

# SAMA MONTHLY

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## Student of the Month



"Saxon is always one step ahead in her preparation for class", says piano instructor Fabian Beltran. "During the last few months Saxon has shown incredible progress not only on her piano skills, but also on her internal ear and her understanding of music theory." Due to her musical curiosity and dedication, Saxon has now very strong theory skills that are enabling her to learn her piano pieces more accurately and faster, and have also awaken her wonderful and promising composing skills.

"Saxon always has a constant positive attitude. The bigger the musical obstacle, the more positive she becomes. Saxon always welcomes learning new techniques, subjects, and more advanced pieces even if it requires double the hard work and discipline. Additionally, Saxon has now begun to compose her own works." Congratulations, Saxon!

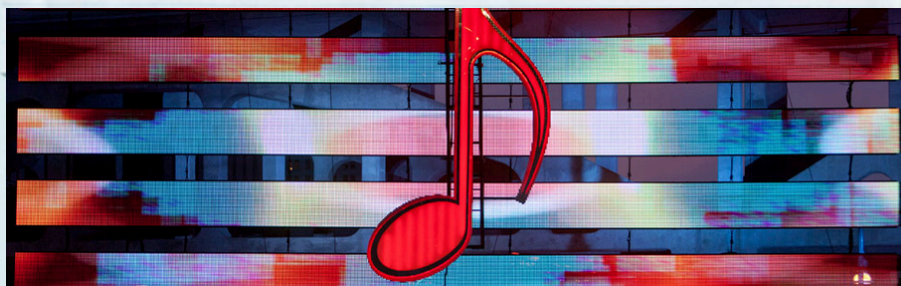
## Instructor Corner

So that new piece is learned! It's memorized and ready to go, you know where all the accents and dynamic changes are. You can list off the rhythms, key changes, and lyrics backwards and forwards, and yet we find that there is an element missing. We focus so often on what we hear and feel as we prepare a piece, that we rarely take time to notice what we see as the song unfolds and how it affects us and the life outside of it. Each piece gives us a new prospective of who we are, and a new way to communicate thoughts and emotions. Take advantage of each new song as a chance to start over, take the time to really look through it, find the ups and downs, and set a mental stage for yourself and step into the



shoes of the character that inhabits that space. Who is this character? What is their situation at this point, and how did they come into this situation? What is the overall atmosphere, joyful, bittersweet, energized? Take the time to map out the piece in this way and the discovery and performance will be that much more inspiring.

-Sarah Sirois  
SAMA Voice Instructor



**STUDIO HOLIDAY** June 29th - July 5th. We will re open at normal business hours on Monday, July 6th. Have a safe and happy holiday!



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