



# The Melody Line

## From the Director...

What do you want out of your music lessons? Do you ever wonder why your teacher gives you certain assignments or why he/she expects certain things from you? The Academy has a goal for you— we want you to develop your skills and appreciation for music to their highest levels. The Music Teachers' National Association (MTNA) outlines ten specific skills necessary for a lifelong love of music and music making. These include the ability to:

- internalize basic rhythms and pulse
- read—musical literacy
- perform with physical ease and technical efficiency
- hear the notes on the page
- work creatively—improvise, compose, harmonize, and play by ear
- understand basic elements of theory, form, harmony, etc.
- respond to the interpretive elements of the composition to express the emotional character of the music
- conceptualize and transfer musical ideas
- work independently and to problem solve
- perform comfortably individually and with others in a variety of settings

Talk to your teacher about these goals; make them your own, and make an effort to develop each of these areas. I guarantee you won't be disappointed; the enjoyment of music and the gift of music-making will benefit you your entire life!

Keep practicing!

## Sixth Annual Faculty Recital

You won't want to miss the IUPUI Music Academy's sixth annual faculty recital to be held **Thursday, November 9, 2006** in the recital hall (room 152) of the Information Technology Complex. This event, which begins at 7:30 pm, will feature a wide variety of musical styles and instruments, including performances by many of our newest faculty members! All Academy students receive a complimentary ticket— be sure to get one from your teacher or pick one up in the Academy office. Other tickets are \$5 each or \$10 per family and can be purchased in the Academy office (room 378) or at the door. The performance will last approximately one hour with a reception to follow and is open to the general public. Come hear your teacher perform, and invite your family and friends to share in this musical experience! The IT building is located at 535 W. Michigan St. Call the Academy office at 278-2593 for more information.

## IUPUI Music Academy

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## Perfect Practice — by Eve Carr

Playing your musical instrument is fun, but for some musicians, practicing scales, arpeggios, or rudiments is another story. Sometimes musicians avoid practice because when they do it, they don't always get the results they want. Regardless of the instrument you play, says concert violinist and instructor Christopher Miller of Fall Church, Virginia, there are actions you can take to practice more, get better results, and increase your enjoyment. Here are some tips:



**FIND THE TIME**—Let's be honest: practicing, like exercise, is not so bad once you get going. The tough part is making time for practice. To make it easier, set a regular practice time when distractions are least likely to hamper you, and stick with it. After a while, practice will become part of your routine.

**MAKE THE MOST**—Set up a practice area in your home. Make sure your music stand, music, metronome, amp, or whatever equipment and accessories you need are in place so you don't have to spend precious time setting up and putting away.

**EYES ON THE PRIZE**—What do you want to accomplish with your practice sessions? Do you want to improve timing, learn new piece work on your breathing? To help you monitor your progress, set up short, medium, and long-term goals. Write them down and post them in your practice space. Reward yourself when you reach them.



**TUNE UP, WARM UP**—Scales and rudiments are crucial, because they serve a dual function: they form the building blocks of good technique, and they are a valuable part of a stretching and warm-up regimen. Don't be tempted to rush through these exercises to "get to the good part."

**EVERY DAY, PEOPLE**—It's important to practice regularly, even if it is for short sessions. Actually, there's good news. Short, regular 15 to 20 minute practice sessions are better than a few longer ones!

**SMOOTH THE ROUGH**—It's fun to start at the top and play a piece straight through. But, to smooth out the rough spots, you need to go over them several times—often at a slower tempo—to ensure that you are playing them right. If you get frustrated with a specific section, take a break and play something you know well.



**BE PENCIL SHARP**—Making pencil notations on your music can help you remember which fingers you prefer to use, where you need to breathe, and whether you need to work on those triplets. Colored

pencils can help you create a code to separate different issues that need addressing.

**QUICK, QUICK, SLOW**—If you encounter a passage that's difficult, slow down until you can play it and avoid reinforcing bad habits. Play at a comfortable tempo until you learn it. Then gradually increase the tempo until you are playing as the music suggests.

**IT'S PLAYBACK TIME**—Recording your practice session can be an ear-opening experience. It can help you quietly identify trouble spots not noticed during performance, and it's a convenient way to keep track of your progress.



**WHILE-U-WAIT**—Keep a copy of the music you're working on with you. Then, whenever you have a free moment, such as waiting at the dentist's office, you can go over the piece, play the music in your head, and become more familiar with it.

**INSTANT REWARD**—It's important not to make practice into a chore, so after warming up with scales or rudiments, or practicing a new technique or a tough passage, give yourself a little time to play something you enjoy. This will reinforce the fact that you are playing for fun!

Start practicing with good habits today! When you do, you'll enjoy practicing more because you will see better results.

*Published in Making Music magazine. Visit their website at [www.makingmusicmag.com](http://www.makingmusicmag.com).*

# HOW TO HELP BUILD A MUSICIAN: A Blueprint for Parents

(Adapted from the Greenwich House Music School, New York, NY)

## Talk to the Teacher

Find out what your child is supposed to be working on. Then talk to your child to make sure he or she understands. Let the teacher know of any problems your children are having in other areas of their lives. Find out if the teacher would like you to be present at your child's lesson. And please inform the teacher as soon as you know your child is going to miss a lesson.



## Celebrate the Joy of Music

Children should want to play music because they like to listen to it. Make music part of their lives. Take them to age-appropriate concerts. Play music at home. Talk to them about what they like and don't like. Let them see the enjoyment music gives you. They shouldn't think of playing music as a chore, but as a pleasure.

## Have the Right Equipment

Music should be fun but only will be if you take it seriously. Just as you outfit your children in shin guards for soccer, provide good musical instruments and have them tuned regularly.

## Establish Routines for Practice

There's no getting around it: without hard work, good music won't happen. In the early stages, sit with your child—to offer encouragement and to reinforce how important you think music is. Give your child time to wind down after school before starting practice. Establish a routine. Some children may prefer shorter sessions every day; others may prefer longer sessions every other day. While consistency is a virtue, also be flexible. Sometimes the regular time isn't the right time. But don't let children fall out of the practice routine, because it becomes that much harder to get back into it.



## Make Practice Fun

Practice isn't punishment and shouldn't be treated that way. It is hard work that carries its own reward. Be matter-of-fact about it. Some parents find it helpful to keep track with a journal or log. Small children may respond to stickers. Older children will find rewards in improved playing, so be sure to comment on improvements as they occur. Help children figure out ways to make practicing more effective. If they are having trouble with a few measures, have them concentrate on the problems rather than repeat the entire piece over and over. And if your child just wants to fool around sometimes, to improvise, that's okay, too.



## Don't Push too Hard

Never scold or yell at children about their musical progress. Encouragement is the most important thing for a child's musical growth. Try not to intrude between student and teacher. Don't put additional pressure on children by asking them to meet weekly goals above and beyond what the teacher has asked for. The children are only competing with themselves. Try not to compare them with other children.

## Help Make Lessons Productive

Bring your children to lessons on time with the materials they need. Try to arrive in a calm, ready-to-work state—not running in breathlessly. Encourage your child to concentrate during the lessons even if it hasn't been the best week of practice. Make sure your children are actually learning the names of the notes and where they are, to have the confidence that comes with knowledge.

## Keep the Excitement Alive

If your children want to quit, either let them or help them succeed. Do not keep sending them to lessons without preparation. This may turn them against music for life. But don't make it too easy to quit either. Sometimes children are just going through a rough patch, moving from one skill level to the next. Different music might help, or different practice exercises. Summer music camp can be stimulating, exposing students to others working at different levels. And don't forget: all kids, no matter how long they've been playing, need your presence and your praise.



## Encourage Recitals

Recitals are a good way to celebrate the child's musical involvement. They also give a specific goal and motivation for practice. The Academy provides several performance opportunities throughout the year, allowing each performer to develop a feeling of accomplishment and pride. These feelings can reinforce their interest in making music.

## Listen to your Children Play

You have to demonstrate that you value your children's music as much as you do their homework. Pay attention to what they are doing and show appreciation. Reinforce them with positive comments (i.e., "Your tone is especially good today" or "I hear a big improvement in your scales"). Ask your child to play for you once in awhile, just for fun. Playing with a parent or sibling is a wonderful way to encourage a child and to reinforce the concept of musical teamwork.

# Meet Our Newest Faculty Members

**John Glennon** is a new piano teacher at the Academy. He has a Bachelor of Music from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and Master of Music from Indiana University. He is currently working on a Doctor of Music at Indiana University. John is a freelance harpsichordist, fortepianist, and pianist, and has been featured on NPR's *Harmonia*. He has performed solo and collaborative concerts throughout the U.S., Canada, and Europe.



**Steven Murphy** is teaching piano for the IUPUI Music Academy. He is a composer and performer living in Indianapolis, and he works for Indianapolis Public Schools as a performer and composer. He is also a vocal coach for many local singers. He plays piano and organ every week for the Third Church of Christ Scientist, and is also an adjunct music professor with the IUPUI School of Music. He holds of Master of Music degree from Ithaca College School of Music.

**Debra Nethercott** is teaching Kindermusik classes. She holds a B.S. Degree in Music Education from Ball State University, an M.S. Degree in Secondary Education from Indiana University and is currently pursuing a Master of Music Degree in vocal performance at Ball State University where she studies with Kathleen Maurer. Debra has studied choral conducting with Dr. Douglas Amman, professor emeritus at Ball State University. She was a fellow at the Aspen School of Music and holds a Certificate of Biblical Studies from Cape Fear Valley School of Theology in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Debra is a licensed *Kindermusik* teacher with 35 years teaching experience and holds a life teaching license in the state of Indiana. Debra has been an Elementary Music Specialist in both public and private schools, and has developed a graded children's choir and handbell choir program at St. Luke's United Methodist Church, where she is currently the Director of Children's Music, a program consisting of five choirs for ages 4 through high school with a membership totaling over 180 children and youth. She maintains a private studio, "Miss Deb's Music Studio," associated with the St. Luke's United Methodist Church. Early Childhood Programs teaching *Kindermusik*, preschool keyboard classes and general music. Through her work with children's choirs, she has assisted with the Indianapolis Children's Choir Summer Choral Festival and studied Kodaly Music Education with Dr. Mary Goetze of Indiana University and the late Dr. Jean Sinor. She is a member of the American Choral Directors Association, the Royal School of Church Music, Choristers Guild, and the Early Childhood Music and Movement Association. Debra, who is a mezzo-soprano, sings professionally and has frequently appeared as a soloist with St. Paul's Choir and Indianapolis Pro Musica. Debra lives in Indianapolis with her husband Jim - the happy parents of two wonderful canines, Eddie and Frank.



## Answers to Word Scramble, pg. 9

- |              |               |            |
|--------------|---------------|------------|
| 1. clarinet  | 7. xylophone  | 13. bass   |
| 2. piano     | 8. guitar     | 14. rhythm |
| 3. flute     | 9. violin     |            |
| 4. bassoon   | 10. metronome |            |
| 5. trumpet   | 11. forte     |            |
| 6. clavinova | 12. staccato  |            |

## Faculty News

Voice teachers **Rene Anderson** and **Kathy Myers** attended the national convention of the National Association of Teachers of Singing in Minneapolis, MN June 30-July 4, 2006. The two were in the company of about 500 other voice teachers, and enjoyed workshops and presentations on such topics as Broadway vs. Classical singing, Vocal Resonance, Spanish Songs, Mixed Media Song Recitals, and Recital Song Interpretation, to name a few. It was like a working vacation, with the two coming home with lots of new music and ideas to incorporate into their teaching.

**Steve Murphy**, piano, will perform a solo recital on October 30, at 7:30 pm in room 152 in the IT building. Tickets are \$5.00 at the door.

**Monika Herzig**, jazz piano, completed a Midwest tour this summer with performances in Milwaukee, Chicago, Cleveland, and Louisville with the Monika Herzig Trio in support of "In Your Own Sweet Voice—A Tribute to Women Composers" on ACME Records. On Friday, November 10, at the Indiana History Center, she is co-directing "Indiana in the Jazz Age" with Allana Radecki and Kevin MacDowell. The music of the 20s by Indiana Composers Hoagy Carmichael and Cole Porter will come to life with music, storytelling, and dance. This production is the winner of the Fran Snygg Award for IU Arts Week. For more information, call 317-232-1882 or visit [www.indianahistory.org](http://www.indianahistory.org).



**Jose Valencia**, violin and viola instructor for the IUPUI Music Academy, has been selected as the Music Director for the Kokomo Symphony Orchestra. He is responsible for conducting the full symphony concerts and for facilitating a chamber music series in Kokomo. More about the Kokomo Symphony Orchestra can be found at [www.kokomosymphony.net](http://www.kokomosymphony.net). Mr. Valencia continues his work as Music Director of Orkestra Projekt, which commences its fourth season of adventurous and exciting programming on October 21-22 with its presentation of "Fright Time," a sampling of music associated with the scary season and featuring a piece called "Frankenstein!!" by H.K. Gruber, living German composer. More information on "Fright Time" and Orkestra Projekt's other concerts, "Time to Remember" and "Play Time," can be found on the ensemble's web page, [www.orkestraprojekt.com](http://www.orkestraprojekt.com). Orkestra Projekt is also collaborating with Capitol Quartet in a fundraiser for Zionsville Band and Orchestra Parents on November 4 at the Zionsville Performing Arts Center. He also retains his position as Music Director of the Athenaeum Pops Orchestra, a fine volunteer orchestra housed in one of the historic treasures of Indianapolis, the Athenaeum. Mr. Valencia still maintains a successful private studio with some of the finest high school students in the state and teaches with the Metropolitan Youth Orchestra while still making time to perform with the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra, Indianapolis Opera, and a few other regional orchestras.

## Student Recitals



Would you or your child like to show off your musical talent? Come and join us at the student recitals! An adult recital will take place on October 23rd at 7:30pm; there are also recitals at 7pm on Friday, December 15 and 11am and 1pm on Saturday, December 16.

The student recitals are a great chance for the Academy's students to perform in front of an audience, showcase the skills they have learned during the fall semester, and receive the praise

of applause they deserve for all their hard work! The Academy strongly encourages all students to participate.

To sign up as a performer, discuss the pieces you might perform with your teacher, and then fill out the recital sign-up form included in this newsletter. Don't forget to include the day and time you wish to perform, as well as the names of your pieces and the composers.

We look forward to hearing you play or sing!

## Music Lessons Help Young Child Memories - by Jennifer Kwan



TORONTO (Reuters) - Parents who spend time and money to teach their children music, take heart -- a new Canadian study shows young children who take music lessons have better memories than their nonmusical peers.

The study, published in the online edition of the journal *Brain*, showed that after one year of musical training, children performed better in a memory test than those who did not take music classes.

"(The research) tells us that if you take music lessons your brain is getting wired up differently than if you don't take music lessons," Laurel Trainor, professor of psychology, neuroscience and behavior at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, told Reuters.

"This is the first study to show that brain responses in young, musically trained and untrained children change differently over the course of a year," said Trainor who led the study.

Over a year they took four measurements in two groups of children aged between four and six -- those taking music lessons and those taking no musical training outside school -- and found developmental changes over periods as short as four months.

The children completed a music test in which they were asked to discriminate between harmonies, rhythms and melodies, and a memory test in which they had to listen to a series of numbers, remember them and repeat them back.

Trainor said while previous studies have shown that older children given music lessons had greater improvements in IQ scores than children given drama lessons, this is the first study to identify these effects in brain-based measurements in young children.



She said it was not that surprising that children studying music improved in musical listening skills more than children not studying music.

"On the other hand, it is very interesting that the children taking music lessons improved more over the year on general memory skills that are correlated with nonmusical abilities such as literacy, verbal memory, visiospatial processing, mathematics and IQ," she said.

*"Without music, life would be a mistake."*

Fredrich Nietzsche

**"Quotable  
Quotes"**

*"Music is enough for a lifetime, but a lifetime isn't enough for music."*

Sergei Rachmaninoff

## Stephen Beus Piano Recital



The IUPUI Music Academy is proud to present a free recital by the 2006 Max I. Allen Classical Fellow of the American Pianists Association, Stephen Beus!

This summer, 25-year-old Stephen Beus won first prize in three major piano competitions: The American Pianists Association Fellowship Award in Indianapolis in April, the Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition in Salt Lake City in July, and the Vendome Prize International Piano Competition in Lisbon, Portugal in July. As the National Winner in the Collegiate division of the Music Teachers National Association, he won a Steinway Piano, Model M. Mr. Beus has also performed with many orchestras in the United States and Europe.

Mr. Beus graduated in 2002 from Whitman College as a student of Leonard Richter. He was invited to perform with the Whitman Symphony, the Walla Walla Symphony, and the Mid-Columbia Symphony. He has also performed with the Fort Worth Symphony. He is now pursuing an Artists Diploma from the Juilliard School; his teacher is Robert McDonald.

The recital will be held on Saturday, October 28 at 10 am in room 152 in the IT building. Admission is free! The Academy encourages students to attend this recital and see this brilliant young musician perform. Stephen Beus is a perfect example of a music student who, with hard work and dedication, is building an international reputation and a career in the world of music.



## Kindermusik Program



The IUPUI Music Academy is proud to present its Kindermusik program! Kindermusik is a music program for young children, ages newborn to 7 years, that is based on the most recent research in child development.

Children in Kindermusik classes learn about music through a variety of methods and activities. Instructors use movement, games, and music listening activities to help children learn about music. All activities have been designed with each age group's developmental levels in mind.

Kindermusik teachers are experienced, licensed music educators who strive to involve the children, as well as their parents, in the musical learning process. Parents are encouraged to work with their children at home to continue the learning process there.

The Kindermusik curriculum reaches out to teach children, beginning at a very young age (newborn), about music. Even babies can begin to get a musical education and can learn more about their world through the Kindermusik program.

The Kindermusik classes at IUPUI are taught by Debra Nethercott, an experienced Kindermusik teacher who has taught the Kindermusik curriculum for several years.

If you are interested in registering your child for classes this semester, or you would like to put your child on the list for next semester, please contact the IUPUI Music Academy office at 317-278-2593. We would love to get your child involved in music education as early as possible!



# Kids' Korner

## Word Search!

l b b c i y g r e b p p e e h r  
m e s e n b a r e a r b r d a k  
h a m w r v v g l a z e k n y a  
s c h o e n b e r g m e o a d r  
r h a l n l s h r r h t t l n o  
l b r b e t o t a d g h r p a v  
i w b a r r e f e n I o a o o d  
s d k I d e y v I I d v b c l b  
z c n h o s s l e d n e m r e t  
t a h o s f l r s r n n l r s r  
s c h u b e r t v b d r l r n m  
e v b a m p r o k o f I e v e e  
r e v I v a l d I r o g c b h e  
d j l l z s n e u z d n r e e p  
a I j o p l I n d o d I u p r w  
b a m w a g n e r e n I p o h c

- |           |           |            |            |             |            |
|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| Beethoven | Mozart    | Brahms     | Schubert   | Mendelssohn | Purcell    |
| Wagner    | Ravel     | Haydn      | Handel     | Joplin      | Schumann   |
| Debussy   | Bach      | Bartok     | Beach      | Berg        | Schoenberg |
| Bernstein | Rodgers   | Berlioz    | Chopin     | Copland     | Vivaldi    |
| Dvorak    | Ellington | Farmer     | Gay        | Hensel      | Verdi      |
| Liszt     | Mahler    | Monteverdi | Palestrina | Prokofiev   | Webern     |



## Kids' Korner

### Word Scramble!

Unscramble the following musical terms:

leciartn \_\_\_\_\_

uagtri \_\_\_\_\_

nipao \_\_\_\_\_

oilnv \_\_\_\_\_

lfetu \_\_\_\_\_

notoemrem \_\_\_\_\_

nassboo \_\_\_\_\_

ertfo \_\_\_\_\_

ptrmetu \_\_\_\_\_

ttaoesca \_\_\_\_\_

iclnoav \_\_\_\_\_

bssa \_\_\_\_\_

noyhlxeop \_\_\_\_\_

tmryhh \_\_\_\_\_



### Music Jokes



How do you clean a messy tuba?

A: With a tuba toothpaste!

Why did the music teacher need a ladder?

A: To reach the high notes!

Why did the music teacher get locked in his classroom?

A: His keys were in his piano!



535 W. Michigan St., Room 378  
Indianapolis, IN 46202

Phone: 317-278-2593  
Fax: 317-278-2590  
Email: musacad@iupui.edu



## IUPUI Music Academy Fall Calendar 2006

October 23	Adult Student Recital, 7:30PM, IT152	Jan. 15	Academy CLOSED; MLK, Jr. Day
November 9	Annual Academy Faculty Re- cital, 7:30 PM, IT 152	Jan. 20	End of Fall session
Nov. 21-25	Thanksgiving Break/Academy CLOSED		
Dec. 15, 16	End of semester student re- citals		
Dec. 18-22	Make-up lessons only		
Dec. 23-Jan. 7	Academy CLOSED		
Jan. 8	Academy resumes		

