

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 41st 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.

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 14-15 at the Fuhrmann Auditorium in Covington. Music Concerts for the River Ridge School of Music & Dance will be held on Saturday, December 21 at St. Martin's Episcopal Solomon Theatre in Metairie. Our Christmas Dance Show, "Santa's Christmas Adventure" will be held on Sunday, December 22 at St. Martin's Episcopal Solomon Theatre in Metairie - 6 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 14, 15, 21, 22
Christmas Productions

December 23 - Jan 3
Christmas/New Year Holidays
- No Lessons

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 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!

Anabella F.

Auggie W.

Brian B.

(Thanks Gordon K.)

Calvin B.

Cassidy L.

Colton B.

Courteney T.

Destiny P.

Elisha G.

Emily R.

Emmalia P.

Ethan T.

(Thanks Daniel C.)

Faith G.

Gianna M.

Gracynn Y.

Isabel M.

Jaxton S.

(Thanks Rawls Family)

Joseph O.

Julia R.

Kate O.

Lara D.

Lilia T.

Lilly Grace S.

Madeline P.

Madison D.

Mia K.

Olivia R.

Parker B.

Randall A.

(Thanks Bronson B.)

Rojon Z.

Sarah L.

Sofia S.

Sophia L.

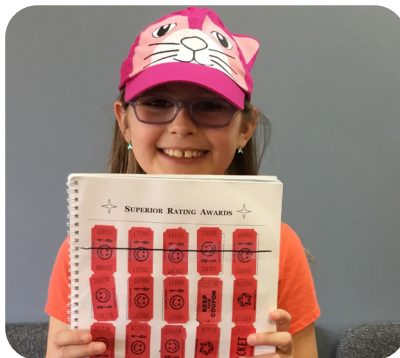
Timothy F.

(Thanks Reed S.)

Will R.

Zooley M.

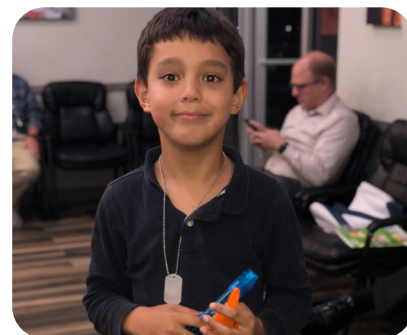
Student & Faculty News



Covington School of Music student **Hannah Wilson** (pictured left) saved up 10 Superior Student tickets for this awesome cat hat. Hannah takes piano with Mrs. Autumn and has been a student at LAAPA for almost 2 years! Way to go, Hannah! Keep up the hard work.



Mandeville School of Music & Dance students **Andres and Sam Garza** (pictured left with their dad) went to Baton Rouge last month to support their teacher, **Mr. John S.** (pictured below with LSU symphony) performed with the LSU Symphony Orchestra to accompany Ben Folds at a concert. Mr. John teaches bass, guitar, and piano at our Mandeville and Covington campuses.



Mandeville School of Music & Dance student Gideon Shapiro (pictured right) saved up enough Superior Student tickets to claim 2 prizes from the treasure chest! Gideon takes voice lessons with Mrs. Rebecca. Way to keep having awesome lessons, Gideon! We're so proud of you - keep up the great work!

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

Happy December Birthdays!

Students: Alex N. (3), Amelia R. (9), Anna C. (14), Apsara P. (8), Arivan S. (8), Ashley M. (3), Ashley O. (10), Avery A. (12), Avilys S. (5), Belle O. (5), Brady S. (12), Brice H. (12), Carlos V. (8), Carrietta Y. (12), Charlotte T. (8), Cheryl E. (67), Chloe B. (14), Christal H. (38), Cleounsee W. (18), Daniel C. (7), Danyon T. (12), Dax S. (5), Drin P. (6), Eldrige B. (7), Elisha G. (5), Ella G. (7), Emilio G. (2), Emily R. (15), Emma L. (12), Emma L. (15), Ethan C. (9), Evelyn T. (3), Eviana R. (9), Finley T. (10), George B. (74), Grant M. (5), Habeeer S. (5), Hannah C. (11), Hannah W. (10), Hayden P. (7), Henslee S. (6), Hudson B. (8), Jace R. (10), Jaden B. (13), Jennifer C. (13), Jhonny Z. (9), Josie S. (5), Julianna F. (6), Kembell P. (12), Khalil E. (15), Kimea C. (7), Kuillin O. (3), Laylah W. (5), Leah A. (7), Logan T. (13), Lucas B. (8), Lyla M. (5), Maiah O. (8), Max L. (12), Melody D. (11), Mia R. (8), Michael C. (14), Michael T. (14), Mike F. (10), Nathan Z. (10), Nick V. (10), Oakley W. (6), Olivia M. (3), Opal M. (7), Patrick H. (17), Rebecca R. (19), Rileigh C. (11), Sage B. (5), Sailor S. (8), Sandra S. (5), Sanjana S. (17), Sean M. (12), Sophia L. (4), Tanishka P. (9), Thalia T. (9), Trace P. (16), Tracy M. (45), Vivienne A. (7), Yousef F. (10), Zander G. (10)

Faculty: Dr. Vera Z.

Students of the Month - Kahlan & Lailah Davis



Covington School of Music students, **Kahlan & Lailah Davis**, take voice and piano lessons here at LAAPA! We recently had a chance to speak with them and learn a little more about their lessons and interests!

What program are you taking and who is your teacher?

Kahlan: "I take voice lessons with Dr. Vera."

Lailah: "I take piano lessons with Ms. Bethany."

What kind of music do you listen to?

Kahlan: "I like the group Queen. I also like musicals!"

Lailah: "I like the music in the movie *The Greatest Showman*!"

What is your favorite part about lessons each week?

Kahlan: "Singing!"

Lailah: "Knowing the notes."

What are your other hobbies/interests outside of music?

Kahlan: "I like dancing, drawing and reading."

Lailah: "I like soccer, dancing, singing and drawing."

(Parent) What made you choose LAAPA?

"We knew our daughter liked to sing, but we did not know what music program she would want to study. We love that the teachers at LAAPA are so well-educated and so multi-faceted."

Student Shout Outs!

"Mrs. Catherine has been a phenomenal violin teacher. She is the perfect teacher that understands how to reach a child and capitalizes on this skill in many ways. Our child is not only learning about music and violin but about the influence of music in her world."

~ Rynick Family

"My bass teacher, Mr. Bill, is just fabulous. He is extremely knowledgeable, down to earth, patient, and fun. My drum teacher, Layla, is also phenomenal. She inspires me to pursue my hobby, and she is the best part of my Saturday. I have not missed one lesson, and I've been enjoying lessons since last December."

~ Jeanine G.

Upcoming Faculty Performances

Interested in supporting your teacher or other LAAPA faculty member? Here are some upcoming performances you may enjoy!

December 6th:

7:30 PM at LSU in Baton Rouge

Mr. John S. will be performing at the LSU Candlelight Concert

December 7th:

6:30 PM at the Chapel on Dillard University of New Orleans Campus

Dr. Vera will be performing as a principal violinist in a Christmas concert

December 8th:

10:30 AM at the Covington Presbyterian Church

Mr. Dakota will be leading the choir in a Christmas performance

December 23rd:

5:00/7:00 PM at Church of the King Little Creek Campus

Mrs. Carolyn will be singing in the Christmas Services.

December 24th:

5:00 PM at First Baptist Church of LaPlace

Ms. Jennifer H. will be performing with her student Karlee Babbel in the Christmas Eve Service

For more upcoming performances, contact us at contact@laapa.com

LAAPANOTES

Louisiana Academy of Performing Arts

105 Campbell Ave #2

Mandeville, LA 70471

www.laapa.com | (985) 231-0875



(pictured above) LAAPA voice student, Thalía T. is all smiles in her lessons with Mr. Enrico!

December Edition:

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- Student News
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- 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. 14, 15, and 21. 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

