

# SAMA MONTHLY

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## Making Practice Musical

Do you look forward to your practice time? Sometimes we sit down to practice and we get so caught up in getting everything to be just right we forget what we're really trying to do. Of course we should still be trying to maintain good technique in everything we play, but our primary goal should always be to make something musical out of our practice! We should be excited to practice and see what music we can make that day!

How can we do that? Here are some ways in which we can make practice time more effective and more enjoyable:

- **Set aside a time where you can practice without interruption.** The best practice comes with efficient use of your time.
- **Don't try to tackle the whole piece all at once!** Take it in smaller sections where you can really focus on a particular aspect of the piece. You'll be much happier with the results and less overwhelmed when you look at the music.
- **Listen when you play!** We often just play through without really paying attention to the sound we're making.

You may be overlooking a mistake or you just might miss a really wonderful musical moment! We all have pieces of music that we love listening to because they make us feel happy, or sad, or some other emotion. Do you feel any of those things with the music you make?

Listen to yourself playing and ask yourself if it is something you would enjoy listening to. No matter what you're playing, you can always have a musical moment in your practice and also in your lessons!

-Michelle Sirois  
Piano Instructor



## Student of the Month Melanie N.

"Melanie is always prepared for her lessons! She is a master at the simple, yet very important things like being on time and always having her lesson materials. Melanie comes to each lesson ready to learn and is a joy to teach! Her progress is truly inspiring. Melanie completes each of her weekly assignments and very often looks ahead on her own. Melanie is doing great! It's inspirational to watch her progress and I'm thrilled to see her continue to improve."

- Brooke Balbuena  
Piano Instructor



## WINTER RECITAL

December 13th & 14th  
LOL Comedy Club  
618 NW Loop 410,  
SA, TX 78216

### RECITAL TIPS:

- Arrive 15 minutes before your performance time.
- Once the recital begins, be courteous and listen quietly to your peers.
- Once it's your turn: rise quickly, walk up to the stage, introduce yourself & your piece.

**STUDIO HOLIDAY** - Please note that SAMA will be closed for the Christmas Holiday from Sunday, December 21st - Sunday, January 4th. We will re-open on Monday, January 5th. We wish you a safe and happy holiday season with your family & friends!



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