

SAMA MONTHLY

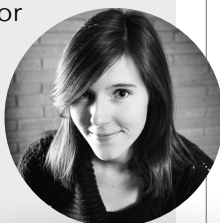
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Welcome to SAMA

Randi Wooding, voice instructor

Randi holds a Bachelor of Music degree with a choral concentration from Lamar University along with her Texas teaching certification which she received in 2012. In 2013, Randi moved to San Antonio to pursue a Master of Music in Vocal Performance and Pedagogy at The University of Texas at San Antonio and plans on graduating in May of 2015. Randi has a deep passion for teaching and a strong desire to pass on to future generations the love of music that has so wonderfully shaped her own life.



Michelle Sirois, piano instructor

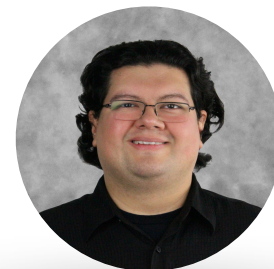
Michelle currently holds the position of organ scholar at St. Paul's Episcopal Church and is pursuing a Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance at the University of Texas at San Antonio as the Bess Hieronymus scholar. Michelle loves working with each student, finding what helps them learn best, and helping them to discover their own love for music.



Working Through the Frustration

As a teacher I am very observant of my students during lessons, not just their technique but their expressions. During a lesson I can tell if a student becomes frustrated because they don't feel they have progressed as fast as they think they should. Remember we all learn at our own pace. Music is something that does not come easily for most of us, myself included. It takes desire, determination, and discipline to achieve our musical goals. It is important to practice everyday and it is more important to make sure that you are in the right state of mind while practicing.

Having an effective practice routine or schedule can help alleviate some of this frustration by insuring you are not spending too much time on any one thing. Feelings of frustration while practicing can intensify the more you try to push through it. Often the best thing you can do is take a break and come back to it later. Go for a walk, get some air and come back when you are calm and can focus all of your attention on your music. Also, remember most of us started to play or sing just for fun. As a teacher I always talk to students about practicing, but as musicians we must spend time just playing the music we love. So be sure to talk to your instructor and see what advice they have for working through the frustration.



-Randy Naranjo
Guitar Instructor



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