



Student of the Month

MAX T.



Max has been taking piano lessons at SAMA since early December 2012 under the direction of piano instructor Derek Adam. In this short time, Max has participated in two recitals - one at UTSA and the other at SAMA's 2013 Spring Recital. According to Derek, Max has showed steady improvement over the past 5 months. Derek notes that Max's enthusiasm to learn and parents' involvement in his progress has been fundamental to his success. Keep up the great work, Max!



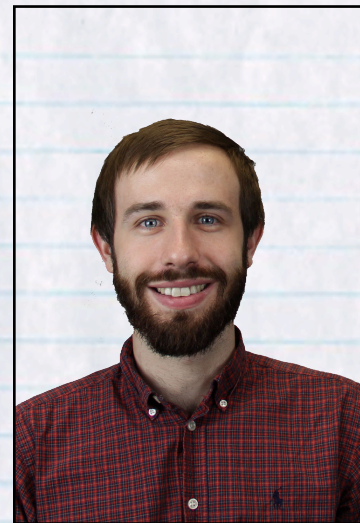
STUDIO HOLIDAY - Our studio will be closed Monday, July 1st - Sunday, July 7th. We will re-open on Monday, July 8th at our normal studio time. Wishing everyone a happy and safe holiday!

Instructor Corner

Congratulations to the those who participated in the last recital! It is important to recognize that performing is a major aspect of music. Music is a performing art, and recitals are a time to show off all your hard work and progression with your instrument. Recitals should be taken seriously, so make it a point to participate and perform at your best. For many of you, recitals are your first taste of performing in front of an audience. It gives you a chance to *pay your dues* as a performer; just like learning to play your instrument, performing also has lessons of its own to master.

Performing can be a pretty nerve racking idea. Dealing with general stage fright can be conquered with more performances and building confidence in these abilities. Other variables that add to nerves are lack of practice or playing at an audition where there's a lot at stake. Whatever might be causing these nerves, just remember to trust that you know the material and focus your energy towards a great performance and not on how nervous you may be.

Having a good stage presence is very important because it's how you convey yourself to the audience. You want to convey confidence and show no signs of nervousness so that your performance is seamless. A proper introduction is crucial. Wherever you are performing, be sure to enter and exit with poise and maintain good posture (this will make you feel confident).



During the performance, it's important to be able to control your gestures. Sometimes a mess up can cause you to make a gesture which signals to the audience that you made a mistake. The key is to not make a gesture at all and act as if nothing happened. This will enhance your performance because your focus will remain on finishing the rest of your material strong.

Remember that **THE SHOW MUST GO ON!** It's inevitable that you will have good and bad performances; the best thing you can do is to learn from what worked and what did not work during your performances.

-Mason Macias,
Percussion Instructor

CONGRATULATIONS to all the students who participated in the 2013 Spring Recital! In case you missed it, Spring Recital DVDs and photos are still available for order. Please see the front desk.



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