

All Strings Attached

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Studio Hours: Mon.-Thurs.: 3 - 9 p.m.
Fri.: 3 - 6 p.m.
Sat.: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Sun.: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

August, September, October 2007

Dear Mentors, students and parents,

I know this is early in the season to get a newsletter to you. However, there is a lot of information I would like to get out to you at this time. So, please put this information in a safe place for you to refer to in the next 2 months, as we prepare for our Season concert opener. This is my only means of communication with parents and out of town members.

It has been a productive summer. I would like to thank all of those who took instruction. You will be relied on to assist others in the upcoming program. We will start the season with a Halloween (younger groups) concert and Rock Concert (symphony). The selections are wonderful, and I feel will really excite the audience for what we can do the rest of the season. So thank you in advance for putting forth a superior effort in making us a success.

NEW MEMBERS IN THE STUDIO/SYMPHONY:

Again, we have a wonderful roster. We currently have 91 string players, 37 wind and percussionists (includes mentors), and 14 alumni who will travel back for as many concerts as possible. So we are at a healthy 142 members. I am pleased, and willing to work even longer and harder to give you the education you deserve and need. I know Jacki feels the same, when she takes over the podium and the Jazzers. We will expect good things this year, and our audiences are getting bigger and bigger.

Here are the new members: in the strings we have added Elise Berg, Katie Bowden, Thomas Evans, Jonathan Kolar, Myriah Kolar, McKenna Quandt, Kesley Richardson, Morgan Snyder, Rachel Steinkamp, Elyse Titus, Jessica Venner, Sammie Walsh, and Carly Weber. In the winds and percussion we have added Rob Whitham (mentor), Brandon Mennenah, Jan King, Kallie Webber, Alex Paulson, Meredith Ferguson(mentor) and Elizabeth Book (mentor). Welcome to all of you! Let's make this a phenomenal year.

WE LOSE 3 MONDAYS DUE TO LABOR DAY AND 2 TEACHER INSERVICE DAYS IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER.

I WILL teach on those days, and we WILL have symphony rehearsal at Triple "A" Seeds warehouse (Kevin Patrick's place of business behind Bomgaar's) at the regular time on September 24th and October 22. You will need to bring these things when we rehearse at the warehouse: YOU, your instrument, a folding chair, and if you have a book light, or something like that, it will help with the overhead lights. Please arrive early enough to set up. We will probably only be able to rehearse there in the months where it is not too cold. And ALL of you thank Kevin for offering (*actually*, I asked him) to lend us his facility, when we cannot get into Adams. We cannot afford to lose these rehearsal days, so let's take advantage of this offer.

START OF SEASON #7

Lessons in the studio will begin on Saturday September 1st. That is when the first jr. and symphony small group will begin. The schedule for symphony and jr. orchestra rehearsals will remain as they were previously, and added this year is the beginner/intermediate group. I highly recommend that your child participate in an additional group time per week, outside of their scheduled lesson time. This only benefits them as a musician, and to the group factor. Here are the regularly scheduled GROUP times each week:

Mondays	6:30-8:15	Symphony Orchestra at Adams Elementary Music room
Wednesdays	4:30-5:15 5:15-6:05	Junior Orchestra at Adams Symphony Strings (add winds and percussion closer to concerts) at Adams Elementary Music room
Saturdays	10:00-11:00 11:00-Noon 12:00-12:45	Jr. Orchestra at studio Symphony strings small group at studio Beginner/Intermediate group at studio

You will receive your fall lesson schedule with this mailing. Please note your day and time. I WILL teach the lessons on Labor Day. There will NOT be symphony rehearsal as it is a holiday.

READ THROUGH THE PROGRAM ON AUGUST 27TH!!!!

For those who can attend, please put this date on your calendar for SYMPHONY ONLY!!!! Since we cannot get into Adams until September, we are going to have a read through of the symphony literature on Monday August 27th at Kevin's place of business from 6:30 – 8:15 pm. Read the information above to know what to bring to the rehearsal. Reminder, that our next rehearsal for symphony will be September 10th due to Labor Day. The Mondays get slim after that, so in order to have a successful first concert, this is necessary.

SUMMER PROJECTS!!!!!!!

This summer has been a busy one for all of us. First, 23 members from symphony collaborated with Carroll Community Theatre to bring to life "Seussical the Musical" in July. It was great fun, and the musicians were out of this world!!!! Many thanks to them for giving of their time and talent to make the CCT show a success.

I wrote a grant for the Timmerman Charitable Trust in June. It took many long hours to put a binder together of all our needs and successes. It was fun to do, and had many compliments for the finished product. The board of trustees from Iowa Savings Bank poured over 45 worthy organizations asking for assistance from this generous fund. I was very fortunate to be one of the 9 organizations to be selected. We were awarded \$3,000 to add to the stage extension project.

I also had the privilege of sitting down and speaking with Lou Walsh of Lou Walsh Motors, who indicated that he would be willing to donate \$2,500 with Toyota matching that sometime this fall. So now we are up to \$13,000 with approximately \$8,000 + left to pay on it. So when will the installation take place???? Read on!

UNVEILING OF STAGE EXTENSION FOR OCTOBER 28TH SEASON CONCERT OPENER!

It appears that we will have the stage ready for us for our concert on October 28th! I will be asking a crew of students and dads to learn how to put this up (takes about 20 minutes and only uses one tool). You will be instructed by the Wenger Manufacturing Company when it arrives. I will inform you of that before it takes place. Let me know if you are one who would like to be involved in setting it up and tearing it down. It will then be stored at Triple A Seeds, and the possibility of renting it out to other organizations will be discussed with Tom Gronstal.

RENOVATION OF 2ND STORY LOFT ABOVE STUDIO:

I approached my landlord in early June to ask about the possibility of expanding my studio for more space without moving. So we decided that the room above my studio would be perfect for more space for rehearsals, instrument storage, Jacki's Jazzers to rehearse, and Jacki & possibly Kevin Linder to teach students and mentors from the symphony. This will be a fabulous area to have Saturday rehearsals in, and be able to multi-teach. I am excited about the idea! The ceiling has been cut in the lobby to lay a staircase leading to the west side of the room. The access will be from the lobby. Due to the major renovation, my rent will go up, and we are going to need a cleaning/painting party some Saturday afternoon when the men are ready to let us up there. If you are at all interested, please e-mail me at allstringsattached@inetci.net.

ONGOING NEEDS FOR OUR FUTURE!

Aside from the stage being one of our needs, we are looking to grants/donations to help us with getting additional percussion equipment, and I am excited to announce that Professor Barry Bernhardt has agreed to return for our December Concert to conduct. With this, he will also conduct a clinic for the winds in the morning of our dress rehearsal. This will be a time for you to learn from him, what he expects of you as a wind player, how to control breathing, playing of styles, and overall question and answer. Time and place TBD (probably the loft!!!!!!).

He has just returned from Scotland where he spoke with personnel over there who are in charge of running the Military Tattoo held each August for 5 weeks. His Marching Band, 'The Golden Eagles' at Southeast Missouri State has been invited to

be one of 30 performing groups from around the world to perform at the Tattoo in 2008. We are excited for him, and wish him well in the months to come in preparing the Band. His time with us will be right before he takes off for The Bowl Games of America, where he writes the shows for the Gator Bowl, Champs Bowl and others. His fee is also something we need to work on, as to have someone of his caliber here is truly a feat! Consider helping in this!

CONCERTS FOR THE 2007-08 SEASON!!!!!!!

Here are the following dates for our concert season:

Sunday October 28 th	3:00 pm at Carroll Recreation Center
Sunday December 16 th	1:00 & 4:00 pm performances with Professor Bernhardt at Recreation Center
Sunday March 16 th	3:00 pm Pops and Jazz Concert at Recreation Center
Sunday May 4 th	7:00 pm Patriotic/Senior Concert at Arcadia Legion Ballroom

PLEASE MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW!!!!!!! Details of rehearsal times etc, will be addressed prior to the event.

CONCERT ATTIRE FOR THE CONCERT SEASON:

For the fall concert, I would like everyone in white on top, black on bottom. For the Christmas and March Concert, I would like the beginners, intermediate and jr. orchestra students to do white on top and black on bottom, and the symphony members to do all black. For the March concert, the guys will do tuxes again. For the Patriotic concert in May, we will do jeans and red, white or navy shirts. If you have any questions, feel free to e-mail or call me.

FEES!!!!!!!

String parents will be receiving their fee statements with this mailing. You will notice the fees have gone up some. This is to handle the additional fees that occur with renting, programs, supplies, concert music, etc, etc. And what is left, then a salary is taken. If you knew what my salary was for what I do, it would shock you. So, I appeal to you to have the fees paid no later than the 10th of each month. Wind and percussion students (not mentors) will be asked to give a participation fee of \$10 a month (or what you can afford, especially with those of you who travel a distance to be here). This will go towards music purchases, the rental of Adams elementary and for the renovation of the 2nd story loft, which they are more than welcome to use at any time. Wind students will have a small fee statement included. Just know how much your involvement means to me, and how much your talent adds to the entire program.

WE ARE SADDENED BY THE NEWS...

Kevin Linder, lead trumpet of our symphony and member of the famed "Prairie Cats," lost his daughter and her boyfriend the weekend of August 10-12th. It was a head on car collision that took the lives of these two beautiful, young people. We want and need to embrace Kevin during this time of healing. We send him our prayers and want him to know that he has an 'extended family' here forever. We send our support and condolence to him and his family.

Please prepare to have a wonderful season. With your hard work and dedication, anything can happen. Becky