

# iMA Newsletter



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International  
Music  
Academy

Voted **top 100 educators in the world** by the International Biographical Centre  
Winner of the **Consumers' Choice Award** for best music school in the GTA.  
Winner of the Royal Conservatory of Music **Gold Medal for Teaching Excellence**.  
Winner of the **York Region Character Community Award**.  
Markham Board of Trade **Business Excellence Award** finalist.

Year XXII, No. 4

April 2018

## WELCOMING OUR NEW STUDENTS

Angela Liu (piano)  
Isaac Lee (piano)  
Myah Lee (piano)  
Thalia Shoukri (piano)  
Dora Lin (piano)  
Oates Bordynvik (piano)  
Mathilda Bordynvik (piano)  
Ickley Chin (voice)  
Ashmita Ramanan (piano)  
Janush Ramanan (piano)  
Samiyah Sewani (piano)  
Maeya Zheng (piano)  
Vivian Tran (piano)  
Tania Tu (piano)  
Michael Kim (piano)  
Olivia Barrington (voice/piano)  
Francesco Caruso (guitar)  
Dylen Willis (guitar)  
Ariana Zhoa (piano)  
Max Yu (piano)  
Dematagoda Dewmini (piano)

## IMA STUDENTS BIRTHDAYS IN APRIL

Sophia Khan, Andrew Shum, Emily Jong, Daniel Robson, Bryan Zhou, Hugo Quan, Dia Pascual, Helen Wang, Ayana Hirani, Atharv Gupta, Maria-Aimee Tat, Clarisse Lin, Victor Yu, Stephen Wang, Zeynep Silahtaroglu, Bernice Chung

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

### IMPORTANT DAYS IN APRIL

**April 1-April 29.** North York Music Festival  
**April 1.** Easter Sunday. *School is open.*  
**April 2.** East Monday *School is open.*  
**April 8.** Easter Sunday (Orthodox).  
**April 9-14.** RCM practical examinations (piano only).  
**April 23-29.** iMA BRING A FRIEND WEEK  
**April 27-May 1.** Canadian Music Competition (Local finals, Toronto)

## NEWS

### GET 3 FREE LESSONS WITH THE PURCHASE OF A PIANO

If you are ready to purchase a high quality pre-own piano through one of the IMA partners, 3 of your lessons at the IMA will be free. Call our Office or e-mail [Office@InternationalMusicAcademy.ca](mailto:Office@InternationalMusicAcademy.ca) for more information. Pre-own piano is a great investment that comes at an attractive price, with a free tuning and delivery.

### FOLLOW US ON

Stay in touch and follow the IMA latest news on Facebook. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/International-Music-Academy-1944567629154903> and become a friend of the International Music Academy.

### GET A \$30 CREDIT ON YOUR NEXT MONTH TUITION

We have been very pleased with the continued success of our students. They have improved a great deal and we share their excitement with their families, friends, neighbors, and schoolmates. We appreciate your interest towards our programs and services. We are always very happy to welcome new students of all ages, levels, and instruments to the iMA. **Please tell your friends about your experience with the International Music Academy.**

Do you know someone who is thinking of taking music lessons or who has **children** who may be interested in getting their hands on a musical instrument or singing? Do you know a **teenager** who needs a high school OAC credit? Do you know an **adult** who has wanted for a long time to learn how to play a musical instrument but has never had the time or inclination? **Please tell them about the IMA.**

As an appreciation for your referral, we will give you a **\$30 credit** for each new student who registers at the International Music Academy as a result of your referral.

## PERSONALIZED IMA GIFT CARD



The IMA offers personalized Gift Cards that could be used as thoughtful birthday, holiday, bar/bat Mitzvah, graduation gift or for any other occasions as well as to encourage someone to start learning a

musical instrument or singing. The card can be used for any products or services.

The gift card is available for **any amount**. As cards are personalized with the name of the person who will receive it as well as with the name of the person who purchase it, requests have to be made 1 day in advance. Cards can be ordered in person, by phone at 905.489.4620 or by e-mail at [info@InternationalMusicAcademy.ca](mailto:info@InternationalMusicAcademy.ca). At the time the card is ordered, a non-refundable \$5 deposit is required. The full value of the card is paid upon pick-up (and the deposit is credited towards the purchase price). Payments can be made by any major credit card, cheque or cash as well as through the accounts of the IMA Clients.

## COMPOSERS' ANNIVERSARIES IN APRIL

01/04/1873	Rachmaninoff born
01/04/1917	Scott Joplin died
03/04/1897	Brahms died
06/04/1971	Stravinsky died
08/04/1848	Donizetti died
14/04/1759	Handel died
18/04/1936	Respighi died
27/04/1891	Prokofiev born
27/04/1915	Scriabin died
27/04/1992	Messiaen died

*Where you born or do you know someone who was born on the same day as these famous composers? Drop us e-mail at [info@InternationalMusicAcademy.ca](mailto:info@InternationalMusicAcademy.ca) to let us know.*

## FEATURED TEACHER OF THE MONTH

### Ms. GALINA ANNO, B.Mus., B.A.

Piano Studies and Interpretation, Music Theory



Ms. Galyna Anno is an accomplished pianist and a vocalist who has taught piano and voice since 1994. Working with singers as an accompanist as well as staging various musical productions were also a substantial part of her career. She has also led various choral groups from 10 to 1,800 people for festival and performances. In addition,

she is experienced in working with children and adults in community groups, schools and church ensembles. A key element in her teaching philosophy and style is the "Smart Kick Start" principle, which allows students to start thinking musically right from the onset. Ms. Anno believes that excellence achieved through music translates into excellence in all other areas of life. Ms. Anno graduated from the University of Culture and Performing Arts in Kiev, Ukraine with Bachelor's degree. She also studied solo piano, theory, harmony, voice and music pedagogy at Vinnitsa Institute of Music and Performing Arts. She instructs in numerous genres including Classical, Pop, Disney and Musicals and performs at a various Ukrainian, Russian and Polish community events. Ms. Anno is a registered teacher with Royal Conservatory of Music.

Ms. Anno was happy to answer a few questions for our students and parents:

- 1. What do you like most about teaching?** I love when students realize that learning a piece is not as difficult as they thought. It all comes down to understanding the key components for every piece - the right fingering, tonality, character to name a few. By the end of the second class, they are able to play a piece that would take them a month to learn. That is what I love.
- 2. How do you inspire students to practice more?** I show them the way to practice effectively. I always suggest to my students to break down the piece into small chunks and practice them separately. Each segment is full of details in terms of technique and imagery. When students understand what you need to work on, they get more interested and involved.
- 3. What roles does performance play in student's development?** This is a crucial act. When students play for the audience, they learn to eliminate distractions and concentrate on what needs to be done. This experience makes them more confident when it comes to displaying their talent and abilities in other kinds of public interactions.
- 4. Who are your favourite composers?** Sergei Rachmaninoff, Pyotr Tchaikovsky and Johan Sebastian Bach take a special place in my heart.
- 5. What was the last piece of music (sheet music or a recording) you purchased for yourself?** I bought a song sheet called "How does a moment last forever" performed by Celine Dion. It is one of the sound tracks of the popular film - the Beauty and the Beast.

## FEATURED STUDENT OF THE MONTH

### Kyla Thomson

**What instrument do you play?** – I play the piano.

**How long have you taken lessons?** – I have taken lessons since I was 3 years old and now I am 7, so 4 years.



**Who are your favourite musical artists? –**

My favourite musical artists are Mozart, Beethoven, and Bruno Mars.

**What are your other hobbies, besides music? –**

Other hobbies I like besides music are swimming, gymnastics, sketching, painting, playing board games and cards.

**Favourite food? –** My favourite food is pizza and pasta.

**What is the coolest thing you’ve learnt in your lessons in the past three months? –**

The coolest thing I've learned in my lessons in the past three months is how to play Theme by Haydn.

**Do you have any performance coming up? –** I do not have any performances that I am practicing for right now. I look forward to playing in the Summer Music Festival in June.

*E-mail to [info@InternationalMusicAcademy.ca](mailto:info@InternationalMusicAcademy.ca) a photo of yourself (or your child) together with the answers of the questions above. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of every month. We will feature you in one of the next issues of the newsletter.*

**PET OF THE MONTH**

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*Send a photo of your pet together with following information and we will publish it in one of the next issues of the IMA newsletter.*

What is the name of your pet? How old is he/she? What kind of breed our pet is (if applicable)? How long have you had him/her for? Any special circumstances around getting the pet (i.e. a gift, foster pet, etc.)? The funniest story about you pet? Any special skills or abilities.

**FEATURED ARTICLE**

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**TAKE THE TABLET OUT OF YOUR CHILDREN AND GIVE THEM A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT!**

Many parents, to keep their children quiet do not hesitate to give them a tablet or a smartphone. Nothing is more wrong, according to the latest scientific research. Alvaro Bilbao, Spanish neuropsychologist, author of *El cerebro del niño* (The brain child), says that if parents want to make children (more) intelligent, they have to take the iPad away and give them a musical instrument.

According to the specialist, music lessons stimulate children's thinking skills more than the technology. According to a study published in the journal *Psychiatry Molecular*, 50% of the intelligence is determined by genes but the remaining 50% depend on the stimuli that the youngest receive.



"Without parents, the child's intellectual potential does not develop," says Álvaro Bilbao.

The key to the potential development of the child's brain is in its relationship with parents. Although genetics have an important weight, without parents' presence it will not materialize, assures the specialist.

In addition to reinforcing positive behaviors and playing more with their children, as Álvaro Bilbao recommends, parents should promote socialization at the expense of isolation, which means turning off the television at the table, as well as encouraging the child to try out art-related activities.

"Children should feel that their parents care about them," says pediatrician Maximino Fernández Pérez.

**What does the latest international research suggest?**

These are some of the strategies that the studies and the experts defend:

**Study music**

A study by the University of Toronto, published in the journal *Psychological Science*, relates cognitive development to music learning. For one year, three groups of six-year-olds studied separately singing, piano, and dramatic expression. Those who learned music revealed higher standards of intelligence in the end.

**Do not watch TV**

A few years ago, DVD cartoon movies were in vogue; they combined characters drawn to classical music by composers such as Mozart and Beethoven. Many experts claimed that they stimulated the intelligence of infants and children, a theory many international studies now deny. The American Pediatric Association even says that children under the age of 2 should not watch television.

**Avoid “brain development” electronic games**

In the last few years, many electronic games and mobile applications have emerged that ensure that they train the brain and stimulate memory. The truth is that there is no scientific basis for this.

**Watch movies in a foreign language**

Children who watch films in a foreign language tend to adapt more easily to other words and sounds.

**Read in two voices before going to bed**

Stories that parents read to their children to fall asleep should be read in two voices. The parent reads one page and the child reads the next and so on ... A study in Canada ensures that this method improves the learning ability of the little ones.

*To comment on this story or anything else you have read in the Newsletter, head over to the IMA Facebook page or message us on Twitter.*

International Music Academy

**GIFT CERTIFICATE**

*for new students only*

*1 offer per family*

**ONE FREE LESSON**

Call the IMA Office at

**905.489.4620 (Markham) or**

**905.640.6363 (Stouffville)**

to schedule your first lesson.

***Once scheduled, the lesson cannot be rescheduled. Cannot be combined with any other offer. No refunds, no exchanges.***



**Music is soooooooooo beautiful!**

Register for lessons by

**April 20, 2018** and receive

**\$50 off**

*New students only. 1 offer per family*

*Cannot be combined with any other offer.*

**REFER A NEW STUDENT and  
GET ONE FREE LESSON!**

When you refer a new student to the IMA, who registers for lesson, you will get one free lesson for every new student. So, if you refer the IMA to 2 new students, we will give you 2 free lessons; for 3 new students – 3 free lessons etc. Fill in the coupon below and leave it with the IMA Office administrator.

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the new student: \_\_\_\_\_

*You can print or photocopy this coupon as many times as you need.*

***Cannot be combined with any other offer.***