Danielle TU-1 spot!

LAAPANOTES

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



Summer campers having a blast at Music & Dance Camp this July!

August Edition:

- The Fourth Dimension with Music & Dance
- Spring Recital Photos
- Welcome to our Newest Students who began this July!
- Dance Program Open House
- Now is the time to Enroll for Fall!
- Happy August Birthdays



Dance Program Open House - Saturday August 15

The River Ridge School of Music & Dance will be holding an open house Saturday, August 15 from 9 AM - 12 PM with free classes and demonstrations in ballet, tap, musical theatre, and hip hop for students ages 2-17. Light snacks will be served and we'll be raffling off some prizes as well. Walk ins are welcome but reservations are preferred. To reserve your spot or for more info, give us a call at 504-738-3050!

Now is the time to Enroll for Fall Music & Dance Programs!



We're now coming to the end of the busiest summer to date in our 37 year history at LAAPA, and we are expecting an even busier Fall! 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!

Happy August Birthdays!

(Students) Adalyn B. (2), Aimee L. (9), AJ S. (6), Alex P. (7), Allie J. (10), Allie L. (9), Amelie B. (11), Andrew D. (8), Angeleigh T. (13), Anna Kate B. (6), Annie L. (5), Austin F. (17), Benjamin V. (7), Benjamin S. (9), Brian F. (15), Bryanna L. (15), Callan D. (14), Carlie D. (13), Carson J. (13), Chanel C. (13), Cole C. (15), Elena M. (9), Eleni Y. (3), Elise F. (11), Emily A., Emily L. (5), Emily F. (10), Emily R., Emily L. (13), Gabriella H., Garrett P. (16), Grace G., Grayson B. (13), Hailey S. (10), Harris T. (12), Jackson C. (13), Jarrett G. (11), JoDee M. (9), Jonah C. (10), Karlee B., Kate G., Katelyn D. (11), Katherine C. (13), Kathlyn G. (15), Kayla H. (17), Kaylin C. (9), Kristen Z. (9), Lamart B., Leanna M. (13), Lennon M. (8), Lilly C. (4), Lucas W. (14), Lynne D., Mary D., Michael B. (2), Namratha M. (9), Nathaniel H. (5), Noah S. (7), Pazah M. (6), Peixuan J. (11), Raegan G. (14), Samuel R., Sincere S. (8), Steven A. (8), Tammy T., Theo B. (5), Timmy H. (11), Travis G., Vernon R., Zoey O. (5)

(Faculty) Katherine Smith, Simona Gronic, Joy Meade