

# 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 XXIII, No. 7

July 2019

## WELCOMING OUR NEW STUDENTS

Alexander Afuwape (piano)  
Matthew Afuwape (guitar)  
Atric Pitamber (piano)  
Wendy Li (voice)  
Misha Kumar (piano)

## IMA STUDENTS BIRTHDAYS IN JULY

Amol Dosanjh, Elizabeth Dranitsaris, Angela Liang, Miguel Balines, Annaka Piraveen, Hayden Chung, Matteus Garabedian, Kelly Chen, Alec Dong, Kyra Sophie Oszlai, Charlotte Lusby, Arthy Siva-Bertumen, Brian Lo, Angelina Kostantin, Jason Gao, Deekshana Subramanian, Jessica Wang, Anujan Kandasamy, Mia Giard, Brayden Fung, Michael Kim, Afolarim Omoboyo, Thivya Jeyapalan, Xavier Manalastas, Giancarlo Montanaro, Eva Montanaro, Jaemie Madayag, Kailyn Chin, Jeffrey Kan, Ryan Baldry, Allyssa Talledo, Rameyen Prasanna, Jessie Chen, Tara Mansfield, Prisila Glassford.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

## IMPORTANT DAYS IN JULY

July 1. Canada Day. IMA is open.

**July 1. Unionville Millennium Bandstand. Kindred Spirits Orchestra. Canada Day Celebration**

## NEWS

### IMA OFFERS MOCK EXAMINATIONS FOR THE RCM

As usual, the IMA will be offering to all students who are registered for RCM examinations an opportunity to play their entire program prior to the day of their examination. This mock exam is scheduled at the IMA – Stouffville recital hall on **Saturday, August 10, from 1 pm to 3 pm**. There are many advantages of playing the examination program in advance of the examination itself and generally students gain more confidence and perform better at their examinations. Students who wish to register for the mock examinations, must confirm their participation with the IMA Office **by July 30**.

## 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.



The Royal Conservatory of Music June session examination results have been announced. Congratulations to the IMA students achieving considerably higher than the Provincial average marks, with distinction.

Student	Subject	Mark	Teacher
Thivya Jeyapalan	Level 8 Theory	92	Ms. Antonia de Wolfe
Isabelle Dasgupta	Level 1 Piano	90	Ms. Galyna Ammo
Emily Jong	Level 8 Theory	89	Ms. Marina Grigoryan
Priyanka Ragunathan	Level 7 Theory	88	Ms. Antonia de Wolfe
Louis Chan	Prep B Piano	86	Ms. Suzanne Marfise
Thea Duggal	Level 1 Guitar	85	Mr. Ramon Taranco
Hermes Chan	Prep B Piano	84	Ms. Suzanne Marfise
Jessica Wang	Level 6 Voice	81	Mr. Paul Williamson
Linda Liu	Level 4 Oboe	80	Mr. John Mills
Bernice Wu	Level 10 Piano	76	Ms. Antonia de Wolfe
Garrett Kawabatta	Level 8 Violin	76	Mr. Arpad Josephson
Chloe Ji	Level 4 Piano	75	Ms. Galyna Ammo
Kyle Guo	Level 7 Piano	75	Ms. Antonia de Wolfe
Steven Li	Level 5 Piano	74	Ms. Antonia de Wolfe
Jonathan Wong	Level 6 Guitar	71	Mr. Ramon Taranco

## 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.

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## COMPOSERS' ANNIVERSARIES IN JULY

1/07/1925 - Satie died  
2/07/1714 - Gluck was born  
3/07/1854 - Janacek was born  
4/07/1623 - William Byrd died  
7/07/1860 - Mahler was born  
8/07/1882 - Percy Grainger was born  
9/07/1879 - Respighi was born  
10/07/1895 - Carl Orff was born  
11/07/1937 - Gershwin died  
13/07/1951 - Schoenberg died

23/07/1757 - Domenico Scarlatti died  
29/07/1856 - Schumann died  
28/07/1750 - J.S. Bach died  
28/07/1741 - Vivaldi died  
31/07/1886 - Liszt 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.*

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## FEATURED TEACHER OF THE MONTH

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### 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.

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

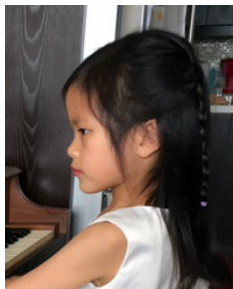
This is a crucial act. When students play for the audience, they learn to eliminate distractions and concentrate on what needs to be done. This experience makes them more confident when it comes to displaying their talent and abilities in other kinds of public interactions.

**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

### Olivia Wan



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

**How long have you taken lessons?** – I have been learning piano for two years, since July 2017.

**Who are your favourite musical artists?** – I love the music of Beethoven and

Antonin Dvorak.

**What are your other hobbies, besides music?** – I like drawing, coloring, writing, and dancing.

**Favourite food?** – I love French fries, tomatoes, broccoli, strawberry, cherries, grapes, macaroni, cheese, ice creams, and cookies.

**What is the coolest thing you've learnt in your lessons in the past three months?** – That must be the major and minor 5-finger scales, as well as variety of chords.

**Do you have any performance coming up?** – Not really, however, I just gave a small concert for my family to welcome my little brother to the world.

*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.*

## FEATURED ARTICLE

### RESERVING YOUR MUSIC LESSONS DAY, TIME AND TEACHER FOR SEPTEMBER.

Over the past few years several parents asked how to keep the day, time and teacher for their children for the upcoming school year. Below we have the answers of the most frequently asked questions. Please do not hesitate to ask the Office if you have any other questions or concerns – we are always happy to help.

**Q. How do lessons work in the summer?** - The IMA is open year round, and we do not close during the summer.

**Q. Do a lot of students quit during the summer?** - For the past 5 years, we have grown in enrolment each July by 15-20%. Very few students withdraw but we also get a huge influx of students in June, July and August; most of them continue into the fall.

**Q. How full is the Academy?** - As of May 1, we are near capacity, and many teachers have no availability between the hours of 3:00-8:30 p.m.

**Q. If we withdraw for the summer, can we keep our spot for fall?** - Lessons are booked on a first-come-first-serve basis, so if you withdraw for the summer, we cannot guarantee that we will have a time slot for you in the fall, as we would have to open the slot to new students registering in June, July and August. What usually happens when a student withdraws for the summer, his/her slot would then be taken by a new student who most of the time would continue taking lessons in September and into the upcoming school year.

**The big question for all parents and students to consider is: Do you want to stay with the same teacher in the fall?**

**IF THE ANSWER IS YES THERE ARE 3 WAYS TO DO THIS:**

- 1. Take advantage of our summer make-up lessons.** We realize that some of you will go on vacation for a portion of the summer. So, what you can do is simply make up in advance the lessons that you would miss because of your holidays. You can make them up as early as you would like (even in May or June).
- 2. "Sub lease" your spot to a family-member or a friend.** You can send a family member or a friend in your place for the dates you will miss. Just let the office know who is coming in your place and when. If you are taking summer lessons and need a specific time for the fall,

please contact us around late July and we will do our best to accommodate you.

- 3. Request a day/time change for your lesson during the summer.** Our teachers are flexible and available during the entire day. If your current lesson time will be in a conflict with another activity during the summer, you can change the day/time of your lesson during the summer (subject to availability).

Each September, we get calls from students who have been with us for many years, but decided to withdraw for the summer. They want to return to the same teacher, day and time, but another student who signed up for lessons in June, July or August has already filled the same spot. Although we try to accommodate everyone, the new students may be reluctant to change their lesson time to allow us to offer it to a returning student. **So, if you like your teacher, keep your time slot during summer** and do not hesitate to contact our office if you need help rescheduling your lessons.

*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 sooooooooo beautiful!

Register for lessons by  
**July 15, 2019** 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.*