

LAAPANOTES

Tears of Joy - Reflections on Student Accomplishments



Dear Students and Parents,

I'd like to extend my congratulations to all of our students, parents, faculty, and staff for 13 outstanding music and dance concerts held the past two weekends in June. Watching you all use your talents and grow in your skills is truly the greatest part of my job here. It's why I don't mind lugging amps, camera equipment, a full drum set and hardware up and down a flight of stairs or watching nearly 500 performances!

Just as the growth of a child is more apparent to those who see him/her less frequently, we as educators and parents need to stop sometimes and absorb all that has taken place! Just the other day I was watching some old videos of my students on our Facebook page (@laapaface) and will admit that perhaps a tear or two of joy popped up when I realized how far they had truly come. I'm fairly certain that all of our faculty can share a similar story because as educators, we are always proud of what our students have accomplished and just when we think that we couldn't be prouder, they top themselves again and again. Having personally watched thousands of performances over the years, seeing the evolution over the span of months and years is phenomenal. This is all because you and our amazing faculty members have worked hard to make it happen!

While we're talking about lasting memories, video and photo orders are now being filled! **If you'd like to order a high definition video of your performance, just email us at contact@laapa.com to let us know the student's name!** You can see some recent videos on our youtube channel at <http://youtube.com/laapatube>. Mr. Craig (MUSIC) and Mr. Anton (DANCE) also snapped some awesome candid and action photos. Go to <https://www.laapa.com/current-students/photos> to browse and purchase them!

So let's summarize a few things that took place at our 2018 Spring Concerts!

1.) Our students have just built a great deal of self-confidence by performing on stage!

I always like to compare performing on stage with public

speaking. Public speaking is many times feared more by most adults than almost anything else! With our student performers, we need to additionally recognize your courage and success because in most cases, you were not only "speaking publicly" through your performances, but you were doing so while still "learning how to speak" through the art of music and dance in your lessons! Wow! One can only imagine what you will continue to achieve with a growing sense of self-confidence.

2.) Our students have truly learned the importance of meeting deadlines.

No matter what you do in life, you're going to be required to accomplish things by a certain date. All of our students knew when they needed to be ready for the recitals. There was no option to delay their performances. There was no option to perform without anyone hearing or seeing you. It took a great deal of commitment, sacrifice, and hard work in your studies and practice for you to succeed in meeting the deadline. So, congratulations on succeeding in this very important area!

3.) Our students have inspired many others in the audience who witnessed their talent.

Performing for any group of people is an emotional experience not only for our student performers but also for the audience as well. Audience members will appreciate the performance, but one never knows who in the audience will additionally be inspired to perhaps try a new program or work harder at one they are already studying. Indeed, it may have been your performance that convinced someone else to think, "Hey, that was awesome, maybe I CAN do something like that, and wouldn't it be wonderful if next time that was me up there?!"

Remember that while all of our concerts are completely optional in terms of participation, they really are an integral part of music and dance education - so if you weren't ready this time, be on the lookout for the next ones!

Ryan Cullen, Academy Director

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IMPORTANT DATES:

July 3-6

Summer Break

July 9-27

Summer Music & Dance Camps -
River Ridge campus
Mandeville campus

CONTACT US:



E-mail your news,
comments, etc. to us:
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 SUMMER!

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 June!

Abby D.
Amelia R.
Andrew G.
Anthony N.
Arianna P.
Asher S.

(Thanks to Carol J.)

Ava H.
Avery A.
Bronx S.
Brooklyn B.
Brooklyn A.
Bryce S.
Cameron M.
Chase S.
Ciara M.
Daian T.
Darius L.
Dominic H.
Eden S.

(Thanks to Amelia S.)

Elijah W.
Esme M.
Eva B.
Eva M.
Evangeline P.
Gabiella A.
Gavin B.
Hannah C.
Harrison E.

(Thanks to Riley E.)

Hazle S.
Helaine D.
Jackson B.
Jaden P.
Jeane F.
Jinze L.
Jo Anne M.
John Parker B.
Julia M.
Justin H.
Kaitlyn B.
Kate S.

(Thanks to Eleanor S.)

Keith D.
Kuillin O.
Kyle H.
Lila C.
Logan Marie P.
Lucas D.
Mabyn B.

(Thanks to Jace K.)

Mae E.

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Student & Faculty News



Mandeville School of Music & Dance student **Stella Falgoust** (pictured left) saved up enough tickets to earn her LAAPA t-shirt! She takes piano lessons with Ms. Bethany C. Great job, Stella!

Covington School of Music's Rock/Pop Band (pictured below) I performed at St. Peter School's "Party at the Pavillion" School Fair this past April. From left to right: **Seth Fontenot** (guitar), **Bryce DePino** (piano/key-board), **Zachary Montz** (drums), **Mia Tillman** (vocals), and Mr. Chris T. (instructor)



River Ridge School of Music & Dance students **Victoria Wiebelt** and **Kamiya Collins** (pictured right) performed with Jefferson Performing Arts Society in the Alice in Wonderland ballet this past May. They both take ballet with Mrs. Mary.



Have News to Share? E-mail your news to studentnews@laapa.com!

Connect with us on Facebook at facebook.com/laapaface

A Note from LAAPA Parent, Ben Anderson



River Ridge School of Music & Dance student, **Sarah Anderson** (pictured above), with Generations of Music's Ethan Bortnick

Dear LAAPA,

I am proud to announce that my daughter, Sarah, has won the PBS Celebration of Music talent competition. More specifically, she was awarded the high honor of "Producer's Choice."

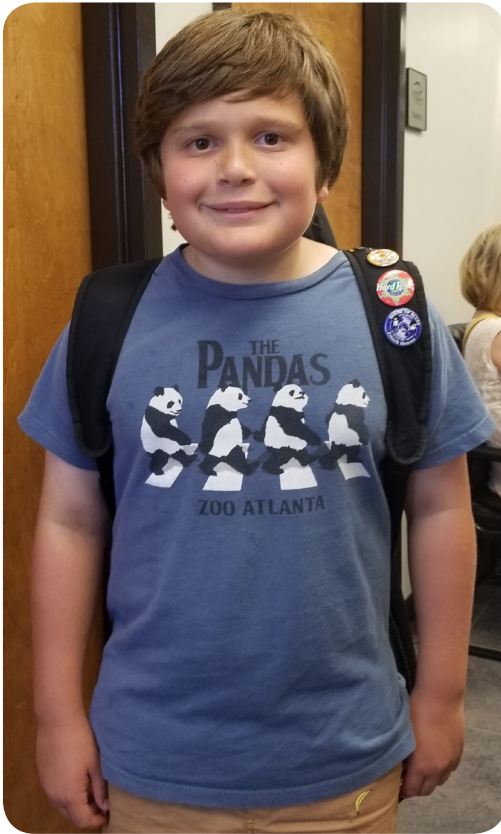
Sarah couldn't have achieved this prestigious recognition without first, receiving your recognition, LAAPA culture and education opportunities, or her teachers, Katarina Boudreaux and Bill Solomon's careful work.

Katarina and Bill create a confidence with their students to foster individual music performance and music expression in a way they become excited to share. With three LAAPA contest finalists, it is evident that the school has consistent high level performers and should be recognized for this yield. This school achievement should be promulgated and known throughout our region.

Congratulations LAAPA, finalists, and Sarah on a job well done!

*Gracious thanks to all,
Ben Anderson, Sarah's dad*

Student of the Month - Reagan Dares



River Ridge School of Music student, Reagan Dares 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 teacher?

"I take guitar lessons with Mr. Bill."

How long have you been taking lessons with us?

"I've been taking lessons for about 2 years."

What is your favorite part of the lesson each week?

"My favorite part about lessons is coming to the lesson! I have a lot of fun with Mr. Bill and I love working on new songs."

What do you enjoy practicing each week?

"I enjoy practicing all of the new songs. My favorite song to practice is 'In the Summertime' by Mungo Jerry."

What are your other interests/hobbies?

"I like skateboarding, skating, playing my clarinet, and making pottery!"

What do you want to be when you grow up?

"I want to be a chemist."

(Parent) What made you choose LAAPA?

"We chose LAAPA because we saw an ad in the Gambit and we drive by the building often."

Student Shout Outs!

"Jude loves his lessons with Ms. Denise! She is amazing. She's very talented, a great teacher, and extremely patient with Jude."

~ **Shewmake Family**

"I could not have chosen a better match for my children. Mr. Gary challenges my son in such an encouraging way and Mrs. Autumn keeps my energetic daughter right on track. We are so thankful for them both!"

~ **Wilson family**

Welcome New Students (continued)!

Max M. (Thanks to Eviana R.), Mia D. (Thanks to Delaney B.), Michael T., Miely G., Mingyao "Jamie" Z., Mira M., Monya S., Nicole B., Paige H., Phillip B., Quinlan M., Quintin C., Rafaela N., Reagan M., Rhea S., Richard H., Scarlett T. (Thanks to Kaylah S.), Shannon F., Sharon T., Sheldon B., Sophie Z., Sophie M., Tala A., Taylor C.

Happy July Birthdays!

(Students) AJ G. (7), Alex L. (16), Alexandra J. (19), Alexis N. (9), Angelina W. (9), Arvin K. (12), Ashlyn W. (17), Brailynn B. (6), Brice T. (17), Calliana D. (13), Cameron M. (6), Chloe C. (7), Christopher T. (10), Christopher K. (23), Christy H. (12), Cody L. (3), Colton H. (15), Cy T. (11), David H. (11), Devin I. (11), Dylan E. (9), Dylan B. (12), Edir G. (36), Ethan C. (10), Gabby R. (12), Gavin M. (11), Genesis P. (11), George G. (9), Gerardo E. (8), Gracyn D. (12), Hannah P. (12), Harley Rose S. (6), Harrison P. (2), Harrison E. (11), Helaine D. (55), Isaac P. (11), Isaac R. (8), Izaac G. (3), Jacob H. (10), Jahreik K. (4), Jo Anne M. (82), Joel S. (8), Jordan P. (10), Joshua C. (4), Julia B. (6), Julia M. (14), Kahlan R. (8), Kaiya H. (10), Kate P. (17), Kate S. (8), Katelyn C. (17), Keith H. (49), Kennedy J. (14), Kyla K. (3), Kyla A. (10), Kyle H. (20), Landon P. (11), Leah Z. (11), Leah M. (3), Liam V. (9), Liam E. (5), Linda T. (68), Logan R. (10), Lucille C. (4), Madeline M. (18), Marie C. (14), Marietta H. (64), Mason P. (8), Megan S. (28), Molly M. (8), Myles F. (6), Nadia H. (13), Nathaniel K. (12), Nathaniel C. (10), Ohanna J. (6), Oliver T. (5), Oliver G. (11), Olivia C. (7), Olivia C. (7), Pamela K. (63), Payton B. (10), Remy M. (10), RJ H. (20), Ryleigh R. (9), Samantha J. (12), Shenethia "Niecy" J. (48), Silah R. (8), Silas W. (6), Sofia S. (12), Tia S. (10), Tony D. (57), Trey W. (8), Wyatt I. (13), Zoë B. (7)

(Faculty) Candice M., Carolyn R., Jeanette P., Lauren Ashlee S., Mirka J., Robin W., Sarah T.

LAAPANOTES

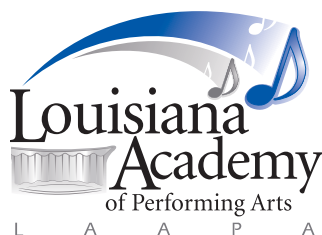
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 Mandeville, LA 70471
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Mandeville School of Music & Dance student, Violet Fera (pictured above) showing off her high jump on the red carpet at this year's recital

July Edition:

- Tears of Joy - Reflections on Student Accomplishments
- Student News
- Happy July Birthdays!
- Student of the Month - Reagan Dares
- A Note from Ben Anderson
- Welcome to our newest Students!



LAST CHANCE TO JOIN US FOR
Summer Music & Dance Camps!
Explore, Create, Play....
This July • Choose 1, 2, or 3 Weeks • Ages 5-16
Try out up to 8 different instruments/programs

Our Summer Camps provide all students ages 5-16 with a choice of over 30 instrumental, vocal, and performing arts programs to explore! Campers (even those with little or no music or performing arts background) are able to take a hands on approach and see what programs and instruments interest them! Perhaps your child has shown an interest in music, dance, piano, singing, guitar, violin, drums (just to name a few!)? Wherever his/her interest lies, we are happy to provide a formal introduction to the programs of your choice in a structured and fun environment!

Very Limited Space - only 25 campers enrolled each week. For more information or to enroll, visit www.laapa.com/camp or call (504) 738-3050 (River Ridge campus) / (985) 674-2992 (Mandeville campus)!