

# SAMA MONTHLY

WWW.SAMUSICACADEMY.COM

## Instructor Corner

*"Comfort is the enemy of excellence."*

- David Hooper (author of *Six Figure Musician*)

During my time studying music at the university level, I received a lot of constructive criticism. Sometimes in class, I would be praised for my skill in certain areas, but more often my lack of skill in other areas would be pointed out. I will admit that it did not feel good to hear the criticisms: Dr. Call telling me that I played low notes too heavily, Sam Cardon telling me that I needed to work on my swing feel, Jeannine Lasky telling me that the song I had written sounded boring, or Dr. Hancock telling me that I needed to work on my counting. None of these things felt good to hear in the moment. However, looking back, I can see that I grew far more as a musician from these criticisms than I ever did from the compliments I received.

The only way to improve is to work on the areas where we're lacking. And oftentimes the only

way to find out where we're lacking is for someone more experienced to tell us. It may feel good to hear your grandmother tell you that you're perfect. But the truth is you're not perfect, and hearing that you are won't help you improve. Compliments, while they make you feel good in the moment, do not help you progress. Constructive criticism from someone experienced is what gives you the knowledge of how to progress. So a student of any subject or skill should welcome - and even seek out - constructive criticism.

-Taylor Kroff,  
Piano  
Instructor

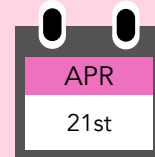


### Student of the Month - Emma G.

*"Emma is an amazing student. She has a great attitude and is always prepared for her lessons. Her reading skills have drastically improved over the past year, and she is on her way to becoming an incredible musician."*

-Randy Naranjo, guitar instructor

## UPCOMING EVENTS:



Jake Ramirez's Birthday



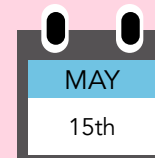
SAMA's ensemble group Last Minute will perform at King William Fair @ 11:15am on the Kid's Kingdom Stage



SAMA Elite perform  
@ Fiesta Nueva



Piano & Acoustic Guitar Recital  
@ RBC Music



Studio Wide Recital  
@ LOL Comedy Club



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