



TAL-ED TALES

Volume 4, Issue 1

September 2007

Welcome Back!!!

Tina Simpson
LTEA Violin Teacher

Welcome back to waking up on time; welcome back to school, welcome back to routine! Yes, the vacation was great, but there's something to be said for getting back into the rhythm of the school year.

Now is the time to discuss with your family about a schedule for daily practicing. Each year seems to have its own unique challenges with different start times for school and different after-school activities. Right now would be a good time to discuss this year's schedule with your children and come to an agreement as to when, where, and for how long practice sessions will last each day.

It is also a good time for us, as parents, to recommit to making sure the listening happens at home, too. It seems to me that this gets harder each year as my kids get older and are developing their own taste for popular music. It's been fun at times to enjoy some of the new music that's out there with them, but they also know that we'll be listening to an equal amount of classical music in our house - and in the car! For me, the commitment to making sure both of my children hear their Suzuki pieces each day takes increasing effort with each passing year. Those days of listening to the folksongs while playing with blocks on the living room floor seem very far away!

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Visit LTEA's New Website

Lori Spragens
LTEA President

The new website for LTEA (www.suzukilexky.org) is up and running! As you will see when you visit, it is a work in progress. The website is to serve as a site for both current member families and others who are interested in LTEA. With that in mind, the website has a calendar and contact information for teachers and board members. Electronic copies of past newsletters are on the site as well. Much of the material in the Handbook will be placed on the website soon.



Your LTEA Board agreed, last year, to join the Suzuki Association of the Americas, which allows LTEA to have a link on the SAA website to our local website. This will provide a way for families moving into our community, who are accessing information from the national website, to locate our program.

I want to acknowledge the creative work of LTEA parent Martin Herbener who created and will update the site. And thanks go to the Farrar Family for providing hosting services through Voltaic Commerce.

Fall Semester Group Lessons at Gardenside Baptist Church

Violin Groups

Twinklers
Teacher: Nathalie Olivier
Time: 5:00-5:30

Early Book 1
Teacher: Tina Simpson
Time: 4:45-5:30

Violin Groups

Late Book 1
Teacher: Stacey McGoodwin
Time: 4:45-5:30

Book 2-3
Teacher: Nathalie Olivier
Time: 4:15-5:00

Piano Groups

Early Beginners
Teacher: Barbara Herbener
Time: 4:30 p.m.

Early Readers
Teacher: Dale Dufour
Time: 4:30 p.m.

Piano Groups

Primary
Teacher: Dale Dufour
Time: 5:15 p.m.

Cello Group

Beginner Class
Teacher: Marsha Pendley
Time: 4:00

Student News

Congratulations to the following students who had recitals and other accomplishments recently:

Madeline Farrar -- Violin Book 1 Recital
Ruth and Aaron Choate -- Violin Book 2 Recital

Ms. Pickett's Annual May Studio recital participants: Madeline Farrar, Griffin Farrar, Annie Louise Brown, Andy Hoyt, Emily Lundborg, Elizabeth Burke, William Burke

Ruth & Aaron Choate attended Capital University Suzuki Institute in Columbus OH (violin).

Julianna Grant finished Piano Book 1

The following LTEA students of Tina Simpson will be participating in CKYO this year:

Jettie Swisher has been accepted by audition as a member of the Preparatory Orchestra of the Central Kentucky Youth Orchestras. Jessie was also a participant in the Stephen Foster Music Camp held at Eastern Kentucky University this past summer.

Kristen Morrill has been accepted by audition as a member of the Preparatory Orchestra of the Central Kentucky Youth Orchestras.

Darcy Cassidy has been accepted by audition as a member of the Concert Orchestra of the Central Kentucky Youth Orchestras.

Michael Goffinet will return for her second season as a member of the Concert Orchestra of the Central Kentucky Youth Orchestras.



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The best time for getting those CDs played is while kids are in their rooms, just before bedtime when the demands of the day finally slow down. Make sure you are familiar with the "repeat one track" function on your CD player. If you're not, ask your child; they often know these things. And they know how to transfer music files to MP3 players or iPods.

On the subject of iPods, I don't expect my students - especially the young ones - to take over their own listening just because an adult downloaded the CD onto the child's iPod or iTunes player. If MP3 technology is going to be used then it should ideally be the adult's! MP3 device docked into external speakers in the kitchen or family room or wherever the child is most likely to be within earshot. The responsibility for making sure listening is happening belongs to the parents until the child is at least in middle school.

Another thought at the beginning of a new year (for string students) is to ask yourself how long has it been since you put a new set of strings on your child's instrument? If you don't remember, then it's a good bet that it's time for new strings. Dominant Thomastik strings (which are professional quality and come in fractional sizes!) can be found on sale from many sources at the beginning of the school year. Ask your teacher to recommend the source they prefer and don't be afraid to ask for your teacher's help in putting them on—we're happy to help out with that!

New strings make it easier for your child to produce a beautiful tone and to play in tune. A child who enjoys the sound he/she is making will want to play more.

Again, welcome back. I look forward to seeing you all at group lessons and at our recitals at UK. I feel very lucky that I get to share the beauty of music with you and your children. Let's have fun this year!

2007-2008 LTEA CALENDAR (Tentative)

Date	Time	Event	Location
August 30	4:30 pm	Parent's Meeting	Gardenside Church
September 6	3:45 - 6 pm	Groups Begin	Gardenside Church
September 24	12 Noon	Teachers' Meeting	Donna Wiehe's Home
September 30	2 and 3 pm	Student Recital	UK Fine Arts, Rm. 17
October 12	7 pm	Student Recital	UK Fine Arts, Rm. 17
October 18		No Groups	
October 29	12 Noon	Teachers' Meeting	Donna Wiehe's Home
November 1	3:45 to 6 pm	Area Recitals	TBA
November 11	2 pm	Student Recital (Tokubetsu)	UK Fine Arts, Rm. 17
November 18		CKSSTA City Wide Playthrough	Temple Adath Israel
November 22		No Groups	
November 26	12 Noon	Teachers' Meeting	Donna Wiehe's Home
December 2	2 and 3 pm	Student Recital	UK Fine Arts, Rm. 17
December 6	3:45 to 6 pm	Groups End	Gardenside Church
January 10	3:45 to 6 pm	Groups Begin	Gardenside Church
January 20	2 pm	Student Recital	UK Fine Arts, Rm. 17
January 25-27		CKSSTA String Workshop	TBA
January 28	12 Noon	Teachers' Meeting	Donna Wiehe's Home
February 8	7:00 pm	Student Recital	UK Fine Arts, Rm. 17
February 25	12 Noon	Teachers' Meeting	Donna Wiehe's Home
February 28	3:40 - 6 pm	Area Recitals	TBA
March 14	7 pm	Student Recital (Tokubetsu)	UK Fine Arts, Rm. 17
March 24	12 Noon	Teachers' Meeting	Donna Wiehe's Home
March 27	3:45 - 6 pm	Last Groups of Year	Gardenside
April 10	3:45 - 6 pm	Potluck Rehearsal	Gardenside
April 11		Potluck/Annual Meeting	Gardenside
April 20	2 - 3 pm	Student Recital	UK Fine Arts, Rm. 17
April 28	12 Noon	Teachers' Meeting	Donna Wiehe's Home

Group Lesson Schedule: Fall semester begins Thursday, September 6th and continues until Thursday, December 6th.

Lexington Talent Education Association
PO Box 23715
Lexington, KY 40523



TAL-ED TALES

LEXINGTON TALENT
EDUCATION
ASSOCIATION

SEPTEMBER 2007

LTEA Contact Info

Board

Registrar: Mary Diggins - msdlex@aol.com
President: Lori Spragens - lspragens@insightbb.com
Vice President: Beth Arnold - beth.arnold@insightbb.com
Secretary: Stephanie Farrar - stephaniefarrar@gmail.com
Treasurer: Mary Diggins - msdlex@aol.com
Hospitality: open
Public Relations: Elaine Cook - harpline@qx.net
Omsbud: Holly Crovo - hollymaec@softhome.net

Instructors

Violin:
Stacey McGoodwin - stacey143@wildmail.com
Meg Saunders Pickett - megvln@aol.com
Tina Simpson - tina_simpson4@hotmail.com
Donna Wiehe - v.wiehe@insightbb.com
Nathalie Olivier - oliviernath@yahoo.com

Piano:
Dale Dufour - dadufour@alltel.net
Barbara Herbener - bherbener@copper.net

Cello:
Clyde Beavers - feststrings@aol.com
Marsha Pendley - pendleyml@hotmail.com

Harp:
Elaine Cook - harpline@qx.net