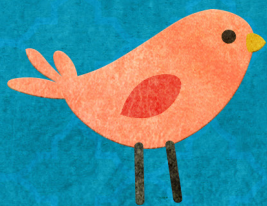
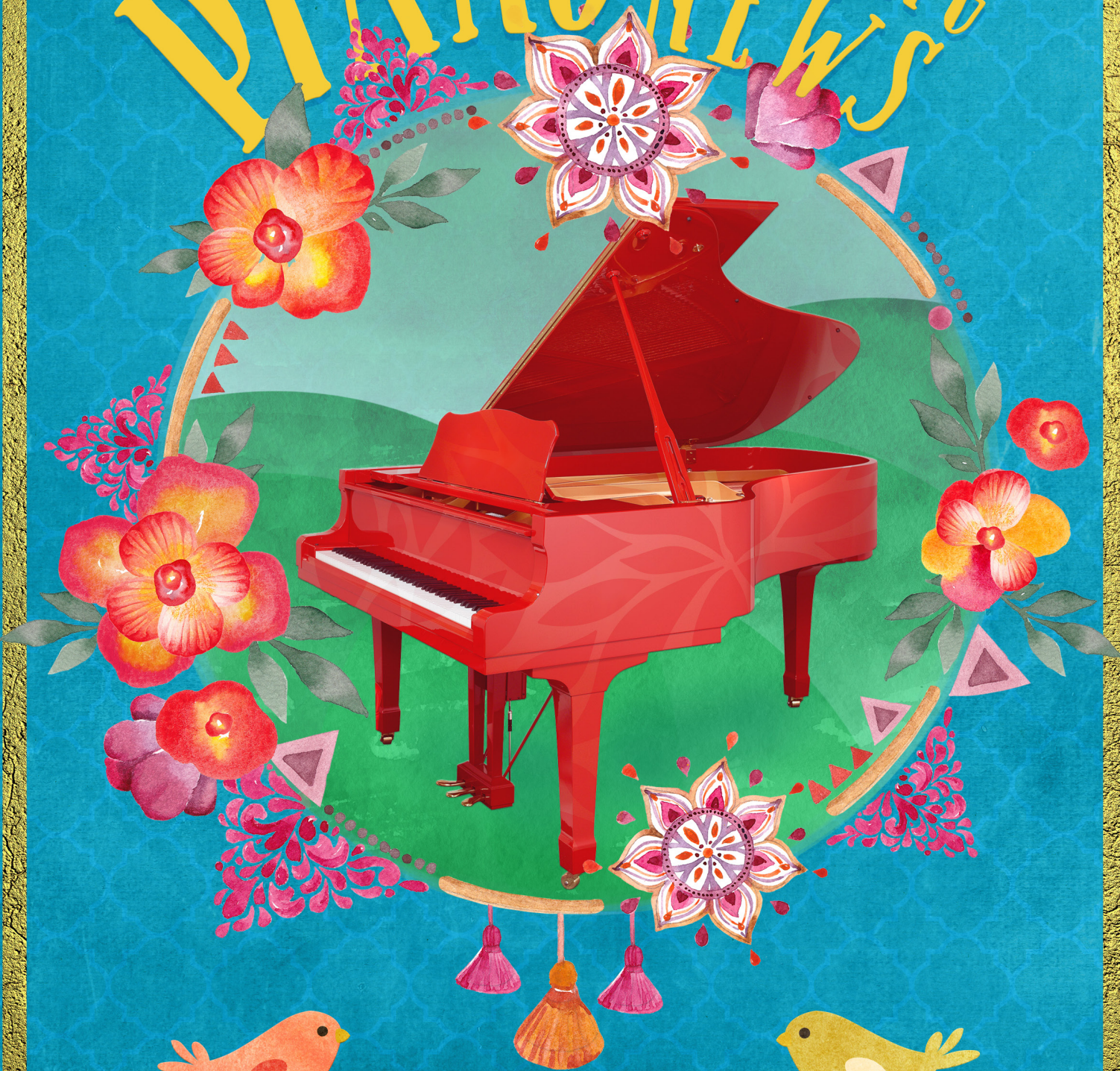


PIANO NEWS

SPRING



HEATHER BYARS



SPRING PIANO NEWS

Birmingham Keyboard Arts Center
Heather Byars, Director

Spring Quarter Schedule

March 5 - 9: Spring Lessons
Begin. Tuition Installment #1 Due.

March 26 - 30: Spring Break. No
Lessons.

April 2 - 6: Tuition Installment #2
Due.

April 14: AMTA District Auditions,
Samford University

May 1 - 7: Tuition Installment #3 Due.

May 6: Spring Recital. 2
pm. Episcopal Church of the
Ascension.

May 11: Letter of Intent Due.

May 12: AMTA State, University of
Alabama

May 14 - 18: Last Week of Spring
Quarter.

May 21 - 24: Spring Makeup Week.

Spring Recital

May 6, 2 pm

Our Spring Recital will be held on Saturday, May 6, at 2 pm, at Episcopal Church of the Ascension. 1912 Canyon Rd, Vestavia Hills, AL 35216.

Students should dress for a special occasion. Several students have asked me if they may wear a costume that coordinates with their piece. I can't resist adorable kids in costumes, therefore the answer is yes. You may wear dressy recital clothes OR a costume.

The church will be opened up for practicing at least thirty minutes before the performance begins. Plan to be in your assigned seat fifteen minutes before showtime. Recitals usually last about an hour.

I need a couple of parents with an authoritative presence to sit with my youngest students during the program. They need a little help remembering to remain quiet and still for the duration. You'll still have a great view of the piano. Please let me know if you'd like to volunteer. Your help will be greatly appreciated by me and will ensure that the audience can enjoy the program to the fullest.

There will be an award ceremony following the recital during which participation awards, AMTA certificates, and practice trophies will be presented.

At the beginning of the Spring Quarter, an \$8 per student recital fee is applied to tuition. This helps cover the expense of renting the church, printing programs and awards, and purchasing trophies. If you have not yet paid your recital fee, please take care of it now.

AMTA District Auditions

The Alabama Music Teacher's Association District Auditions are for piano students, age six through eighteen, and are held in March or April of each year. They are composed of a Performance component of three pieces of contrasting style and a Theory component (scales, arpeggios, cadences, etc.) Students, age 10 and older, who receive an Outstanding rating in both Performance and Theory can progress on to the State level of this competition in May.

District Auditions will be held at Samford University on April 14. Our district participants this year are Tina Gao, Mina Hu, Ishan Sha, Maliha and Anusha Mukherjee, Roshni Datta, and Theo Simonton.

The State Auditions will take place at the University of Alabama on May 12. A handful of winners will be selected from State Auditions to participate in a Winner's Recital.

Summer Quarter Policy

The Summer Quarter will consist of six weeks of lessons plus the bonus week for make-up lessons. If absolutely necessary, during the Summer Quarter only, students may have the option of arranging their six lessons individually with me rather than having a regular weekly lesson time. This flexibility will allow students to get in all of their lessons around their travel and summer camp schedule. Lessons will still need to be scheduled with me during my normal working hours and within the dates specified for the Summer Quarter.

Please understand that, without payment, it isn't possible for me to reserve spaces in the studio. The studio maintains a waiting list of interested students. Some students remain on the list for a long time before they are able to begin study. Lesson times will be offered to these students immediately when they become available. Some families actually prefer to begin in the summer. Students who have terminated their lessons are always welcome to return, but please know in advance that availability could not be guaranteed after an absence.

Written notification is required one month in advance of ending lessons. Students who fail to give the one month notice will be billed for the month or will forfeit their deposit. No refund will be given for tuition paid in advance. Please complete the google form Letter of Intent or print and return the final page of this newsletter to me by May 11.

Summer Quarter Schedule

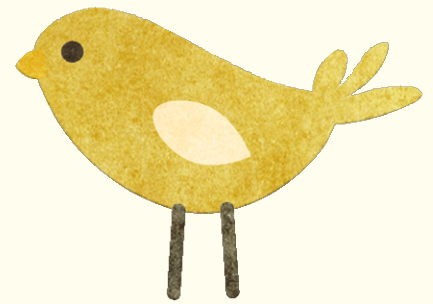
June 18-22: Summer Lessons Begin.
Tuition Installment #1 Due.

July 4: Independence Day Holiday. No Lessons. Makeup Day: August 1.

July 9 - 13: Tuition Installment #2 Due.

July 23 - 27: Last Week of Summer Quarter.

July 30 - August 3: Summer Quarter Makeup Week.



Bittersweet Farewell to Maya

Maya Barefield has grown up in our piano studio. When she graduates in the spring, she will have taken nearly eleven years of piano lessons. I remember the day, over a decade ago, when little Maya tagged along to piano lessons with her big sisters, imploring her mother to please let her take lessons too. Suffice it to say, with so much time spent together, I grow very attached to each and every one of my students. When it is time to bid one farewell, I try to temper my sadness with the knowledge that they'll stay in touch. They always promise me they will and they usually do. I'm so proud of Maya's accomplishments, not only in piano, but in the academic arena, and most certainly personally. This beautiful, civic-minded, and talented girl is planning to make her mark in the documentary film industry as a director. She has secured her place at the prestigious Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia. Oh, how I will miss you, Miss Maya. Please, please, do stay in touch and I'll be waiting for my invitation to your first opening.



LETTER OF INTENT 2018

Please fill out this form and return by May 11. You may also sign the form digitally by clicking this link.

- I will be continuing my piano lessons and will see you in the Summer Quarter.
- I want to continue my lessons but I have a challenging scheduling problem to work around and need your help making a plan.
- I would like to terminate my lessons. Please add me to the waiting list for a future opening in the studio. I understand that an opening can't be guaranteed after an absence.
- I would like to terminate my lessons and have no plans to return in the future.
- I can't attend any lessons during the Summer Quarter, but I plan to pay the Summer Quarter tuition before June 18, 2018, to reserve my space in the studio.

Summer Quarter Tuition

30 Minute Private Lesson: \$166, (2 monthly installments \$83)

45 Minute Private Lesson: \$224, (2 monthly installments \$112)

60 Minute Private Lesson: \$286, (2 monthly installments \$143)

Student Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____