



THE SCHOOL OF
PERFORMING ARTS

Welcome

 to the 2011-2012 school year at The School of Performing Arts!

I hope all of our music families had a pleasant and relaxing summer as we begin another exciting year here at SPA!

Our staff is looking forward to another great year and to make sure that everything goes as smoothly as possible, we've put together a packet of information for our music families.

Enclosed you will find a Music Department calendar of events for the entire year, as well as descriptions of each event. In addition, I have included a guideline sheet outlining proper student/teacher etiquette. Please take a moment to look this over.

You will also find a list of Sounding Board dates for the year. The Sounding Board is our *free* performance class that meets the second Friday of each month from 7pm to 9pm. In addition, we will also offer a special Senior Sounding Board in November, January, and May for students who are of Middle School age or older. Junior Sounding Board will also meet during these months for students who are younger than Middle School age. We ask that each student at SPA participate in one Sounding Board workshop per semester. As a reminder, The Sounding Board is not intended as a public performance so parents should wait outside the room until the workshop has concluded.

Several exciting new events taking place this year will include our First Annual Halloween Recital on October 30 and our AIM Review Workshop for piano students participating in the AIM Theory Exams this December. The workshop will take place on November 6. Look for additional information on these events posted throughout SPA or ask your teacher for further details.

Sign-up sheets for auditions, The Sounding Board and other events will be at our front desk. If you have any questions please feel free to contact our office staff at (630)717-6622. They will be happy to assist you with any questions regarding our music department events.

If you have additional questions about any Music Department programs or events, please don't hesitate to contact me.

We are looking forward to another great year with our students here at SPA!

Best regards,

Mark Mavetz

Director of Music

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2011-2012 Music Department Calendar

September

17 String Master Class with Chicago Sinfonietta-2pm

October

14 The Sounding Board-7pm
22 Sonatina Festival Registration Forms Due
30 Halloween Recital-3pm

November

6 AIM Workshop
11 The Sounding Board (Junior and Senior)-7pm
12 Sonatina Festival-4pm
19 Holiday Open House Registration Forms Due
24-27 Thanksgiving Break-No lessons or classes

December

9 The Sounding Board-7pm
18 Holiday Open House-3pm
23 Holiday Break Begins-No lessons or classes

January

6 Holiday Break Ends-Lessons/Classes Resume
13 The Sounding Board (Junior and Senior)-7pm
15 Artists' Performing Showcase Auditions (tentative)
21 Semester One Ends
23 Semester Two Begins
28 American Composer Festival Registration Forms Due

February

10 The Sounding Board-7pm
12 Artists' Performing Showcase-2:30pm
18 American Composer Festival

March

9 The Sounding Board-7pm
24 Baroque Festival Registration Forms Due
26 Spring Break Begins-No lessons or classes

April

2 Spring Break Ends-Lessons/Classes Resume
13 The Sounding Board-7pm
14 Baroque Festival-4pm

May

11 The Sounding Board (Junior and Senior)-7pm
28 Memorial Day-(No lesson or classes)

June

1-3 Spring Recitals (tentative)
2 Official End of Semester Two
4 Make-up Day for lessons/classes missed on Memorial Day

You will be notified if any of these dates change. You will receive more detailed information about each event from your teacher, but please mark these dates on your calendar.



2011-2012 MUSIC DEPARTMENT EVENTS

Below is a list of all music department events. Please let your teacher know if you are interested in participating so that they can help you prepare. Teachers will hand out registration forms approximately two months prior to each event.

NEW! HALLOWEEN RECITAL: This event will give students a chance to perform for family and friends in an informal setting. Students may perform any piece of their choice. Memorization is not mandatory. Students are encouraged to wear their Halloween costume, but it is not required. There is a \$5 participation fee to perform on this recital. **Recital date is Sunday, October 30 at 3pm.**

SONATINA FESTIVAL: Instrumental students will have the opportunity to perform for a judge and medals will be awarded based on scores. Students must perform from memory and there is a \$20 participation fee for soloists or a \$10 per student fee for ensembles and duets. **Festival date is Saturday, November 12 beginning at 4 pm.** Registration deadline is Saturday, October 22.

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE: Our annual holiday program is held in an open house format (2 or 3 short recitals taking place simultaneously in different rooms). Each recital lasts approximately 30 minutes and guests are asked to stay for the entire recital. Students may perform holiday pieces or another piece of their choice. Music need not be memorized. **This event takes place on Sunday, December 18 beginning at 3 pm.**

ARTISTS' PERFORMING SHOWCASE: This annual event features selected soloists and performing ensembles from our student body at SPA as well as faculty performances. Students must perform from memory and should be comfortable performing on a large stage in front of a large audience. **Auditions will be held in Mid-January.** The performance will take place on Sunday afternoon, February 12 at 2:30pm in Pfeiffer Hall on the campus of North Central College.

AMERICAN COMPOSER FESTIVAL: This popular event gives students the opportunity to perform a piece by an American composer. Repertoire may include contemporary, Broadway, or popular music selections. Like our other festivals, students must perform from memory, medals will be awarded based on scores, and there is a \$20 fee participation fee for soloists and a \$10 per student fee for ensembles and duets. **Festival date is Saturday, February 18 beginning at 4 pm.** Registration deadline is Saturday, January 28.

BAROQUE FESTIVAL: This annual event is similar to the Sonata-Sonatina Festival where students perform for a judge and medals are awarded based on scores. Students must perform, from memory, one piece by a Baroque composer. There is a \$20 participation fee for soloists and a \$10 per student fee for ensembles and duets. **Festival date is Saturday, April 14 beginning at 4pm.** Registration deadline is Saturday, March 24.

THE SOUNDING BOARD: This monthly performance class gives students the opportunity to perform a piece they are preparing for a festival, audition, recital, or just share something they have been working on in their lessons. This class is for students only (parents are kindly asked to wait outside the Bach room). Music does not need to be memorized. The class takes place on the 2nd Friday of each month from 7pm to 9pm beginning in October. Students wishing to participate should RSVP to our front office.

SPRING RECITALS: We conclude the school year with our annual Spring Recitals. All SPA music students are invited to perform for family and friends! This year's recitals are tentatively planned for June 1, 2, and 3. A \$20 recital fee is charged as part of the second semester tuition.



2011-2012_ **SOUNDING BOARD DATES**

OCTOBER 14

NOVEMBER 11
(JUNIOR AND SENIOR)

DECEMBER 9

JANUARY 13
(JUNIOR AND SENIOR)

FEBRUARY 10

MARCH 9

APRIL 13

MAY 11
(JUNIOR AND SENIOR)

ALL CLASSES WILL TAKE PLACE ON FRIDAY EVENINGS FROM 7PM TO 9PM IN THE BACH ROOM. SIGN-UP SHEETS ARE IN THE FRONT OFFICE. YOU MAY SIGN-UP IN PERSON OR OVER THE PHONE AT 630.717.6622. PERFORMANCE SPACE IS LIMITED TO 20, BUT ALL STUDENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!

EACH SPA PRIVATE MUSIC STUDENT IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND AT LEAST ONE SOUNDING BOARD PER SEMESTER



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A Guide to Music Department Etiquette for Parents and Students

The School of Performing Arts prides itself on providing excellence in music education for students of all ages, so we'd like to take a moment to remind our parents and students of certain guidelines that need to be observed when studying privately with a music teacher. Whether you are new to the world of music lessons or have studied with your teacher for many years it is important that certain courtesies take place between teacher and student. Your teacher has your best interest in mind and will do everything in his or her power to help you succeed in your musical studies. In order for your teacher to provide the best music education the following guidelines must be observed.

- Please come to each lesson with all necessary materials (music, instrument, and pencil). Failure to do so could result in being dismissed from the lesson for the day.
- Please be prompt for your scheduled lesson. If you are late for your lesson your teacher will not be able to give you your full lesson time.
- Practice between lessons is imperative for progress to occur. Your teacher reserves the right to terminate lessons if there is a consistent lack of preparation.
- Students should not chew gum or bring food to their lesson.
- Students wishing to perform in competitions, recitals, festivals, master classes or other events must receive permission from the teacher beforehand. Please remember that you are not only representing yourself, but also your teacher. If your teacher feels you are not ready to perform a piece, the teacher will be honest with you and tell you so. Performing in an event without your teacher's permission could result in dismissal from the teacher's studio.
- Students should not study their instrument privately with more than one teacher at the same time. This can lead to confusion for the student and could undermine certain goals your teacher is trying to reach with you. Failure to comply with this rule will result in being dismissed from the teacher's studio.
- Please feel free to discuss any grievances you have directly with your teacher. Your teacher has your best interest in mind and needs to know if something isn't working for you. In many cases, a simple discussion can fix most problems as long as you are willing to be open with the teacher about the issue.
- Should you decide to discontinue lessons please speak to your teacher in person to inform them that you will not be continuing.

If you follow these "Golden Rules" you will get the most out of your music lessons, and student, teacher, and parent will have a great working relationship for many years to come.