

# LAAPANOTES

## Planning for Success in Music & Dance Lessons



Dear Students and Parents,

As Fall approaches, it's time to schedule or adjust your schedule for back to school music lessons and dance classes before all of the best times are gone! Has someone in your house been trying to pick out songs on the piano or guitar by ear? Are they trying to copy some of the choreography from an inspiring dance performance that they recently saw on TV? Perhaps they have a favorite song from a Disney musical that they just can't stop singing around the house?

Music in my own house is great for many reasons. A simple benefit is that I can always tell who is awake and practicing without getting out of bed! By listening to the piano, I can tell which child is playing based on the deployment of their technical proficiencies (i.e. my 11 year old son vs my 2 year old daughter).

Anyway, I was just able to change, add, and adjust my family's schedule just now before I began my monthly column here. I'm glad I did too, because it wasn't as flexible as I thought it would be for late July! As I was scheduling our Fall lessons, I then began to think about the new opportunities that the Fall brings - the excitement of trying something fun and new. Each August, students begin a new grade in school, study new subjects, and have a new teacher. It's an opportunity for a fresh start, new goals to be set and accomplished, and perhaps a new uniform or pair of shoes! For students getting started in or continuing music lessons or dance classes, it's very much the same as new concepts are introduced, new skills are developed, amazing new teachers join the faculty, and new goals are set and conquered. Of course, don't forget about the new gear! Perhaps a shiny new guitar, drumset, violin, piano, keyboard, saxophone, trumpet, flute, clarinet, leotard, tap or ballet shoes are in order upon beginning your lessons?

Students who have been taking lessons for a long time may decide that they'd like to really buckle down this year and reach the next level in their program(s). They may also be interested in trying a new style of music or dance or maybe they just want to take things in a completely

different direction and add a brand new program.

Whatever your goals are this year, we are happy to discuss any changes and additions with you. At your next lesson, just stop by the front desk and we can discuss all of the options with you to ensure that your Fall music and dance lessons are setup to be exactly what you are looking for!

Indeed, Fall is a high point on the path to success in music lessons and dance lessons! So definitely enjoy it while it's here because as with all new things, it's a very exciting time! Recently, Mrs. Katarina Boudreaux, instructor of piano/voice, sat down with me to discuss achieving success in music lessons and dance classes as well as how to practice to keep the excitement alive in your lessons. You can watch the full discussion at <http://www.laapa.com/lessons-and-videos>.

During the interview we discussed how music and dance lessons (like many activities) follow a sine curve with a high point being when lessons begin due to the newness of everything. After the first few months, things are going extremely well, but then you realize to achieve success, it's going to take some work! Conflicts may naturally arise with sports, school, etc. preventing students from having as much practice time available thus delaying goal achievements. It is perfectly normal for students to arrive at brief plateaus. Usually this is short lived because when your teachers see this, their job is to come up with new ways to help you meet your goals, new practicing ideas (as Mrs. Katarina demonstrates in the video) that make practicing more enjoyable. Then before you know it, you're traveling upwards again in the curve since you saved up enough "Superior" tickets to get an Academy prize! The recital and award ceremony is coming up and you have finally mastered enough technique to perform that cool piece or choreography that you've been wanting to play since you started! So when getting started this Fall - have fun but keep your ultimate goals in mind. Know that the sine curve of learning applies to most students and that the key is sticking with it to remain on the path to your success. The longer you do, the more fun you will have!

~ Ryan Cullen, Academy Director

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### IMPORTANT DATES:

**August 11 (10 AM - 12 PM)**  
Open House - Covington

**August 11 (2 - 5 PM)**  
Open House - River Ridge

**August 18 (10 AM - 2 PM)**  
Open House - Mandeville

**August 21 (4:30 PM)**  
Ribbon Cutting - Mandeville

**August 31**  
Faculty Meetings - No Lessons

### 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!

Aimme R.  
Anna B.  
(thanks to Jacob B.)  
Aubrey G.  
Baker G.  
Bentley C.  
Brady S.  
Catherine R.  
Charlee B.  
Christopher A.  
Cyrus G.  
Daniel D.  
(thanks to George G.)  
Devin G.  
(thanks to Brooks G.)  
Donald D.  
Drew B.  
Emma S.  
Ethan C.  
Georgia C.  
Gina N.  
Grace B.  
Hannah C.  
Hope C.  
Hunter B.  
(thanks to Hartley B.)  
Ian P.  
Jack B.  
Jax G.  
Kaleeah S.  
Kayleen G.  
Keely F.  
Lauren B.  
Logan R.  
Luca B.  
Megean S.  
Morgan P.  
Moriah D.  
Owen T.  
Quinn B.  
Reese B.  
Rick G.  
Ron R.  
Ronald F.  
Sally A.  
Samantha T.  
Seth M.  
Sofia T.  
Soren G.  
Stephannie W.  
Steven M.  
Thomas M.  
Trent C.  
Tyler B.  
Vyoone L.  
(thanks to Dana C.)  
Warren D.  
William Z.  
Zach D.

## Student News



This year, Academy Director Ryan Cullen had the honor of presenting LAAPA Hall of Fame Awards to 3 of our talented students. **Alexandra Jaeger**, **KC Nicholds**, and **Madeline Moore** (pictured above from left to right) will be heading off to college this fall to further their education in music. Congratulations to all 3 of you! We look forward to hearing about your future successes!



Congratulations to Mandeville School of Music & Dance student **Annie Fornaris** (pictured right), who recently auditioned for and was accepted as a 2nd Alto in the Honor Junior Choir for the 2018 Honor's Performance Series at Carnegie Hall! Annie takes voice lessons with Ms. Kadi.

River Ridge School of Music & Dance student, **Bria Ballestas** (pictured left), earned 5 red tickets and used them to claim a prize from the treasure chest. Bria takes Tumbling with Ms. Lauren, Pre-Ballet with Mrs. Mary, and Preschool Music with Ms. Kadi!



**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)**

**Spring Recital photos are here! Check them out at [laapa.com/current-students/photos](https://laapa.com/current-students/photos)**  
**All music recital photos were taken by Craig Macaluso Photography!**

## Happy August Birthdays!

**(Students)** Addison G. (12), Aidan D. (10), Aidan H. (13), Aimee L. (12), Alana E. (9), Alvin L. (6), Amelie B. (14), Andrew C. (12), Anna G. (14), Aubrey G. (6), Audrey O. (5), Ava K. (8), Bailey S. (9), Benjamin V. (10), Brynn H. (12), Cailah F. (8), Casey E. (37), Cate W. (7), Chase B. (20), Cherish W. (12), Christian T. (12), Christopher A. (50), Colin T. (5), Constance H. (67), David T. (39), Dillan W. (8), Eden S. (4), Emma D. (15), Ethan B. (9), Ethan K. (17), Gabriella A. (7), Gayarti M. (37), Georgia C. (7), Grayson B. (16), Hailey S. (13), Hannah S. (6), I'Janae J. (14), Isabella C. (5), Isabella W. (10), J K. (6), Jack B. (17), Jacob B. (21), Jenna G. (31), John Daniel H. (6), Julia B. (7), Justin H. (12), Kaia S. (4), Karlee B. (21), Katelyn P. (8), Katia R. (14), Liam M. (12), Life S. (11), Logan T. (12), Logan R. (8), Lucy D. (11), Lynne D. (59), Marla H. (13), Mary D. (9), Mercy M. (9), Mia S. (10), Mia W. (14), Michelle V. (3), Micole G. (13), Nicholas B. (13), Nicole B. (37), Nina L. (13), Nora V. (3), Nora E. (7), Olivia H. (13), Phillip B. (5), Quinlan M. (11), Reagan D. (10), Remi C. (9), Rob D. (59), Ron R. (67), Sami S. (20), Shelbie S. (9), Sophie Z. (3), Sudharani B. (31), Taylor C. (15), Travis G. (35), Tripp W. (12), William Z. (9)

**(Faculty/Staff)** Alexandra F., Britta T.

## Student of the Month - Liam McCauley



**Mandeville School of Music & Dance** student, **Liam McCauley**, takes guitar lessons here at LAAPA! We recently had a chance to speak with him and learn a little more about his lessons and interests!

**What program are you taking and who is your instructor?**

"I'm taking guitar lessons with Mr. Josh Theriot. In the past I've taken sax, jazz band, and other things. I love Mr. Josh! He is a great teacher!"

**How long have you been taking lessons with us?**

"Altogether, 9 years! 7 years with Mr. Josh."

**What is your favorite part of the lesson each week?**

"All the experience I get with Mr. Josh. We get to jam out! And I love that we can build songs together over time. He has taught me all kinds of new styles; my favorite is Blues Rock."

**What do you enjoy practicing each week?**

"Guitar. I like to practice new songs and my concert pieces. I mostly like to find new songs and learn cool guitar solos. I'm really into Jimi Hendrix, Santana, and other rock bands right now."

**What are your other interest/hobbies?**

"I power lift. I also play sax in my school's band, and I am in the Talented Music program."

**What do you want to be when you grow up?**

"I want to be a chemical engineer, but keep music as a hobby and maybe get some gigs every now and then. I hope to go to MIT or Rice University, but LSU is also an option."

**What made you choose LAAPA?**

"We looked at a lot of programs, but LAAPA stuck out because of the hands on experience, theory classes, amazing teachers, recitals, and the great things we heard through other people."

### Student Shout Outs!

"Christy has been a student with LAAPA for over 3 years. The teachers adapt easily to the learning styles of their students, making it enjoyable for them to stick with it and progress. Her teachers, Mr. Bill and Ms. Kadi serve as mentors in the midst of their music lessons. We are so happy to be a part of the school and appreciative that our contact referred us to LAAPA!"

*~Hardee Family*

## You're Invited! LAAPA Annual Open House Events



**The new school year is right around the corner and that means it is, once again, time for our Annual Open House Events!**

**Gather the family and join us for:**

- Free Music & Dance Demo Lessons!
- Raffle Prizes!
- Instrument Exploration!
- Music Arts & Craft Activities!

**When & Where?**  
**August 11th**

**Covington Campus - 10AM - 12PM**  
**River Ridge Campus - 2PM - 5PM**

**August 18th**  
**Mandeville Campus - 10AM - 2PM**

# LAAPANOTES

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## August Edition:

- Planning for Success in Music & Dance Lessons
- Student News
- Happy August Birthdays!
- Student of the Month - Liam McCauley
- Join Us for our Open House Events!
- Welcome to our newest Students!
- Register Now for Back-to-School!



(pictured above) Our summer camp students were all smiles after having a BLAST at camp this past July!



## Register Now for Back-To-School **MUSIC & DANCE LESSONS**

for Kids, Teens, & Adults...

Have FUN learning to play, dance, or sing THIS FALL!



Fall Music & Dance Lessons are filling up quickly.  
Call 504-208-2301 or learn more and register online at [www.laapa.com](http://www.laapa.com).