

# LAAPANOTES



## LAAPAFEST is Coming! Will you Be Participating?



(pictured above - senior student, Madeline Moore, performing at the 2017 Honors Recital)

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 and dance students who have been studying their program for at least one year (whether at LAAPA or elsewhere) to perform a memorized solo or duet 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 final week of LAAPAFEST, the judges are asked to select 30-35 students who have received the highest overall ratings to join our Faculty in performing at our Faculty and Honors Recital on May 13. 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 stu-

dents of all instruments/programs/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!

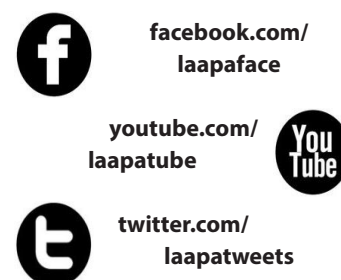
LAAPAFEST participation is an outstanding event in and of itself that produces Honors reflected in the outcome of student ratings. It is important to note that the majority of our students participating in LAAPAFEST typically earn either Excellent and/or Superior overall ratings at LAAPAFEST (because 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 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, so we encourage all interested students to turn in paperwork well ahead of the **February 17 official enrollment deadline. Good luck at LAAPAFEST!**

Ryan Cullen, Academy Director

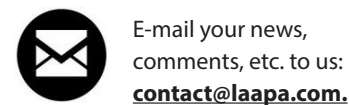
### CONNECT WITH US ONLINE:



### IMPORTANT DATES:

March 10 - LAAPAFEST Covington  
March 17 - LAAPAFEST Mandeville  
March 17 - LAAPAFEST River Ridge (Dance)  
March 24 - LAAPAFEST River Ridge (Music)

### 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 Newest Students who began or added lessons in January!**

- Aaradhya S.
  - Abby W.
  - Adele M.
  - (thanks to Finley T.)
  - Aidan O'R.
  - Alannah B.
  - (thanks to Madison H.)
  - Amelia P.
  - Amielle V.M.
  - Arnas M.
  - Ava K.
  - Aydin S.
  - Ben B.
  - (thanks to Lisa F.)
  - Berkley C.
  - (thanks to the Gumpert family)
  - Brayden B.
  - Brian C. Jr.
  - Brice T.
  - Brooke F.
  - Brynn D.
  - Cadyn B.
  - (thanks to Lisa F.)
  - Caitlin C.
  - Carmen G.
  - Charles T.
  - Cristian S.
  - Daniel C.
  - Dean E.
  - Destiny B.
  - Dhyuti M.
  - (thanks to Nenitha T.)
  - Diane B.
  - Elena N.
  - (thanks to Miya D.)
  - Elizabeth T.
  - (thanks to Ava H.)
  - Elizaveta D.
  - Ellajolie A.
  - Emma M.
  - Eric J.
  - Eylah S.
  - Gabriel S.
  - Gabriella C.
  - Gracie S.
  - Hailey L.
  - Hannah W.
  - Isaac T.
  - Isabel F.
  - Isabella O.
  - Italy N.
  - Izaak G.
  - Jace S.
  - Jake T.
  - Jamari H.
  - Jeff W.
  - Julia C.
  - Kaitlyn M.
  - Kiera P.
- (cont'd p. 3)**

**Student and Faculty News**

River Ridge School of Music & Dance student, **Lindsey Sommers** (pictured right), performed with the 2018 Louisiana Music Educator's Association District VI Senior Honor Chorus January 21. Lindsey takes voice lessons with Ms. Sarah and guitar lessons with Mr. Chris.



Mandeville School of Music & Dance student, Brady Smith, saved up enough tickets from his Superior rated voice lessons to acquire a LAAPA water bottle! He takes lessons with Ms. Alexandra.

River Ridge School of Music & Dance Ballet II students, **Lauren Bishop** and **Lindsay Argueta** were put en pointe just before Christmas break.

They have been working very hard to reach this goal. We are very proud of them! They will begin their pointe training in January. They both study with Mrs. Mary



**Covington School of Music Rock/Pop Band II** will be holding a **FREE CONCERT FEB 25** at the Elwood J Dufour Hall at our Mandeville Campus - 4 PM!

**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)**

**Want to PLAY/RECORD with a Pro Band?**



**BURRIS**



Our Winter Referral Contest is now underway! Will You Win?! Shanmugavel did last contest!

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

- You will receive a free lesson in any program.

- You will be automatically entered into our drawing this April 2 to **PLAY & RECORD IN CONCERT** with local New Orleans Jazz-Rock Band, Burris (\$ 1,000 value)!

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 2!**



## Student of the Month - Mia Tillman



There is no doubt that LAAPA student, **Mia Tillman**, has a talent and passion for music lessons and dance classes. You see, each week she takes six different lessons across all three of our campuses-we believe this has to be a record at LAAPA! We recently had a chance to speak with her and learn a little more about her piano lessons and interests!

**What programs are you taking, and who are your teachers?**

My teachers and classes are: Musical Theatre Ms. Rebecca and Mrs. Mary; Rock/Pop Band Mr. Chris; Voice Ms. Alexandra; Ballet II Mrs. Mary; Piano Ms. Alexandra; Harp Ms. Cassie (I begin Friday!)

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

I have too many favorites! I have enjoyed being a teacher’s assistant for Mrs. Mary’s Ballet and Contemporary Modern dance. I also enjoy Ms. Alexandra’s vocal lessons and Ms. Rebecca’s Musical Theatre.

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

I enjoy practicing vocal warmups and learning new songs in Rock Pop Band and voice. I love practicing Ballet and relaxing Contemporary Modern moves and stretches.

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

I enjoy tumbling, cheerleading, cross country and golf. I am excited to learn a new instrument- harp!

**What do you hope to accomplish with a background in music/dance? What do you want to be when you grow up?**

I aspire to be a famous singer and to someday become a pediatrician when I grow up!

**(Mrs. Tampy - mom) What made you choose LAAPA?**

I chose LAAPA because I was interested in a local performing arts school where Mia could participate and give back to our community! We enjoyed Mia performing and singing Christmas carols at the Northshore Holiday Tea at Maison Lafitte. We also enjoyed her performance at the Night Before Christmas play at Loyola University Theatre! We love it here at LAAPA!

### Student Shout Outs!

“Seth is loving Rock/Pop band...he was a little nervous at first but enjoys playing with others in the group.”

~Jana F.

“Kayla loves her piano lessons! Mr. Russell is great with her and ensures that he always gives her challenging things to do!”

~Danyell H.

## Happy February Birthdays!

**Students:** Abbygail H. (14), Addison A. (11), Andrew V. (8), Arabella G. (6), Arden H. (11), Arthur A. (adult), Arvindkumar A. (adult), Asher S. (8), Audria K. (10), Bryce D. (13), Cecilia L. (11), Charles M. (adult), Claire C. (8), Connor F. (10), Dory A. (12), Drew D. (15), Eliza L. (6), Eric B. (6), Everett C. (adult), Fabiana C. (adult), Finley P. (5), Francesca S. (12), Georgianna M. (adult), Heather H. (adult), Hudson T. (10), Isaiah G. (9), Jack S. (8), John E. (14), Jonathan K. (13), Joseph U. (8), Jude B. (7), Julia S. (16), Juliet S. (2), Kaden B. (8), Kalin S. (17), Keely H. (adult), Ken G. (adult) Kenny G. (adult), Kylie M. (15), Lauren B. (12), Lizbeth G. (9), London L. (5), Louis S. (14), Mackinzie M. (12), Madisson H. (16), Melissa M. (16), Melvin B. (3), Meredith E. (9), Mia P. (14), Michael E. (11), Nathan Y. (8), Nicholas Y. (11), Patrick L. (17), Riley E. (11), Rita G. (16), Robert W. (13), Rojon Z. (10), Roshitha M. (6), Saanvi R. (7), Sam W. (7), Sam G. (7), Sebastian L. (10), Seth M. (8), Skylar D. (4), Sophia M. (6), Steven M. (adult), Thomas P. (12), Thomas S. (10), Vanessa M. (15), Vivien I. (7), Vy L. (15), William W. (9)

## Welcome New Students (continued)!

Lachlan C., Lawrence M. (thanks to Michelle M.), Liam E., Lillian W., Lily M., Lucy C., Luke R., Madison H., Madison H., Maro Luc H. (thanks to April V.), Max G., Melody M., Mercy M., Mia T., Mia S., Michelle B., Miles H., Miley M., Nathan M. (thanks to Mary S.), Olivia S., Olivia H. (thanks to Amaiah L.), Pamdora W., Rob D., Sam W., Samantha B., Samantha J., Samuel M., Saniya C., Sarah G. (thanks to Ellie F.), Savannah B., Sienna M. (thanks to Michelle M.), Skylar D., Sofi P., Sophia H., Tatum C. (thanks to Sophia R.), Taylor K., Tess H., Thais J., Travis T. Jr., Trevor F., Tripp W., Tristan T. (thanks to Ava H.), Tristyn W., Vincent G., Violet F., Walker M., William W.

*It's a pleasure to have you joining the LAAPA Family - welcome and we look forward to helping you achieve your goals!*

# LAAPANOTES

Louisiana Academy of Performing Arts

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Harahan, LA 70123

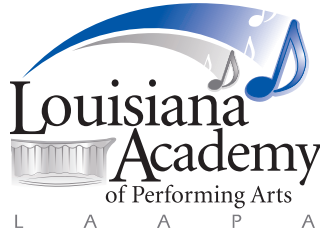
www.laapa.com | (504) 208-2301



(pictured above) Northshore Summer Campers having a blast at the Week End Performance with Ms. Alexandra!

## February Edition:

- LAAPAFEST is coming! Will you be performing?
- Student & Faculty News
- Happy February Birthdays!
- Student of the Month - Mia Tillman
- Would you like to Play/Record in a professional Band?
- Welcome to our newest Students!
- Summer Camp - Early Registration!



## Summer Music & Dance Camp

*Early Bird Enrollment - Save \$50.00!*



It's hard to believe, but Summer will be here before you know it! If you need something fun, new, and exciting to do this summer, then consider Summer Music & Dance Camps at LAAPA! Our summer camps provide campers ages 5-16 with a choice of over 40 instrumental, vocal, and dance programs to discover and explore. Beginners, intermediate, and advanced students will have a blast!

For more information or to reserve your spot and receive \$50 off camp tuition (limited time only), visit <http://www.laapa.com/camp> and use coupon code "camp50". **Offer expires 2/28/18!**