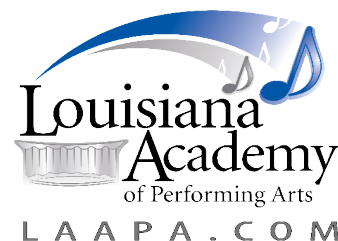


LAAPANOTES



Transforming the Lives of our Students through Music & Dance



December is finally here and soon it will be showtime with our Christmas Concerts and Christmas Dance Show! Our productions are the culmination of months of practice, patience, determination, and, of course, fun, and we're so thankful to all of our faculty, staff, parents, and students for making it possible. Even if you aren't able to perform this year, you're still welcome to watch either in person or via our live stream at laapa.com/live! I look forward to some exciting performances this year and know you'll all be great!

As another year closes (our 40th this year!), I always like to reflect a bit on our mission. Maybe it's sappy, and I know I say it every year, but I don't think it's possible to say thank you enough to everyone who makes LAAPA able to continue it's mission here in the Greater New Orleans community, so I'm going to keep doing it!

Thanks to all of our students and parents who have either recently joined our academy or (in many cases) have been studying with us for years. As our student body continues to grow, it gets harder and harder for me to personally know all of our students and see them progress. This is why recital time is more and more valuable to me each year. Being able to share what I consider one of the greatest gifts the world has to offer and see how it transforms the lives of our students and families is an awesome privilege. I believe our faculty and staff would concur on this point, and it's probably what makes up for their having to put up with me. :)

Also, if you're brand new to LAAPA or considering getting started, please know that many times brand new music and dance students come to us and let us know upfront that they aren't really interested in performing in our concerts for one reason or another, and we let them know that's perfectly fine! However, after taking lessons for a little while and building additional self-confidence, many eventually choose to participate! So just keep that in mind down the road.

Thanks to our hard working faculty. They are all some of the

most genuine and qualified educators in the New Orleans, Mandeville, and Covington areas that you'll ever meet and work with. We receive hundreds of applications each year from prospective educators, and while many are excellent performers or may be qualified, not everyone has the unique ability to communicate their experience and methods in a variety of intelligible and personable ways as our faculty do. So thank you so much faculty, we appreciate all that you do for us.

Thanks to our fantastic staff. While we receive hundreds of applications over the year for our outstanding faculty members, we literally receive hundreds of applications each time one of our staff positions becomes available. They are all truly the best of the best at what they do in my book. They work countless hours behind the scenes keeping everything organized and running smoothly for which we are grateful every day. It takes very special people to administer our three campuses as they constantly have to multi task between customer service and a variety of projects.

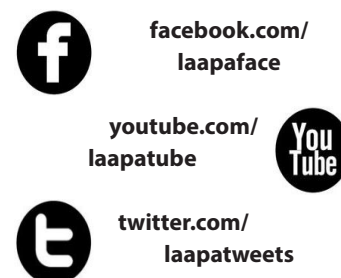
Our concerts for the Covington and Mandeville Schools of Music will be held Saturday and Sunday, December 15-16 at the Fuhrmann Auditorium in Covington. Music Concerts for the River Ridge School of Music & Dance will be held on Saturday, December 8 at Victory Fellowship in Metairie. Our Christmas Dance Show, "Santa's Christmas Adventure" will be held on Saturday, December 22 at St. Martin's Episcopal Solomon Theatre in Metairie - 7 PM.

Student Concert time assignments are published at:
<https://www.laapa.com/current-students>.

Each December at our music concerts, we support the Teresian Sisters and their Mission in Batesville, Texas. For more information on the Mission, please visit <http://www.laapa.com/mission>.

Merry Christmas & see you at the concerts!
Ryan Cullen, Academy Director

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE:

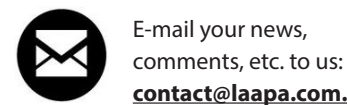


IMPORTANT DATES:

December 8, 15, 16, 22
Christmas Productions

December 24- Jan 4
Christmas/New Year Holidays
- No Lessons

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!
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 November!

Abigail D.
(Thanks to Brooke F.)
Ally S.
Amelia K.
Barbara Ame B.
Brayden C.
(Thanks to Sara V.)
Brazil H.
Caleb S.
Cambre S.
Carlos A.
Charlotte J.
Charlotte B.
Christopher G.
Cierra W.
Dan S.
Daniel B.
(Thanks to Devin G.)
Donna O.
Elias C.
Elijah S.
Elizabeth D.
(Thanks to Eevee P.)
Elizabeth L.
Emily S.
Emma R.
Gabriel S.
(Thanks to Nohemi P.)
Gabriel B.
(Thanks to Devin G.)
Hailey S.
(Thanks to Carolyn R.)
Haley G.
Harper G.
Hazel H.
Joshua D.
Kayla G.
Keon K.
Kevin G.
Lauren M.
(Thanks to Ryan W.)
Lynne D.
Mackenzie D.
Makayla B.
Mayah J.
Michelle V.
Myles J.
Nicholas L.
(Thanks to Sofia S.)
Nylah M.
(Thanks to Ryan W.)
Paul E.
Rain H.
Riley D.
(Thanks to Elizabeth T.)
Ryenne L.
(Thanks to Sofia S.)
Samantha M.
Sean K.
Winston J.

Student News



River Ridge School of Music & Dance student **Sophia Mitchem** (pictured left) recently auditioned and was selected for the Chorale at St. Edward the Confessor. She will be singing at the school mass and for Celebration in the Oaks. Sophia also auditioned and was selected to be a soloist during her class's performance of This Land is Your Land during her school's Cochon de Lait fair. Sophia has been with LAAPA for 6 years! She is currently enrolled in musical theater and piano. Great work, Sophia!

Covington School of Music students **Calvin** and **Frank Schneider** (pictured below) claimed these awesome flying prizes from the treasure chest after earning 5 tickets! Keep up the great work, Calvin and Frank!



Mandeville School of Music & Dance student **James Plaisance** earned first chair as lead alto saxophone for the 2018 LMEA All-State Jazz Band. James has worked very hard this year and it has definitely paid off! James has been taking saxophone lessons at LAAPA since 2010!

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



River Ridge School of Music & Dance Preschool Music student **Alannah Bauer** (pictured above) saved up 30 tickets and cashed them in for a LAAPA tote bag. Great job Alannah!

Happy December Birthdays!

Students: Abigail C. (15), Amelia R. (8), Anna B. (17), Anna C. (13), Arivan S. (7), Arjun S. (2), Ashley O. (9), Avery A. (11), Ben W. (18), Blake D. (10), Brady S. (11), Brenda S. (56), Brice H. (11), Camille T. (16), Carrietta Y. (11), Charles A. (21), Charlotte T. (7), Cheryl E. (66), Chloe B. (13), Danielle S. (17), David R. (11), Deanna C. (31), Diego O. (5), Dominick T. (5), Drin P. (5), Elias C. (6), Elise L. (8), Ella S. (8), Emily R. (14), Ethan C. (8), Evelyn T. (5), Eviana R. (8), Felicity P. (13), Finley T. (9), Fredy Caleb B. (3), George B. (73), Gracie S. (13), Haley G. (14), Haley H. (18), Hannah C. (10), Hannah W. (9), Hayden P. (6), Hazle S. (6), Henslee S. (5), Hope S. (7), Hudson B. (7), Isabella O. (8), Jace R. (9), Jaden B. (12), Jennifer C. (12), Jonah J. (19), Jonathan T. (6), Kaan M. (6), Kayleen G. (12), Keith D. (55), Kent T. (5), Khalil E. (14), Kimea C. (6), Kingston J. (4), Kuillin O. (2), Lachlan C. (2), Larry M. (64), Laylah W. (4), Lily Kate P. (7), Logan T. (12), Mary R. (60), Max L. (11), Max E. (13), Melody D. (10), Mia D. (10), Mia R. (7), Michael T. (13), Michael C. (13), Monya S. (83), Nick V. (9), Nilaja W. (11), Olivia M. (2), Patrick H. (16), Reagan H. (11), Rebecca R. (18), Ridhaan D. (8), Rusty B. (42), Sanjana S. (16), Sophia R. (15), Stephanie D. (16), Terrence D. Jr (15), Trace P. (15), Tracy M. (44), Vian G. (3), Victor S. (2), William C. (14), Yousef F. (9)

Faculty: Anton Z., Cassie W., Kari B., Dr. Vera Z.

Student of the Month - Madison Livaccari



Covington School of Music student, **Madison Livaccari**, takes piano lessons here at LAAPA! We recently had a chance to speak with her and learn a little more about her lessons and interests!

How long have you been taking lessons at LAAPA?

"11 years"

What are some of your interests / hobbies outside of music?

"I run for Saint Scholastica's cross country team and participate in multiple clubs there as well."

What style of music do you love to play the most?

"I enjoy playing many different styles of music like classical and some pop hits are also always fun."

What do you want to be when you grow up?

"I want to be something in the medical field, but specifically a trauma surgeon."

What has been your overall experience at LAAPA?

"My overall experience has definitely been a positive one. Taking lessons for 11 years at LAAPA, I have had multiple teachers who have each taught me something different that I can use for the rest of my musical career."

Student Shout Outs!

"We have been blessed with Mrs. Autumn Beck at LAAPA Covington and we couldn't have asked for a better teacher. She is calm and understanding. She is thorough and helpful. She gives the extra push when she sees the need and slows down if more time is needed. My son has progressed quickly in piano because of her patience and talent. Thank you Mrs. Autumn! We know we are in great hands with you and look forward to seeing you every week!"

~ Carmichael Family

"My daughter has been taking tumbling for tots lessons for about 3 months and loves it. Her instructor Audra has been great and is very patient with all of the kids! We would definitely recommend LAAPA."

~ Thompson Family



Now in its 24th season, the Greater New Orleans Youth Orchestras (GNOYO) is an independent non-profit organization whose mission is to engage, educate, and foster music awareness across the community. Young musicians, ages 7 to 19, are placed by audition in GNOYO's challenging and rewarding orchestral programs. Five orchestras and three outreach programs are offered. Below are some of GNOYO's upcoming events:

GNOYO Fall Festival Concert
Saturday, December 8th
3 PM at Mandeville High School

Winter Auditions
Saturday, January 5th
Loyola University

Go to <http://gnoyo.org/audition-application/> to sign up!

LAAPANOTES

Louisiana Academy of Performing Arts
105 Campbell Ave #2
Mandeville, LA 70471
www.laapa.com | (985) 231-0875



(pictured above) LAAPA Dance Students

December Edition:

- Transforming the Lives of our Students through Music & Dance
- Student News
- Welcome to our newest Students!
- Happy December Birthdays!
- Student of the Month - Madison Livaccari
- Greater New Orleans Youth Orchestra Events
- Supporting the Teresian Mission



Help us Support Families in Need this Holiday Season!

Each year, hundreds of families at LAAPA come together and donate gifts, clothing, and other basic needs items to support families in Batesville, Texas through the Teresian Sisters. For more information on how you can help, please visit <https://www.laapa.com/mission>.

We will be accepting donations at all of our music concerts held on Dec. 8 and 15-16. At the end of each day, we pack them up and drop them off to the Teresian Sisters' Provinciate in Covington where they sort and prepare to transport them directly to the needy.

Photo:

Families of the Batesville Mission receiving gifts on Christmas thanks to generous donations

