

Talent Education School of Southern Illinois, (618) 457-6300

## Quick Calendar

### KLASSICS FOR KIDS

September 30th – 10 am

Altgeld Hall Room 112

*Music from Mexico*

### \*\* TESSI RECITAL \*\*

Sunday, October 5th

Civic Center Room 108

2:00 p.m. ONLY !!

### TUITION PAYMENTS DUE

Due 10/15 - Payment 3/11

\$10 late fee after 10/23

### KLASSICS FOR KIDS

November 4th – 10 am

Altgeld Hall Room 112

*Italian Opera*

### TUITION PAYMENTS DUE

Due 11/15 - Payment 4/11

\$10 late fee after 11/23

### THANKSGIVING BREAK

November 24th-30th

### KLASSICS FOR KIDS

December 2nd – 10 am

Altgeld Hall Room 112

*Dance / Holiday Sing*

### \*\* TESSI RECITAL \*\*

Sunday, December 14th

Civic Center Room 108

Time(s) TBA



## Welcome Back

*Nice to see you, everyone!*

We hope you had a great summer, and that the school year has started off smoothly for all of you.

With lessons and group classes now well underway, we want to take this opportunity to thank each of you for continuing to support TESSI, and more importantly, for continuing to instill the value of music in your children. Music is a truly unique element of the human experience and touches each of us in a very individual way, and yet is even better when shared with family and friends!

It's hard to believe that time can pass so quickly, but TESSI is now in its fourth year of operation, and like everything else in our world, is undergoing changes, some big and some small. We will brief you on those later in this newsletter.

Fall has definitely arrived, and with it a dizzying schedule of school and sports events, community activities, and the like. We will offer some tips below to help you keep your child's musical studies moving forward and musical instruments healthy and happy as the climate changes with the seasons.

*Thanks for reading!*

## Changing Times / October Recital

We alluded to some changes at TESSI in the section above, so we won't keep you in suspense.

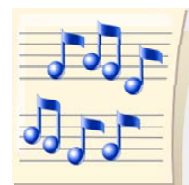
Most of you are probably already aware of this, but the biggest change that TESSI has undergone recently is that Mrs. Nelson decided to leave TESSI and continue teaching out on her own. This came as a bit of a surprise to us, but we wish her and all the violin students the best as they continue on elsewhere.

The immediate result of course is that we now do not have a violin teacher at TESSI. Once all the business arrangements have been finalized, plans to hire a new violin and/or piano teacher will be considered. We will keep you posted when that time comes. In the meantime, the show must go on!

The other result is that with fewer students to perform at recitals, we have decided to scale back to a single recital starting at

2:00 pm for the next performance on October 5th. We expect that the recital will fit within the span of an hour, but we will see how it goes and make adjustments for future recitals as need be.

We apologize for any inconvenience this might cause.





Open slots are available for preschoolers - ages 8-months thru 4 years.

See Teacher Alyce



### JUNIOR FESTIVAL

Save these dates:

February 21-22, 2009

(Saturday/Sunday)

Fees Due December 1<sup>st</sup>

To your teacher



TESSI  
705 W. Main  
Suite B1  
Carbondale, IL 62901

Phone  
(618) 457-6300

E-mail  
info@tessimusic.org

We're on the Web!  
See us at:  
www.tessimusic.org

## Tips for (keeping up with) practice

Each new school year brings a new schedule and the chance to reestablish a solid practice routine, a key to your child's musical development. However, time to fit everything into hectic schedules is scarce, so planning is needed. Here are some important points to keep in mind.

**Establish a regular time for practice** that will not usually conflict with other activities. Mornings (before school!) can be a great time to get in some quality practice while

the mind is fresh. Not everyone is a "morning person", so no matter what time(s) you choose for daily practice, try to stick to it on a regular basis. We know that kids need structure in their lives - this will help the child to see music practice as equal in importance to school and homework.

**Frequency and quality before quantity.** There is nothing wrong with long practice sessions when there is time to spare, but daily, short practices focused on the

isolation and repetition of specific trouble spots and patient attention to detail can be the fast track to command of notes and technique.

### **Review, Review...REVIEW!**

Review is the glue that binds it all together. Our repertoire was chosen with skills-maintenance in mind.

Include a review piece or two daily as a warm-up - and rotate through the review list throughout the week (or weeks if in upper books). It's very doable.

## Listen Up! -- plus Instrument Care

**Listening.** Suzuki teachers talk about it a lot. Because it's very important. In fact it is a key element in the Suzuki method. And it really works. We promise.

Since we know how busy all of you are, we should point out that there are (at least) two types of listening.

**Active Listening:** Directly engaged listening to the piece being worked on (or the next one or two) with the purpose of internalizing the sound of the piece, it's musical phrases, volume and

tone elements, or for memorizing titles, names of composers etc.

**Passive Listening:** Indirect listening (as background music) which, as it turns out can help to accomplish many of the goals of "active" listening, except perhaps learning titles and composers.

Both types have their place, but passive listening is easier to find time for....riding in the car, at bedtime, while performing tasks around the home, and so on. Make

good use of these opportunities for listening - it will pay off.

**Instrument Care:** With the weather getting much cooler it will soon be time to get pianos tuned after they have acclimated to the lower temperatures, and generally be more attentive to the climate your instrument lives in. Avoid extreme changes in temperature at all times.

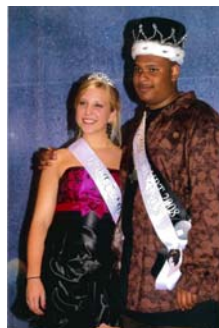
Guitarists should tune often, and a string change might be a good idea if it's been a while.

## Congratulations are in order...

...to **Maria Carvell**, who graduated from Suzuki Piano Book 4 - *great work!*

...to **Matthew Wilson and Colleen Wood** who were voted CCHS Homecoming King and Queen.

...to **Megan Wood**, voted Homecoming Princess.



*We've got the blues*



*We ran short of news!*

*Please send us yours!*

*newsletter@tessimusic.org*