

LAAPANOTES



Creating the Best Music & Dance Educational Experience



On August 31, our entire faculty and staff came together to meet at the Elwood J Dufour Performance Hall on the campus of the Mandeville School of Music & Dance to learn about what's new at LAAPA this school year! Three of our faculty members pictured above shared what has been working well for their students. We wanted to share just a few highlights to demonstrate how committed our Faculty/Staff are to providing a truly unrivaled and first class music and dance education here in the Greater New Orleans area.

Ryan Cullen, Academy Director, opened the meeting and shared what's new with LAAPA this year and discussed how all faculty and staff can take the experiences we provide for our students and families to the next level! He also took some time to discuss LAAPA's unique "8 point plan" for a great lesson/class every week which specifically outlined the areas that need to be a part of each lesson for maximum student engagement and progress.

Next, Ms. Carol Lyon, instructor of strings, discussed how to make note reading a breeze especially for the young beginner. While the Suzuki method (which is extremely popular and widely used) is fantastic, it can sometimes leave beginning string students behind in terms of reading music properly. This is why all of our string instructors are encouraged to supplement it with traditional methods as well as our own LAAPAPRESS music theory texts/flashcards. Carol's system is extremely innovative, utilizing a variety of colors, large posters, and creative games which she mentions will greatly improve student note reading in about 2 weeks.

Note reading is indeed an important subject for any instrument. As Carol mentioned, "When students can't read

standard notation, it's much more difficult for them to be able to participate in standard ensembles."

Dr. Vera Zholondz shared a wonderful discussion on "The Perfect Wrong Note - Learning to Trust Your Musical Self," a book by William Westney, an internationally renowned concert pianist and educator. Zholondz particularly noted that Westney praised the importance of young students getting started in a preschool music program which he himself participated in prior to the piano. Westney says that in a preschool music setting, the young beginners are naturally uninhibited and able to fully immerse themselves in music by bouncing around, dancing, etc. which is a key point of initiation and development. As students age, that natural freedom of expression is not always as present; yet by having that experience at a young age, they are able to take that foundation with them as they begin their lessons in other instrumental or vocal areas.

Finally, Mrs. Carolyn Russell, instructor of voice and piano, concluded the meeting with an outstanding presentation on "Writing Your Story to Impact the Lives of Those Around You." During her presentation she discussed the importance of and formats for teachers sharing stories of their own musical journeys and experiences to help encourage students to overcome obstacles that may arise in the learning process.

Congratulations to all of our faculty presenters this year and to Mrs. Carolyn Russell for being named the 2018 Teacher of the Year by her colleagues! Thanks to all of our presenters, and thanks to all of our faculty and staff at LAAPA - it's a privilege to work with the most devoted and talented educators and staff in the area!

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IMPORTANT DATES:

October 24-30

Bring a Friend/Wear Your Halloween Costumes to class!

October 31 - Halloween

No Classes

November 11th

Free Concert featuring Dr. Vera Zholondz and Anton Zholondz

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 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 September!

Abbey C.
Abigail L.
Addison D.
Aiden S.
Alana B.
Alannah B.
(Thanks Madison H.)
Amanda R.
Amelia R.
Amy C.
Anderson D.
Andre M.
Anne H.
Anya H.
Ashley O.
Ashton E.
Athena B.
August L.
August S.
Aurora B.
Ava B.
Braelynn M.
Brayleigh B.
Brianna N.
Brynn H.
Calvin B.
Catie P.
Chandler S.
Charlie M.
Christian C.
Christian S.
Christopher P.
(Thanks Aubrey R.)
Christopher S.
Ciaran L.
Coby T.
Cohen M.
Connor B.
Daniel W.
Danyan L.
Dave V.
Drin P.
Elena K.
Eli C.
Elise L.
Elle H.
Ellia T.
Emily R.
Emily O.
Felicity M.
Felicity P.
Felix P.
Gabriel R.
(Thanks Yvette S.)
Gordon K.
Grace T.
Grayson G.
Gwen S.
Hailey L.
Hendrix C.
continued p. 3

Student & Faculty News



Mandeville School of Music & Dance, **Brenda Sillinger**, recently performed original songs written by her father live on WWOZ. Brenda takes Mandolin lessons and is pictured left with her instructor Mr. Chris T.



River Ridge School of Music & Dance student, **Sofia Sayyad**, was chosen to be a Junior Tee Retriever at this season's Saints game against the Cleveland Browns. Sofia takes Musical Theater and Hip-Hop Dance with Mrs. Mary.



With the Holidays approaching, your recording will make a great gift for Family and Friends! Our **recording studio** is located at the Mandeville campus and features a 32 track ProTools system, 4k video cameras, premium mics and equipment. Inquire at the Front Desk to learn more, schedule a studio tour or Book Your Session today!



We are happy to announce that we are now offering a **Strength & Conditioning** class **FREE** to all dance students (ages 7+) enrolled in 2 or more dance classes. The class will be Thursdays at 7pm in River Ridge and Saturdays at 12pm in Mandeville. Inquire at the Front Desk for more info!

Have News to Share? E-mail your news to studentnews@laapa.com!
Connect with us on Facebook at facebook.com/laapaface

Happy October Birthdays!

(Students) Abby S. (14), Abigail W. (5), Adam P. (40), Adler B. (10), Aeva P. (8), Aimme R. (8), Alannah B. (4), Alex B. (19), Alyssa A. (14), Amelia T. (6), Ana G. (6), Anaya J. (8), Ansley G. (9), Ashleigh W. (26), Ashley A. (27), Ashley Z. (14), August S. (9), August L. (6), Ava D. (9), Aydan L. (12), Bailey W. (4), Bradford K. (4), Brianna C. (10), Brooklyn P. (14), Bryan N. (7), Caitlin C. (10), Camila A. (8), Cayden S. (8), Cole F. (10), Colette T. (3), Courtney C. (14), Cyrus G. (13), Elena K. (6), Ellia T. (3), Ian P. (5), Isaac M. (4), Isabella C. (10), Jaci W. (9), Jackson K. (6), Jax C. (6), Jennifer Z. (14), Johanna L. (5), John A. (52), John Parker B. (11), Kai C. (6), Kamahri S. (12), Kristen P. (11), Lily P. (12), Linda L. (36), Logann L. (15), Lolo L. (10), Lydia C. (34), Mabyn B. (5), Mary B. (65), Mary R. (14), Mason F. (11), Matthew B. (9), Mia T. (11), Michael T. (17), Michael M. (6), Michael D. (11), Miely G. (11), Mila K. (11), Morgan P. (15), Moriah D. (16), Natalie R. (17), Nicole M. (11), Olivia C. (4), Owen D. (5), Pamdora W. (49), John R. (8), Rebekah R. (12), Reed S. (67), Ryan A. (13), Selin M. (8), Shannon F. (10), Sherri M. (37), Stephen R. (65), Taylor W. (5), Tess H. (33), Thomas M. (10), Tim H. (63), Timothy P. (15), Travis T. (5), Trent C. (12), Tucker S. (13), Tyler B. (15), Vyoone L. (56), Wyatt W. (6)

(Faculty/Staff) Bill S., Kadi H., Jessica M., KC T.

Student of the Month - Jaelyn Jarrell



River Ridge School of Music & Dance student, **Jaelyn Jarrell**, takes Ballet and Contemporary Modern Dance lessons 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?

"I have been dancing at LAAPA with Mrs. Mary for about 1 and a half years."

What are some of your interest/hobbies outside of dance?

"I love to read and write!"

What does dance mean to you?

"Dance is a way for me to let go and focus."

What is your favorite part of the lesson each week?

"My favorite part of lessons each week is learning new choreography and being challenged."

What has been your overall experience at LAAPA?

"My experience at LAAPA has been amazing!"

(Parent) What made you choose LAAPA?

"I heard great things from friends about LAAPA. I wanted Jaelyn to be in a good environment where she would grow."

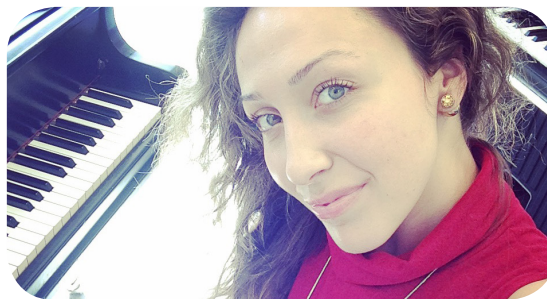
Welcome New Students (continued)

Hope C., Hope S., Ishana G. (Thanks Anjali G.), Jack M., James W., Jaxson E., Jayden Rose M., Jimmie W., John A. (Thanks Sarah A.), Joseph A., Joseph U., Joshua L., Josie W., Kaan M., Kenna L., Kennon R., Kobey H., Kolther A., Leana K., Linda Sabine S., Logan G., Lyla M., Mackenzie M., Madison D., Mani V., Marcus J., Maria A., Mathimalar J., Matthew B., Maverick V., Max E., Max L., Mia S., Mia T., Mila K. (Thanks Payton B.), Nick V., Noah A., Nola K. (Thanks Payton B.), Nola M., Paige F., John R., Race H., Ragnar K., Riley P., Robert Allan C., Rojon Z., Rokaya A., Rusty B., Selin M., Sophia E., Sophie T., Susan G., Sutariya B., Taylor P. (Thanks Alicia M.), Tucker S., Vannida H., Vian G. (Thanks Anjali G.), Victor S., Violet N., Walsh B., Zacha S., Zachary F.

Let's Start a BAND!

Mr. Bill Solomon is looking for 6 students (ages 10+) interested in starting a **New Orleans style band**. The band will meet Mondays, from 5-6 PM at our River Ridge school. Voice, Trumpet, Saxophone, Clarinet, Trombone, Drums, Keyboard, Guitar, Bass, & Violin students are encouraged to join! Stop by the front desk for more info!

Free Concert at LAAPA!



Join **Dr. Vera Zholondz** and **Mr. Anton Zholondz** on Sunday, November 11th - 6 PM for a concert at the Mandeville School of Music & Dance's Elwood J. Dufour Performance Hall. Dr. Vera and Mr. Anton will be performing 3 duet pieces on piano and violin. They will briefly talk about each piece as well, so this will be a fun learning experience for all! This concert is free admission and open to the general public.

Student Shout Outs!

"Our son has been playing piano at LAAPA for the last 4 years. His teacher, Mrs. Katarina, has helped advance his skills beyond our expectations. She takes the time to teach his lesson, answer all his questions and share her vast knowledge of music history. We cannot be more satisfied with our experience here."

~**Tuccio Family**

"Mr. Bill ROCKS!!! Summer camp, private lessons, Christmas concert... ALL genius things for kids to experience year round.

Love it!!!!"

~**Reily Family**

LAAPANOTES

OCTOBER 2018

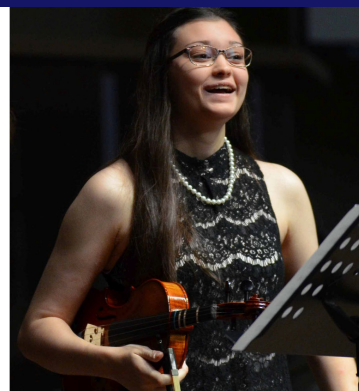
Louisiana Academy of Performing Arts
105 Campbell Ave. #3
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Bring a Friend & Wear your Halloween Costume to your music and dance lessons October 24-30!

It's Not too Late! Register Now for Fall **MUSIC & DANCE LESSONS**

for Kids, Teens, & Adults...



Call 985-231-0875 or learn more and register online at www.laapa.com.