

# LAAPANOTES

## Will You Be Participating in LAAPAFEST?



Dear Parents and Students,

It's hard to believe that LAAPAFEST is once again nearly here! So what is LAAPAFEST anyway?

LAAPAFEST is a unique opportunity for all music students who have been studying their instrument for at least one year (whether at LAAPA or elsewhere) to perform a memorized solo for a panel of three insightful and friendly judges. Students then receive an overall rating as well as detailed written, constructive feedback on their performance (within a variety of categories) which will then be passed along to their private instructor(s).

The overall goal of LAAPAFEST works in tandem with our mission here at LAAPA of instilling a lifetime appreciation of the performing arts within each student while continually building self-esteem. Students do not compete with other students for their overall rating and are rated solely on their individual performances and at their individual levels. Beginning (1 year) students are most welcome to participate in LAAPAFEST and, in fact, are encouraged!

Immediately following the third and final week of LAAPAFEST on March 19, the judges are asked to select 25-30 students who have received the highest overall ratings to join our Faculty in performing at our Faculty and Honors Recital on April 24. Students will be selected per school campus based on their instrument/program as well as their rating. We wish to provide a concert equally represented with students of all instruments/pro-

grams/levels. There are very limited spots in the Honors recital and the selection process is always a very challenging one for the judges! Not being selected for the Honors concert, in other words, certainly does not detract from the outstanding achievement of a Superior or Excellent rating!

LAAPAFEST participation is an outstanding event in and of itself that produces Honors reflected in the outcome of student ratings. It is important to note that the majority of our students participating in LAAPAFEST typically earn either Excellent and/or Superior overall ratings at LAAPAFEST (because they are so well prepared)! The focus of LAAPAFEST is on the individual student, their performance at LAAPAFEST, and their individual rating at LAAPAFEST. At all Spring Concerts in June, LAAPAFEST students will be recognized for their participation and rewarded for Excellent and Superior ratings. For more information on LAAPAFEST, please speak with your private instructor ASAP.

**You may sign-up online for LAAPAFEST at <http://www.laapa.com/laapafest>.**

It is also important to note that each year we do have to turn students away from LAAPAFEST due to the limited number of slots available - our judges are usually listening to music non-stop from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM (with only a lunch break), so we encourage all interested students to turn in paperwork well ahead of the **February 22 official enrollment deadline. Good luck at LAAPAFEST!**

Ryan Cullen, Academy Director

### CONNECT WITH US ONLINE:



facebook.com/  
laapaface

youtube.com/  
laapatube



twitter.com/  
laapatweets

### IMPORTANT DATES:

**February 6 - 12**

River Ridge Campus - Mardi Gras Break

**February 8-12**

Northshore Campuses - Mardi Gras Break

**March 5**

LAAPAFEST - Covington

**March 12**

LAAPAFEST - Mandeville

**March 19**

LAAPAFEST - River Ridge

### 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 NEW YEAR!

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 January!

Aaron N.  
Ace P.  
Adeleine L.  
Alex V. N.  
Alexis N.  
Allison C.  
(thanks to Camille C.)  
Allison B.  
Amaiah L.  
Andrea L.  
Andrew M.  
(thanks to Josiah S.)  
Angelique B.  
Anisa C.  
Anjali M.  
Antonia A.  
Bella B.  
Bradley A.  
Breigh-anna S.  
Cadence D.  
Cameron A.  
Camila A.  
(thanks to Stefan N.)  
Carolee L.  
Caroline D.  
Caroline N.  
Catherine A.  
Chloe C.  
Chloe O'N.  
Claire J.  
(thanks to Madelyn H.)  
Claude S.  
Collin S.  
Connor O.  
Connor D.  
Destiny H.  
Diana P.  
(thanks to Carolyn R.)  
Donna D.  
Drew G.  
Emma S.  
Ethan H.  
Eva L.  
Evelyn R.  
Finley P.  
Gabrielle G.  
Genevieve N.  
Gianna S.  
Giselle B.  
Haley D.  
Harmony B.  
Harry H.  
Huy T.  
(thanks to Fraelle B.)  
Isabel R.  
Jackson E.  
James J.  
James P.  
Jameson H.  
Jayci D.  
Jazper C.  
Jillian R.  
Joan L.  
Jonathan K.

**It's a pleasure to have you all joining  
us and we look forward to helping you  
achieve all of your goals!**

## Student News

Mandeville School of Music voice lessons student, **Ashleigh Stoltz** made it into the District Women's Honor Choir. She takes lessons with Mrs. Katarina.



Mandeville School of Music voice lessons student, **Brooklyn Hoth**, won first place for voice in the Tangipahoa talent show held in December 2015. She takes lessons with Mrs. Bethany.



Mandeville School of Music students, **James Plaisance** and **Alex Maassen** recently auditioned for and were selected to perform in the Fountainbleau Junior High District Honor Band. James made first chair for alto saxophone, Alex made third chair for trombone. James studies privately with Dr. Mark Williams, and both James and Alex study with Mr. Ryan Cullen in the jazz ensemble.

**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://facebook.com/laapaface)**

## Happy February Birthdays!

**(Students)** Addison W. (7), Alex M. (14), Anisa C. (9), Arabella G. (4), Arden H. (9), Ashley E. (8), Audria K. (8), Ayah B. (4), Ayva S. (10), Bryce D. (11), Brycen R. (12), Caden B. (6), Callie D. (13), Catherine P. (11), Chris G., Christian I. (13), Clara W. (3), Connor O. (7), Dory A. (10), Drew B. (12), Emily M. (13), Everett C., Fabiana C., Gavin L. (13), Georgianna M., Gwen R., Hannah A. (9), Haroly G. (7), Holly S. (13), James O. (10), James F. (9), Jessiah S. (8), Jessica M. (13), John E. (12), Jose M. (9), Joseph U. (6), Josiah S. (7), Julia S. (14), Katie P. (16), Katya D. (7), Kylie M. (13), Landon P-R (5), Lauren B. (10), Lola B. (14), Londyn D. (4), Madeline M. (17), Maurice C., Melissa M. (14), Michael P. (11), Michael D., Miranda B. (10), Nicholas Y. (9), Nicholas S. (12), Olivia B. (9), Patrick L. (15), Peggy R., Randy H. (15), Rita G. (14), Robert B. (9), Robin C., Rojon Z., Ryan C., Sam W. (5), Savannah B. (10), Seth M. (6), Seth M. (17), Sienna S. (5), Sophie S. (5), Sydney S. (13), Thomas P. (10), Ty W. (5), William F. (8), Zane G. (10)

### (Faculty)

Mr. Jacob Mathew  
Mrs. Autumn Beck  
Ms. Clare Harmon  
Mr. Evan Magoun  
Ms. Catherine Schilling  
Dr. Boris Blagoev  
Mr. Russell Tucker

**Looking for group photos from our  
12 Christmas Recitals?**

**We've published them to our Facebook Page at  
[facebook.com/laapaface](https://facebook.com/laapaface)!**

**If you'd like to order prints, please contact  
Romaguera Photography at  
(504) 828-3064  
or visit  
[www.romaguera.com](http://www.romaguera.com).**



## Student of the Month - Jillian Surla



**Mandeville School of Music student, Jillian Surla** takes voice lessons here at LAAPA! We recently had a chance to speak with her and learn a little more about her voice lessons and interests!

**Tell us about yourself and how long you've been taking lessons at Laapa.**

Mrs. Carolyn is my instructor, and I've been taking voice lessons for almost 6 months now.

**Tell us how your lessons are going and what have you been working on.**

My lessons are great! I am singing "The Girl I Mean to Be" from *The Secret Garden*. Mrs. Carolyn has been a big help with teaching me to breathe correctly and read music.

**Outside of music, what are some of your other hobbies and interests?**

Painting, Dance, Basketball. I'm in the Drama club, and I like Tennis.

### Student Shout Outs!

"Sarah's lessons have been going great! She's doing really well in both piano and violin.

Ms. Amy and Ms. Vanya have been awesome teachers and we always tell our friends to go to LAAPA and not to even bother looking at other schools!"

**~Hossain Family**

## Will You Win a Brass Pass to Jazz Fest?



Our Winter Referral Contest is now underway! Will You Win?!

**If you refer a new student to the Academy and they enroll:**

- You will receive a free lesson in any program.

- You AND your friend will be automatically entered into our drawing this April 1 for a WWOZ FM Jazz Fest Brass Pass (\$500 value)! The pass allows you to attend the entire jazz fest lineup. Different people may use the pass each day if you can't attend every day. You'll also get access to the WWOZ FM Hospitality Tent for free refreshments.

**Please make sure that your friend mentions your FULL NAME at the time of enrollment. The more friends you refer that enroll - the more chances you have to win!**

**The winner will be announced at [facebook.com/laapaface](https://facebook.com/laapaface) April 1!**

\* Immediate family members/members of the same household are not eligible for the referral program.

# LAAPANOTES

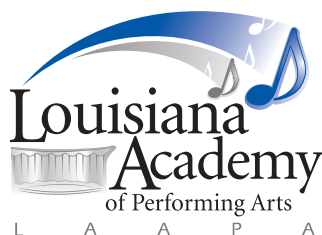
Louisiana Academy of Performing Arts  
2020 Dickory Ave. #200  
Harahan, LA 70123  
www.laapa.com | (504) 208-2301



(pictured above) River Ridge School of Music & Dance Ballerinas getting ready for their performance!

## February Edition:

- Will You Be Participating in LAAPAFEST?
- Student & Faculty News
- Happy February Birthdays!
- Student of the Month - Jillian Surla
- Will You Win Tickets to Jazz Fest?
- Welcome to our newest Students!



## Welcome to our Newest Students (continued!)

Joseph H., Joshua D., Josiah J., Journee J., Julianna W., Kali H., Kasey M., Katie P., KC N., Kelly Y., Kelly S., Kennedy S., Kylie M., Landry O., Limei W., Lola B., Lucy C., Luis L., Lydia B., Maeve B. (thanks to Adair B.), Maggie H., Maicey R., Mariah M., Mark M. (thanks to Josiah S.), Mercy M. (thanks to the Moore Family), Mia C., Michael F. (thanks to Andrew F.), Michelle T., Ne'vaeh S. (thanks to Brianna B.), Noah M., Nora E., Oliver R., Oliver S., Payton P., Ramy R. (thanks to Marcy S.), Reagan D., Rishi P., Robert B., Robin C., Rory K., Samantha S. (thanks to Julian S.), Sean St. C., Shamari S., Shaylee W., Shea S. (thanks to Carolyn R.), Stella W., Tamanna P., Thea R. (thanks to Julian S.), Tiffany C., TJ T., Trenton L., Victoria S., William G., Zahporyah B.



## It's Not Too Late to Join the Fun with Music & Dance Lessons this Year!

We offer the **Most Comprehensive Music & Dance Program in New Orleans** with lessons in **Piano, Guitar, Voice, Violin, Drums, Ballet, Hip-Hop, Jazz, Tap, Brass, Woodwind, Bands, Preschool Music, & MORE** all in one location.

Whether you're brand new to music and dance or already experienced, we've provided tens of thousands of students with the **tools, inspiration, and motivation** necessary to **achieve a lifetime love of music & dance** for the past 38 years and would love to do the same for you.

***It's Easy to Get Started, just give us a call at (504) 208-2301 or request more info at laapa.com!***