



# CMS Musical Notes

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## Practice Tips: July

### ♫ Slow it Down:

Try setting your metronome at a very slow tempo when you first start practicing. Once you have played through the entire piece without a mistake, crank up the pace a little, and repeat! Do this until you are able to play the whole song through at the correct tempo without errors—the metronome will help develop your rhythm and counting, and the slow pace will keep you focused.

### ♫ Close Your Eyes:

Playing your instrument with your eyes closed increases your awareness of touch and sound. Once you have mastered a piece by sightreading, give it a go with your eyes closed. This will help develop your muscle memory, memorization skills, and your ability to focus on the sound of the music you are playing.



## Spotlight on CMS

On Saturday, June 7th, CMS piano instructor **Fontaine L.** performed music by Friedrich Kuhlau, Nikolai Kapustin, and Felix Mendelssohn. **Trio Fontaine** consisted of Fontaine Laing on piano, Stephanie Bazirjian on flute, and Janet White on cello.

**Jeffrey D.**, CMS guitar and vocal instructor, gave a recital at St. Luke's Cathedral, the largest cathedral in Long Beach, on Sunday, July 22.

Two of piano instructor **Pik W.'s** students recently passed Grade One of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music Piano Exams. **Brooks Nagel** passed with distinction, and **Abby Stuart** passed with merit.

**Eric L.**, CMS piano instructor, was chosen by author John Bell Young as one of the three extraordinary pianists whose performances will be used in a CD accompanying the book "Brahms—A Listener's Guide: Unlocking the Masters Series." Eric will also be quoted in the book. "Brahms—A Listener's Guide" will be available through Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble, and Amadeus Press on September 15th, 2008.

On Thursday, June 19th, guitar teacher **Jerry D.** and the **Jerry "Hot Rod" Band** performed with the Rods and Woodies Car Cruise in Downtown Encinitas.

**Abigail Estabillo**, vocal student of **Joanna S.**, won first place in the 10-13 year-old division on the 2008 Exchange Club of San Diego Annual Search for Talent, Junior Division.

**Gayle St. G.**, CMS Vocal instructor, recently performed a week-long engagement at the Inn at the Park, the Park Manor Suites' gourmet restaurant and piano bar at Balboa Park. She will also perform at the South Coast Winery in Temecula from 5:15pm to 12:15 am on New Year's Eve.

Vocal instructor **Allison T.'s** debut album, "Come With Me" is now available in stores and online, and is also available through CD Baby and iTunes. The album was recorded with pianist and arranger Kamau Kenyatta and guitarist, composer, and recording engineer Peter Sprague. For more information, please go to [www.AllisonAdamsTucker.com](http://www.AllisonAdamsTucker.com).



**Makena Jones, Chase Losey, Jordynn Barnes, Jake Elliott, Samantha Melanson, and Jessica Melanson**, students of CMS voice and guitar instructor **Krissy W.**, have all progressed so much that they have even started to compose their own music.

Voice and piano teacher **Hiroko Y.** will sing "La Vie en Rose" with a full orchestra at the California Music and Arts Festival Saturday, September 13th, at 7:30pm at the Poway Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets are \$20 (general admission) and \$40 (VIP). For more information, please call the box office at 858-748-0505.

**Kathy Owens**, piano student of **Martha S.**, performed a medley of popular American music at her 6th grade graduation ceremony on June 6th. Kathy volunteered to play for the occasion, and improves steadily in her musicianship and confidence, thanks to Martha's teaching.



# CMS Summer Recitals

California Music Studios' Formal Summer Recital Season has officially begun. Our first concert on June 28th was a big success. All of our students and teachers came completely prepared with their pieces polished and memorized, and dressed to the nines. It definitely showed in their performance, as everyone looked and sounded as wonderful as we have ever seen.

We are enthusiastic to see what our next group of students is capable of as well. The next scheduled recital is on July 19th at the Ruby Schulman Auditorium in Carlsbad. The Orange County recital will be at the St. Joseph Center in Orange on September 27th. If you or your child plan on participating, please let your teacher know as soon as you can. Now is the time to polish those last few notes on your performance piece.

Even if you are not planning to participate, please come to support your fellow musicians. They appreciate the crowd, and you can appreciate firsthand what it is like to perform onstage.

July 19th: San Diego County  
Ruby Schulman Auditorium  
1775 Dove Lane  
Carlsbad, CA 92009

September 27th: Orange County  
St. Joseph Center Auditorium  
480 South Batavia St.  
Orange, Ca 92868



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# Vocal Competitions

## Inland Idol

WBZB Entertainment, a youth entertainment company that promotes and stages performances and training opportunities for young people, is hosting Inland Idol, a vocal competition for young people ages 7-18. Qualifying auditions will be held in July in Temecula, San Bernardino, and Corona, and the concert finale will be held on August 9th in Corona. Celebrity judges include Olympic Silver-Medalist Cathy Rigby and "Desperate Housewives" creator and producer Marc Cherry, and prizes include a professional recording and production deal with Dinky Studios, a professional photography session with Legacy Portraiture and Video, musical equipment from Guitar Center, performance showcase opportunities, and more. Proceeds go to WBZB's Arts Reach Initiatives. For more information, please go to [www.inlandidol.com](http://www.inlandidol.com).

## MTV Singing Group Project

MTV is auditioning for an as yet untitled production that is searching for the next big pop group. The casting is in Los Angeles on July 19th for groups of 3-6 performers who are over 18 and have a pop, urban, or Latin style group. The grand prize is \$100,000. For more information, please go to [www.MTV.com](http://www.MTV.com) or [www.myspace.com/mtvsinginggroup](http://www.myspace.com/mtvsinginggroup).

## How Are We Doing?

Please Take a few moments to answer a few questions for us! Your answers help us serve you better. We appreciate your feedback.

How important is making music to your family?

- Extremely important
- Moderately important
- Unimportant

How would you rate the service you receive from us?

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair

How well does your teacher fit your needs?

- Extremely well
- Moderately Well
- Needs discussion with CMS

Would you recommend CMS to your family and friends?

- Absolutely
- Maybe
- No

Comments:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name \_\_\_\_\_