

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 XVIII, No. 9

September 2014

WELCOMING OUR NEW STUDENTS

Jake X. (saxophone)
Evangeline L. (guitar)
Nomeke S. (piano and voice)
Charlotte L. (piano)
Victoria L. (piano)
Ava M. (piano)
Pia C. (flute)
Mutian L. (piano and saxophone)
Deejesh S. (violin)
Deekshana S. (piano)
Athena H. (guitar and voice)
Christina K. (guitar)
Shaelin B. (piano)

IMA STUDENTS BIRTHDAYS IN SEPTEMBER

Arman N., Ryan H., Victoria L., Jin H., Raja T., Adam K., Stefan B.,
Brenda L., George W., Edwin D., Mythili S., Emerita K., Heather
S., Shabana M., Rob C., Hao G.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

IMPORTANT DAYS IN SEPTEMBER

- September 1: School year begins
- **September 1: Labour Day. School is open.**
- September 24-26: Rosh Hashanah.

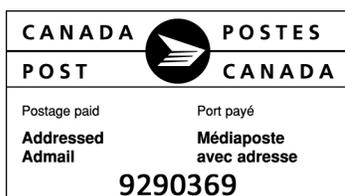
NEWS

New Campus of York University in Markham

The International Music Academy supports the proposal of York University to build its new York Region Campus in Markham Centre. The benefits and contributions of a new university are vast. There are many cities, regions and countries that benefit tremendously by having a university presence due to its ability to enrich community ties and drive change in an innovative way. The full value of this innovation is achieved when institutions like York University successfully engage with the local community and truly deepen their understanding of our goals, missions and plans. We fully support a York University in York Region for this Reason - as they have expressed a desire to work together to address challenges in our region and beyond. York Region is full of diverse community groups and organizations that are making a positive intellectual and cultural contribution to society. As one of these community organizations, we fully support a new campus that will allow us to expand our reach to thousands of new students moving here to study. If York Region is selected by the province, we can expect to see a diverse range of positive impacts from health care to education and economic development.

As the IMA current teachers have their schedules already nearly fully booked, we have hired more teachers to take both new and returning students. All new teachers are spectacular – highly motivating, inspiring, encouraging and supportive. They also have the experience, the education, and the qualification we are looking for, so it's a win-win situation for our growing family of children who like to learn music. Here below is a brief snapshot of our newest teachers. For more information, please visit www.InternationalMusicAcademy.ca

International Music Academy
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Chaya Alperovitch, M.Mus., B.Mus.
Piano Studies, Music Theory

Ms. Chaya Alperovitch has earned a Diploma in Piano and Theory from The Kaunas Music College in Kaunas, Lithuania. She has an extensive international teaching experience having worked in Eastern Europe, Israel, South Africa and Canada. Her students

have ranged from young beginners to Associates of the Royal Conservatory (ARCT). Ms. Alperovitch has had a great success in long lasting student retention, with some students becoming music teachers in their own careers. She speaks English, Lithuanian, Russian, Hebrew and Yiddish. She is an active member of OMRTA and a registered teacher with The Royal Conservatory of Music (RCME # 02117).



Suzanne Marfise, M.Mus., B.Mus.
Piano Studies, Music Theory

Ms. Suzanne Marfise has graduated with honours from the University of Toronto, after earning an ARCT in piano performance and music theory from the Royal Conservatory of Music. She has taught piano and theory in the Greater Chicagoland in the Illinois (USA) where she was

also an Accredited member of the Chicago North Shore Music Teacher's Association. After moving to Toronto in 2004, Ms. Marfise has established herself as an expert in teaching piano to all ages. She strives to develop and interpret teaching concepts as required, in order to maintain the student's interest while, at the same time, keeping the required curriculum at the forefront. She has taught piano of different genres including, classical, jazz, blues and pop/Broadway, as well as music history, harmony, and voice. She provides a well-balanced learning experience that focuses on building strong technical background and flourishing self-expression. Her students are consistently prepared to graduate with 1st Class Honours and Honours with Distinction from the Royal Conservatory of Music, from the early beginners to the Associates of the RCM (ARCT).



Daniel Segall, B.F.A.
Violin Studies, Music Theory

A native of Montreal, Mr. Daniel Segall graduated from Concordia University with a B.F.A. Degree in Music and Performance. He has 30 years of experience teaching violin, piano and guitar as well as music theory and ear training at both Concordia and McGill Universities. In addition to a busy teaching

career, Mr Segall is also a professional musician having performed for Celine Dion, The Honourable Brian Mulroney, as well as with I Musici de Montreal and numerous symphony orchestras in nearly all concert venues in Canada. In his beginner classes, Mr. Segall immediately initiates students to playing the violin through active listening and the Suzuki approach. In subsequent years of studies, he introduces students to all musical styles (including blues, pop, rock and jazz), techniques and reading music, along with theory and ear-

training in order to accelerate the students' overall musical development.



Eduardo Solá, B.Mus., B.Mus.,
M.A.
Violin Studies and Music Theory

Mr. Eduardo Sola completed a Bachelor of Music degree in violin performance at the School of Music and Fine Arts (Brazil), and a Bachelor of Music degree in baroque violin (historical performance) at The Royal Conservatoire of The

Netherlands. Studied the modern violin with Dr. Paulo Torres and the baroque violin with Ryo Terakado. Has performed internationally in concerts, projects and recordings with several of the main names in the historical performance scenery such as Sigiswald Kuijken, Richard Egarr, Sebastian Marq, Barthold Kuijken, Philippe Pierlot and Luís Otávio Santos. His concert repertoire ranges from Late Middle Ages to contemporary music, and he has been performing internationally as a soloist and chamber musician in concerts, recitals and recordings, mainly in Europe and the Americas. He has worked as a member of Paraná Symphony Orchestra and PUC-PR Chamber Orchestra, where he had most of his work experience as an orchestra musician and recording for the television. In 2014, he completes his Master's degree at the University of Toronto, Canada. Mr. Sola has had extensive experience as a violin and music theory music teacher internationally. In his teaching approach, he values and encourages the search for musicality and technical accuracy, prioritizing enjoyment and physical comfort while playing the violin. Mr. Sola currently also works as a Teacher Assistant at the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto. In early 2014 he published his first book, O Menino e o Som (The Boy and the Sound). He is a registered teacher with the Royal Conservatory of Music (RCME 104334).

COMPOSERS' ANNIVERSARIES IN SEPTEMBER

4/9/1824 [Bruckner](#) born
4/9/1892 Milhaud born
4/9/1907 [Grieg](#) died
5/9/1735 J Christian Bach born
5/9/1912 [John Cage](#) born
8/9/1841 [Dvorak](#) born
8/9/1949 [Richard Strauss](#) died
13/9/1874 [Schoenberg](#) born
20/9/1957 [Sibelius](#) died
21/9/1874 [Holst](#) born
23/9/1836 [Bellini](#) died
25/9/1906 [Shostakovich](#) born
25/9/1849 [J Strauss Sr](#) died
26/9/1898 [Gershwin](#) born
26/9/1945 [Bartok](#) died

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.

2014 GREAT COMPOSERS ANNIVERSARIES

C.P.E. Bach – 300 years from his birth (March 8)

M. Mussorgsky – 175 years from his birth (May 21)

R. Strauss – 150 years from his birth (June 11)

FEATURED TEACHER OF THE MONTH

Marina Grigoryan, M.Mus., B.Mus

Piano Studies, Vocal Studies, Music Theory



Mrs. Marina Grigoryan holds several degrees from the Russian Music Colleges and the Moscow State University. She taught various disciplines such as piano (Royal Conservatory of Music, classical, jazz, Broadway, and pop), voice, harmony, ear-training, improvising,

composing as well as choir conducting and jazz ensembles. She possesses a vast knowledge and is very passionate about teaching music as part of creating well-rounded students with freedom of self-expression through music, strong technical skills and excellent performance habits. In addition to teaching at the International Music Academy, Mrs. Grigoryan is also on the faculty at Milton school of music and maintains a busy private studio. She is also a registered teacher with the Royal Conservatory of Music.

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

1. What do you like most about teaching? It's a two-way process (between teacher and student of learning and development; process of achieving spiritual growth and mental growth through music; music at the same time acts as a goal/purpose and means/method... The teaching process should be fun while discovering the musical potential of each student.

2. How do you inspire students to practice more? I think just through love and shared interest towards music is possible to inspire students to practice and therefore to work. My motto/request to my students: today has to be better (both: quality and quantity) than yesterday.

3. What roles does performance play in student's development? For me student's performance is not just a "litmus test" of their knowledge, practical skills and habits. Its a part of "giving/ sharing" - a process of personality growth.

4. Who are your favourite composers? Rachmaninov, Chopin, Mendelssohn, Beethoven and many others

5. What was the last piece of music (sheet music or a recording) you purchased for yourself? I like shopping (especially music). My last findings are: Claude Debussy - "Clair de lune", Franz Listz - "Liebestraum No.3", George Gershwin - "Rhapsody in Blue" and Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy - "Piano concerto No.1 in G minor, Op. 25.

FEATURED STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Garrett Kawabata and Carter Kawabata

Carter:

What instrument do you play? The instruments I play are piano and violin.

How long have you taken lessons? For piano I've been taking lessons for about 6 years. I started when I was about 3 and a half. For violin I've been taking lessons for about 3 years. I started when I was about 6.



Who are your favourite musical artists? My favourite musical artist is Beethoven.

What are your other hobbies, besides music? Some hobbies besides music are riding my bike, playing basketball, eating sushi and playing video games.

Favorite food? My favourite foods are pasta, sushi and ribs.

What is the coolest thing you've learnt in your lessons in the past three months? The coolest thing I've learned is The Wagtail.

Do you have any performance coming up? No not right now because we're enjoying the summer.



Garrett:

What instrument do you play? The instruments I play are piano and violin.

How long have you taken lessons? For piano I've been taking lessons for about 8 years. I started when I was 3 and a half. For violin I've been taking lessons for about 3 and a half years. I started when I was 8.

Who are your favourite musical artists? My favourite musical artist is Clementi.

What are your other hobbies, besides music? My hobbies besides music are riding my bike and playing video games.

Favorite food? My favourite foods are hamburger and ravioli.

What is the coolest thing you've learnt in your lessons in the past three months? The coolest thing I've learned in the past three months is Fur Elise.

Do you have any performance coming up? No we don't have any performances coming up.

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.

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.

FEATURED ARTICLE

New Partnership Brings Rock and Roll to N.Y.C. Schools

By Alyssa Morones

At a time when many districts struggle to preserve their music programs in the face of budget constraints, the New York City

system is partnering with outside organizations to extend theirs.



The Berklee College of Music and Little Kids Rock, an organization focused on restoring music education in public schools, are teaming up with the New York City Department of Education to expand the district's Modern Band program through a partnership called **Amp Up NYC**.

While "modern band" programs have been in schools across the country, including New York City, for years (Little Kids Rock was founded in 2002), this is the organization's first district-level partnership. Over three years, the pilot program will reach 600 schools and more than 60,000 students. Berklee will provide a free online curriculum of sheet music, history, and modern songs recordings. Berklee's contributions will be geared toward older students, while Little Kids Rock will provide teaching materials focused on younger students. "This is a real step forward by the New York City Department of Education," said Charly Schwartz, the director of Amp Up NYC, in an interview with *Education Week*. "This is them saying how important art education is."

The Amp Up program will train music teachers in the district on teaching modern band, familiarizing them with model lesson plans, content, and implementation. After the two-day training session, each teacher receives credits to purchase instruments for free, provided by Amp Up.

"We will work with existing music teachers in schools to enhance their current music education programming," said Schwartz. "It's directive, but not prescriptive."

Teachers will also have access to online curriculum and teaching resources from Little Kids Rock and Berklee, which will provide resources from its pulse music method, geared toward older students.

Modern band instruction does not replace the district's other music programs, such as marching band, orchestra, or chorus, but rather, adds an additional access point to music as a way to reach more students. The program will let kids work with music that they know and listen to, including hip hop, hard rock, and punk. They are also given the opportunity to test their skills on

multiple instruments, such as guitar, drums, and keyboards, as well as vocals.

"Students who see themselves reflected in the curriculum feel a deeper connection to their school," said David Wish, founder and executive director of Little Kids Rock.

New York City chose to partner with Amp Up as a way to leverage their students' "cultural and community experiences in a very unique way," said Paul King, the executive director for arts education in the New York City district, in a statement provided to *Education Week*. "It helps us reach kids and students with diverse musical experiences that they may not be getting at this point."

Extending music education may have broader academic benefits for young people. Recent research suggests that the complexity involved in practicing and performing music may help students' **cognitive development**.

"We're hoping that New York City can be a model for working directly with districts and that this will become a model that other districts can embrace and that can be replicated in other districts," said Schwartz.

If you would like 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

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