

MONTHLY newsletter

NOVEMBER 2018

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Music is a Science that Would Have us Laugh and Sing and Dance."

-Guillaume de Machaut-

A NOTE FROM DEAN AND LEANNE

We are excited about the upcoming performance season and all the beautiful performances we will have the opportunity to experience. As we prepare for these GRAND performances, we encourage you to create great positive practice routines in these final weeks! The more you practice your songs, warm ups and follow your teacher's recommendations, the more your muscles will remember the motion, creating **MUSCLE MEMORY**! This includes your vocal cords, your finger muscles, your diaphragm (breathing) muscles, your foot muscles (for pedalling or keeping rhythm), your arm muscles, etc.

As with any work out routine, it is important that you are never more than one day away from your last workout! Three or four days a week, can possibly help you maintain your knowledge and overall progress, but five or six days a week will help you make significant progress in your learning and is especially important when you are preparing for a performance! We wish you all the best as you share your gifts and talents with others in the coming weeks!

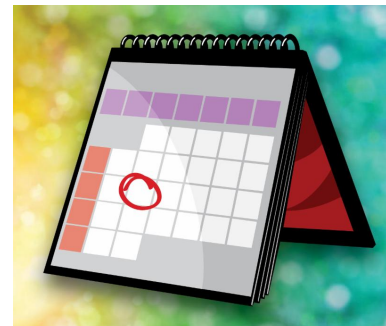
WHAT'S COMING UP AT CRESCENDO?

November 3rd Song Writing Workshop at Crescendo for students age 12-17 to learn the basics of song writing.

November 9th Teen Rock Band Ensemble for ages 12-17 runs on Friday Nov. 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th from 7-8:30PM at Soundlab Studios. Registrants must be able to read basic chords.

November 10th Piano Master Class. Join us for this educational workshop with our guest facilitator, Nancy Watt. Two classes to choose from depending on level.

November 23rd Festival of Trees Gala Event. A formal event where all proceeds go



towards the Arts programming in Strathcona County for children and youth. Tickets available at Festival Place Box Office.

December 1st Keep It Local Market. Join us at the Agora for a wonderful day filled with local market booths and entertainment.

December 2-9th Recital Week. Recitals will be held at Soundlab Studios this year. We look forward to some amazing performances.

[Click For Full Events Calendar](#)

GETTING READY FOR RECITAL



For Our Families

As you or your child prepares for recital, please remember to focus on your performance pieces, and working through the details of your piece. Memorization should be your goal for your performance.

The recital is an invaluable way for students to showcase their talents and dedication. We also love to have the opportunity to see all the courageous and impressive accomplishments of our students.

In the coming weeks, check out this video to help you in your practice routine so that you have the 'best possible outcome'. We can't wait to hear some amazing performances.

WHY SHOULD I PRACTICE MY SCALES?

Here are three reasons why pianists and guitarists play scales, and how it helps them become a better musician:

1. To develop **dexterity** and mobility
2. To create an ear for **tonality** (forming expectations in listening and playing)
3. To experiment and learn overall **musicality** (articulation, dynamics, and evenness of tone)

Now, because scales are so important, here are a few ways to work on your scales on the **piano**:

- **To help with fingerings:** Play slowly through each of the turns: first, with hands separately, then, together. See if you can do it correctly slowly, first!
- **To gain speed and reduce tension:** Practice focusing on the *forearm motion* by playing the scales in this order:
 1. Only the notes that will be played with finger 1 (for example, in C Major scale this would be C and F)
 2. Notes that will be played with fingers 1 and 2 (in C Major, this is C, D, and F, G)
 3. Notes that will be played with fingers 1, 2 and 3 (in C Major, these will be C,

D, E, and F, G, A)

4. Finally, add notes played with finger 4 (in C Major, this will be B)

- **To develop evenness in tone:** aTry to play 4 notes to a beat with varying accents! For example: 1-2-3-4, 1-2-3-4, etc. Then change what beat you put the accent on!

CHECK OUT OUR COFFEE HOUSE PERFORMANCES



We are so proud of our amazing and talented students who performed at our Coffee House on Oct. 26th. These are some pictures of the amazing performances we saw!



NEW OFFERINGS AT CRESCENDO



Song Writing Workshop

We are having a Song Writing Workshop on November 3rd from 2-6PM at



Keep It Local Market

Sherwood Park's very own Agora Centre will be hosting the Keep It Local Market this

Crescendo Music Studios.

Leanne Cummings and Liz Pomeroy will be hosting this workshop, and focusing on teaching students the basics of successful song writing!

Students ages 12-17 are welcome. Basic knowledge of chord progressions is needed. Before attending, it would be great to have some interesting ideas or conversation snippets you might like to write about.

Cost is \$ 60. Snacks and drinks provided.

Spots are limited, so call 780-570-5699 to register today.

year on December 1st from 10 AM - 4 PM.

Crescendo Music Studios will be sponsoring the Song Stage and providing entertainment! We look forward to hearing from local musicians, students, and music groups.

There are over 75 vendors selling unique merchandise, and wonderful food. Please drop by and support our local artists and vendors. This is a family friendly event and free to attend.

The Agora Centre is located at 401 Festival Lane, Sherwood Park, AB.

[Check Out Our Website](#)

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