

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 XVII, No. 12

December 2013

WELCOMING OUR NEW STUDENTS

Anisha R. (Guitar)
Jasio C. (flute)
Arianne A. (piano)
Duncan F. (Piano)
Matthew F. (Guitar)
Edwin D. (piano)
Jenny L. (Violin and voice)
Jeff M. (Trumpet)
Priscile I. (Piano)

IMA STUDENTS BIRTHDAYS IN DECEMBER

Milannia. C, Priyanka. R, Kathryn. F, Kingsley. T, Ananiya. N,
Catherine. X, Alexia. K, Zahra. H, Julianna. C, Rida. A, Nadira.
K, Amaan. B, Zoe. M, Zena. M, Aaron. D, Charlotte. L, Wayne.
Y, Rhea.P

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

IMPORTANT DAYS IN DECEMBER

Dec 2: Peel Music Festival registration deadline
Dec 13-14: RCM theory examinations
Dec 14: Markham Theatre, Handel's Messiah
with Kindred Spirits Orchestra and Village Voices
Dec 16: IMA mid-year progress report cards
Dec 21: IMA Winter Music Festival
Dec 25: Christmas Day, school is closed
Dec 26: Boxing day, school is open

International Music Academy
4981 Highway 7, Unit 1
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NEWS

IMA CHOSEN ONE OF THE TOP 100 EDUCATORS IN THE WORLD

The International Music Academy was chosen as one of the "TOP 100 EDUCATORS" in the world, by the International Biographical Centre in Cambridge (England). The Award was given for "providing private music education at exceptionally high level and international standards". A beautiful commemorative plaque is displayed at the IMA reception area. Congratulations to all Students, Parents, Faculty and Staff!

IMA WINTER MUSIC FESTIVAL

Mark your calendars! The IMA Winter Music Festival this year will be on Saturday, December 21, 2013 at the spectacular newly built Cornell Recital Hall in Markham east. Those who participated in the IMA Summer Music Festival, this past June, cherish wonderful memories about unforgettable experience playing on a professional Steinway grand piano or performing in front of a professional HD camera showing all the action on a big movie screen at the back of the hall. More details about the schedule will be coming through the front office soon.

GREAT COMPOSERS BIRTHDAYS IN DECEMBER

December is a memorable month, well known for the birthday of famous composers, Beethoven being one of them. Berlioz, Franck and Messiaen join the club as one of the most-prolific composers in the French-speaking world who have left a lasting legacy and have made a tremendous impact in the classical music world.

3, 1883	WEBERN, Anton
6, 1933	GORECKI, Henryk Mikolaj
8, 1865	SIBELIUS, Jean
8, 1890	MARTINU, Bohuslav
10, 1822	FRANCK, Cesar
10, 1908	MESSIAEN, Olivier
11, 1803	BERLIOZ, Louis-Hector
15, 1770	BEETHOVEN, Ludwig van
16, 1882	KODALY, Zoltan
16, 1932	SHCHEDRIN, Rodion
17, 1749	CIMAROSA, Domenico
22, 1858	PUCCINI, Giacomo
30, 1904	KABALEVSKY, Dmitri

Where you born or do you know someone who was born on the same day as these famous composers? Drop us an e-mail at info@InternationalMusicAcademy.ca to let us know.

2013 GREAT COMPOSERS ANNIVERSARIES

- **Gesualdo** - 400th anniversary of his death on 8 September
- **Corelli** - 300th anniversary of his death on 8 January
- **Verdi** - 200th anniversary of his birth on 9 October 1813
- **Wagner** - 200th anniversary of his birth on 22 May 1813.
- **Britten** - 100th anniversary of his birth on 22 November.

FEATURED TEACHER OF THE MONTH



Ms. Eva Green, B.F.A.
Vocal Studies and interpretation

Ms. Eva Green graduated from Concordia University (Montreal) with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Music. Internationally renowned jazz vocalist, well known for her truly genuine interpretations of jazz standards,

Brazilian classics, gospel spirituals, blues, and even classical opera, she began her musical career at the age of 8 as a cellist, and after completing her degree, moved to Los Angeles, where she worked as a songwriter and singer mingling with many jazz greats there. Ms. Green returned to her native Poland, where she recorded 3 albums while teaching vocal classes in Pop, Rock, Hip-Hop, Metal, Soul, Blues, Gospel and all other genres of popular music. She is also an expert in teaching scat singing and jazz improvisation. Her lessons are designed to create an individual course of study for each student, taking into account their age, level of proficiency and aptitude. The lessons have practical character and work on proper voice emission with the aim to gradually develop a singing scale from two, to two and a half octaves. Ms. Green provides her students with pre-recorded, ready-to-use, piano accompaniments for specially designed exercises at no extra charge. This enables each student to practice on a daily basis between lessons at home, and this method significantly accelerates the learning process and enables the student to achieve almost immediate and audible results. In addition, Ms. Green helps her students practice singing songs with professional backing tracks, and working on repertoire (preparation, analysis and planning exercises), as well as increase knowledge and practice in the field of stage and studio performance (working with a microphone, knowledge of music equipment, musical programs, set up and use of home studio recording). For singers who write their own music and lyrics, Ms. Green provides consultations on composition and arrangement. She is also a registered teacher with the Royal Conservatory of Music.

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

1. What do you like most about teaching? It is being a part of somebody's important development and making first time

discoveries, amazement like: "Wow, I can do this now" be part of my experience. Sharing what I have learned and the opportunity to pass on my knowledge and experience. It is all part of one, important, all binding idea, conviction and believe that all human beings are worth loving and caring for, and this is my contribution for them to feel that love. In a metaphysical sense if I say that God loves us all because he is our maker, my mission is to be his representative on this earth in the important sphere of sounds.

2. How do you inspire students to practice more?

First of all, I don't tell them "You HAVE TO PRACTICE, or won't amount to anything in music". This - I find - doesn't get them excited about practice, it doesn't motivate them. Instead I guide them to how to find an inner urge or hunger for excellence in themselves. Then motivation to practice becomes side effect of that strong desire to excel in music, and when practicing is not a goal in itself, it seems easier to attain. I do this by showing them what they could become, examples of great performers and great performances, stories of their path to excellence, my own story, and observations, and painting a picture of what could open up for them if they practiced. Then practicing becomes just an invitation to a great life's adventure.

3. What roles does performance play in student's development?

First of all, performing is the ultimate way to realize and fulfill every - even aspiring - musician's dream. Then, by performing, you invent yourself, define your characteristics, gain self-confidence, and open up the boundaries of what you thought were your limitations, and discover the incredible, vast surface of your potential lying underneath that you are able to uncover when you are on stage before an audience.

4. Who are your favourite composers? I still love J.S. Bach, Mozart, and Debussy. On the jazz side it's all the standards - Gershwin, Ellington, and the Tin Pan Alley composers. Contemporary music has a also a firm place in my heart with Villa Lobos, John Cage, Bela Bartok, and Debussy leading.

5. What was the last piece of music (sheet music or a recording) you purchased for yourself? Rhapsody in Blue by Gershwin.

FEATURED STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Christian Simmons

What instrument do you play? **I have been playing the acoustic guitar.**

How long have you taken lessons? **I have been taking lessons at the International Music Academy for about 2 years already.**

Who are your favorite musical artists? **Choosing the guitar was**

inspired by listening to Led Zeppelin, Jimi Hendrix, and ZZ Top. I love anything that is played on 99.9 Virgin radio.

What are your other hobbies, besides music? **I love hockey and play on the 'AA' Richmond Hill Stars. I also perform with the Barvinok Ukrainian Dancers in Mississauga.**

Favourite food? **Penne pasta, and I can eat it for breakfast, lunch and dinner.**

What is the coolest thing you've learnt in your lessons in the past three months? **The coolest thing is Mr. Mills teaching me the intro to "Stairway to Heaven" and I am also excited about learning a Stevie Ray Vaughn tune called "Pipeline".**

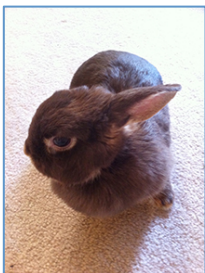
Do you have any performance coming up? **I look forward to performing at the International Music Academy Winter Music Festival, on December 21.**

E-mail to info@InternationalMusicAcademy.ca a photo of yourself (or your child) together with the answers of the following questions: What instrument do you play?, How long have you taken lessons?, Who are our favourite musical artists?, What are your other hobbies, besides music?, Favourite food? What is the coolest thing you've learnt in your lessons in the past three months?, Do you have any performances coming up?). 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

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?

Ana Choi has an amazing pet. Learn more...



What is the name of your pet? Sausagerolls

How old is he/she? Not sure...

What kind of breed our pet is if applicable)? The vet thinks she's between a lop and a dwarf.

How long have you had him/her for? I've had her since March 2013.

Any special circumstances around getting the pet (i.e. a gift, foster pet, etc.)? A friend of a friend found her abandoned on the side of the road. She has a condition with overgrown teeth that needs to be trimmed down every so often, in order for her to eat properly.

The funniest story about you pet? She tries to nibble my nails if there's nail polish, she thinks it's food!

Any special skills or abilities? Her only skill is being cute and demanding pets. She does this by trying to tug her head under my hand or go under my pant leg openings when I'm standing up.

FEATURED ARTICLE



Nelson Mandela death: Entertainment world pays tribute to Mandela. December 6, 2013

The news of the death of Nelson Mandela broke during a royal gala screening of the biographical film Long Walk to Freedom in London.

The screening was attended by Prince William and the Duchess of Cambridge, as well as two of Mandela's daughters.

Idris Elba, who plays the former leader in the film, called it an "honour to step into the shoes of Nelson Mandela".

Prince William, who attended the screening, said the news was "extremely sad and tragic".

The film is based on Mandela's autobiography, published in 1995, and recounts his life from his childhood, through his 27 years behind bars, mostly in Robben Island prison, to becoming South Africa's first black president in 1994.



Idris Elba said it had been an honour to play Mandela on screen

Two of Mandela's daughters - Zindzi and Zenani - were at the screening at the Odeon in Leicester Square when they were told of the death of their father.

Although they left the cinema, they insisted that the film continue. Producer Anant Singh, who Mandela personally awarded the book rights to, announced the death at the end of the screening, and asked for a moment of silence.

British actor Elba later said: "What an honour it was to step into the shoes of Nelson Mandela and portray a man who defied odds, broke down barriers, and championed human rights before the eyes of the world. My thoughts and prayers are with his family."

Also at the screening was Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein, whose film company is behind the movie. "We

count ourselves unspeakably fortunate to have been immersed in Nelson Mandela's story and legacy," he said.

"It's been an honour to have been granted such proximity to a man who will go down as one of the history's greatest freedom fighters and advocates for justice.

"I have had the privilege of spending time with President Mandela and I can say his sense of humour was as great as his optimism."



Nelson Mandela with the Spice Girls, Will Smith, Michael Jackson and other stars

'Saint'

Morgan Freeman, who played Mandela in *Invictus*, joined in the mass of tributes from the entertainment world: "Today the world lost one of the true giants of the past century," said Freeman.

"Nelson Mandela was a man of incomparable honour, unconquerable strength, and unyielding resolve - a saint to many, a hero to all who treasure liberty, freedom and the dignity of humankind."

American actor Dennis Haysbert portrayed Mandela in 2007's *Goodbye Bafana*, about the relationship between Mandela and his prison officer.

Haysbert said: "Portraying Nelson Mandela... was a defining moment in my life and my career. We as a society, have been blessed to live in a time that Nelson Mandela has lived, loved, and led.

"What he has done for his country, his countrymen, and everyone on this planet may not be achieved again. Ever. I will always honour him as a saint."

Music producer Quincy Jones said: "Today, as it did while he inhabited our planet, Nelson Mandela's spirit truly soars with the angels.

"It was a spirit born of a generosity, love, compassion and hope for mankind that may never exist at such a heightened level in any single human being again. One of the most profound honours that I have had in my life was to be able to call Madiba my friend and brother."

And singer Aretha Franklin said "a great man has passed on and moved on up a little higher".

International Music Academy

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Cannot be combined with any other offer.