

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. 6

June 2019

WELCOMING OUR NEW STUDENTS

Remington Dirosa (piano)
Nikki Mobed (violin)
Kurosh Mobed (piano)
Gloria Zhang (voice)
Praveen Manickavel (guitar)
Eshwar Vetrichelvan (piano)
Sidney Abrokwhah (violin)

IMA STUDENTS BIRTHDAYS IN JUNE

Kyle Miller, Ethan Wong, Hannah Wong, Hazel Joy Robinos, Natheesh Sivashankar, April Wei, Sydney Abrokwhah, Christina Zhu, Sachin Naga, Jaid Biggs, Jalen Yang, Keerthika Ragunathan, Zoe Chiu, Nicholas Bonakdar, Adele Wei, Zack Zhou, Hannah Wong, Jad Zeineddine, Afolabomi Omoboyo, Hannah Noelle Musselman, Olivia Yee, Camilo Andres Torres, Sebastian Alfonso-Stand, Hayden Chin, Christina Shen, Elizabeth Kumar, Emiy Shi

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

IMPORTANT DAYS IN JUNE

June 3-22. RCM practical examinations.
June 3. PA days (YR) – elementary. IMA is open.
June 5. RCM mock examinations.
June 8. Cornell Recital Hall. Kindred Spirits Orchestra. Schnittke and Schönberg
June 10. iMA ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORTS
June 13-July 9. Canadian Music Competition
June 9, 23. iMA SUMMER FESTIVAL
June 27-28. PA days (YR). IMA is open.
June 22. Richmond Hill Centre. Kindred Spirits Orchestra. Voices of the world
June 29. CBC Glenn Gould Studio. Kindred Spirits Orchestra. Iron and steel

NEWS

IMA SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL

We have had a successful academic year so far and look forward to preparing well for the Royal Conservatory of Music examinations in June and August, as well as for the Canadian Music Competition in June. Meanwhile, we have also started preparations for the iMA Summer Music Festival that will take place on two Sundays, **June 9** and **June 23, 2019**. The festival will consist of separate one-hour concerts. Students would be required to attend only the concert they are participating in. Book your calendars for this exciting event – together with the iMA Winter Festival, this has been one of the most significant moments for many of our students.

The iMA Summer Music Festival will take place at the recital hall of the International Music Academy in Stouffville located at 50 Innovator Avenue in Stouffville ON L4A 0Y2. The hall has an excellent grand piano, large screen connected to an HD camera that will allow you to see the finest details of each performance. The Stouffville campus is only a 10-15 minute drive from our Markham location. A free parking is available around the school as well.

Detailed information about the Festival schedule will be sent by the beginning of June. Students who have their lessons on Saturday will perform on Sunday and vice versa.

Students who perform at the festival will be given IMA Certificate for completing the academic year as well as a trophy.

IMA PROGRESS REPORTS

In June, all current students will be receiving detailed progress reports signed by their teachers and the Director of the International Music Academy. The reports summarize students' outcomes and achievements during the past academic year as well as their goals and objectives for the upcoming months.

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 **Wednesday, June 5, from 6 pm to 9 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 May 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 for more information. Pre-own piano is a great investment that comes at an attractive price, with a free tuning and delivery.

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. 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.

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.

COMPOSERS' ANNIVERSARIES IN JUNE

01/06/1804 - Michail Glinka was born
02/06/1857 - Elgar born
03/06/1875 - Bizet died
03/06/1899 - Johann Strauss died
06/06/1903 - Khachaturian was born
08/06/1810 - Schumann was born
21/06/1908 - Rimsky Korsakov died
11/06/1864 - Richard Strauss was born
14/06/1671 - Tomasso Albinoni was born
15/06/1843 - Edward Grieg was born
17/06/1818 - Charles Gounod was born
17/06/1882 - Igor Stravinsky was born
20/06/1819 - Jacques Offenbach was born
25/06/1767 - Georg Telemann 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 to let us know.

FEATURED TEACHER OF THE MONTH

Antonia de Wolfe, M.Mus., B.Mus.,
Piano Studies and Interpretation, Music Theory



Ms. Antonia de Wolfe has graduated with a degree in piano performance from the George Enescu Institute of Music in Bucharest, Romania and, later, with another degree from the Central School of Music affiliated with the P. I. Tchaikovsky State Conservatory in Moscow. She has also graduated from the Academia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia in Rome, where she studied with Sergio Perticaroli, and has earned a Master in Music

(piano performance) degree from the University of Toronto. In addition, Ms. de Wolfe has studied with Maestro S. Petricaroli at Mozarteum Hochschule für Musik in Salzburg (Austria). Ms. de Wolfe has given several recitals and concerts in some of the finest concert halls in Bucharest, Moscow, Rome, Paris, Salzburg, and Toronto. She has also taught piano at the Columbus Centre, Cosmo school of Music, and Koffler Music School. As a collaborative pianist and accompanist, she has been in great demand for several productions of the Centuries Opera Association, Toronto Opera Repertoire, Palestrina Choir, Ethobicoke Centennial Choir, and others. Ms. de Wolfe is a registered teacher with Royal Conservatory of Music (RCME 44667).

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

- 1. What do you like most about teaching?** I feel a great satisfaction upon following the development of my students' skills and of their understanding of music. When I teach pieces that I myself have played I get a new perspective on them and I get new ideas about alternative ways to approach them. Teaching requires a keen analysis of musical structure, which helps the teacher to unveil hidden or new meanings involved in the experience of music. Also I like to perpetuate the love of classical music for the new generations.
- 2. How do you inspire students to practice more?** It's very important to listen to music. Listening to recordings, going to concerts... Listening to music is an active process that inspires a student. It awakens in them the expressive possibilities that music offers. I always demonstrate a piece of music on the piano. Also, I give the student several repertoire choices and let them pick their favourite one. Finally it is important to put a piece in historical context: information about the composer and the period the music was written in. All of this leads to inspiring my students to learn more.
- 3. What roles does performance play in student's development?** It is important to have performances as milestones in a student development. Such events contribute much to shape the self-image of a student. Once a student has a performance as a set goal practicing becomes more exciting! Simply, a motivated student puts more effort into practicing. The performance in itself represents the culmination of all the effort put into practice. Plus it's a great feeling to be on stage and create beautiful music.
- 4. Who are your favourite composers?** Robert Schumann has been a long-standing favourite composer of mine. His intense romanticism has always moved me. His ability of changing moods from lyrical calm to passionate torment, from sadness to great joy and glamour, exemplify is depth of character (as a composer). Also from orchestral repertoire I like *Symphonie Fantastique* by Hector Berlioz. Wagner and Berlioz were both innovators of program music (music that has a story line behind it).
- 5. What was the last piece of music (sheet music or a recording) you purchased for yourself?** I purchased *Carnival* by Robert Schumann, a piano piece.

FEATURED STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Mithran Sivasubramaniam



What instrument do you play? – I play the acoustic guitar.

How long have you taken lessons? – I have been taking lessons for about 16 months.

Who are your favourite musical artists? – My favourite musicians are Beethoven and The Beatles.

What are your other hobbies, besides music? – I like to bake and play cards.

Favourite food? – My favourite food is tacos.

What is the coolest thing you've learnt in your lessons in the past three months? – The coolest thing I have learned in the past 3 months is playing chords

Do you have any performance coming up? – I will be playing *Running around* by Mel Bay at the International Music Academy Summer Music Festival.

E-mail to 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 soooooo beautiful!

Register for lessons by

June 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.