

### DANA MARTIN STUDIO

2355 Huguenard Drive, Ste 101 Lexington, KY 40503 859.488.9148

### QUICK LINKS













# KEYS

**DANA MARTIN STUDIO** MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

#### **NEWSLETTER INFO**

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#### Contact info:

2355 Huguenard Dr, Ste 101 Lexington, KY 40503 lessons.dms@gmail.com 859.488.9148

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Free to students enrolled in Dana Martin Studio

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KEYS | SEPTEMBER 2025

### WHAT'S NEW FOR DANA

We have so much to celebrate this month! A huge happy 18th anniversary to our son and daughter-in-law, Jon-Michael and Tiffany, who celebrated on August 17th.

Soccer season is officially underway! We love our Saturday mornings on the soccer field in Louisville, cheering on Will, Natalea, and Ryan.

And a very happy 10th birthday to our sweet Landree, who celebrates on September 6th!



Landree & Hadlee

Jon-Michael & Tiffany





**KEYS** 

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### KRISHWIN KUMARAN

### STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Krishwin

a new school for 4th grade. This summer, we visited New York

I am Krishwin,

old. I am very

and I'm 9 years

excited to go to

City, and I got to see the Statue of Liberty. I also enjoyed a variety of New York pizza. I brought gifts for

my friends and myself from the trip.

I had a great basketball season this summer, I've learnt some new skills and made new friends.

I like to solve rubric's cubes. I also like to build Lego sets and read Harry Potter stories. I also enjoy riding my bike with a

I have been learning piano for the past one year, and I so excited to learn more from our instructor.

Krishwin has absolutely zoomed through the first four levels of our Piano Express program! It's incredible to see how much

progress he's made in just one year. He only has three songs left to master in Level 4, which is a testament to his hard work and dedication.

Krishwin is such a pleasure to have in the studio. He's a very polite young man with a fantastic can-do attitude.



He tackles each new song without complaint and works diligently until he has completely mastered it. It's truly inspiring to watch him push through challenges and achieve his goals with such determination. We are so proud of his effort and can't wait to see what he accomplishes next!



### **COMMUNITY Studio Happenings**



**ELI HOSTETLER ISAAC HOSTETLER OWEN HOSTETLER JAZMINE JOSEPH CHARLOTTE McCUDDY IRELAND McCUDDY** 



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** 

**LEVI DONOVAN GRACE ROGERS** CARMEN GERACI

**SEPT 15 SEPT 23** 

**SEPT 12** 



IMPORTANT DATES

**NO LESSONS** SEPT 1 (LABOR DAY) **FALL BREAK (NO LESSONS) SEPT 29-OCT 5 GELATO PARTY OCT 10 FALL PERFORMANCE OCT 11** 

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### **OUR WORLD TOUR IS IN FULL SWING!**

Get ready to travel the globe with our practice challenge! We're almost half-way through our musical journey, and it's so exciting to see how many of you have started earning stamps on your World Tour passports. We're "traveling" to musical destinations across Europe, Asia, Africa, and more!

Our challenge has three levels, each one more exciting than the last. Keep up the great work and keep track of your practice time to collect those stamps! Each destination you visit on your passport earns you another stamp, bringing you one step closer to reaching your goal.

To earn a stamp, the minimum requirement is to practice at least five days each week.
Remember, even practicing just one song counts! This is a great opportunity to explore new music, practice your skills, and earn some fun rewards along

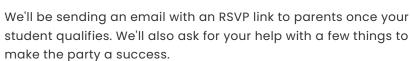
the way.

The best part? Earning just four stamps qualifies you for our special **Gelato Party on Friday, October 12**, right here at the studio. Come enjoy some delicious ice cream and celebrate your hard work with fellow musicians!

Let's keep the momentum going. We can't wait to see where your musical journey takes you next!

### **GELATO PARTY!**

We're celebrating all of our incredible students who qualify for the World Tour Challenge with a sweet treat! All students who earn at least four stamps on their passports are invited to a gelato party at the studio on Friday, October 10th, from 7-8 PM.



Bring the whole family for an evening of delicious ice cream, a toppings bar, face painting, a silly photo booth, and more! It's our way of saying congratulations on all your hard work and dedication. We can't wait to see you there!

### **FALL PERFORMANCE**

For those new to the DMS family, each fall we take our talents to local senior communities to give back through music. It's time again, and this year we will be performing for the residents of The Willows at Hamburg on Saturday, October 11th.

We'd also love for our students to create "Thinking of You" cards for the residents to keep. This event is always a blessing not just for the residents, but for our students, as well. It's a truly heartwarming experience for everyone involved.

See the Fall Performance graphic on the next page for details and to RSVP.

### **FUNNY CAT MEMES**







## HAVE A CONFLICT WITH YOUR LESSON?

**PX Students** reschedule your lesson here: <a href="mailto:calendly.com/">calendly.com/</a> danamartinstudio/px-reschedule.

**Private Students** contact Dana to schedule an online or video feedback lesson.

# PRACTICE TIPS

5 Tips to Improve Your
Sight-Reading

Sight-reading is a valuable skill for any musician. Just like learning to read a book, the more you practice, the better you get! Here are five tips to help you improve your sight-reading skills: Practice daily. Consistency is key! Spend 5-10 minutes each day reading new music. The more you expose yourself to new pieces, the more comfortable and fluent you'll become.

Choose easier pieces. Don't try to sight-read something at your current playing level.

Instead, pick music that is one or two levels below where you are. The goal is to read new music every day, and easier pieces allow you to focus on the process without getting bogged down by difficult technique.

Look ahead. Instead of focusing on one note at a time, train your eyes to read ahead. This helps you understand the musical phrases and keeps the flow of the piece going. Just as you read words in a sentence, not in isolation, you should read notes in musical phrases.

Read in chunks. Don't get caught up in reading every single note individually. Instead, look for patterns and shapes. Notice if the music is moving up, down, or staying the same. Identify intervals and chord shapes. This approach is much faster and more efficient than reading one note at a time.

Keep going! One of the most important rules of sight-reading is to never stop. If you make a mistake, keep your eyes on the music and continue playing. Practicing this skill helps you maintain musical flow and reinforces the habit of reading ahead.

### **NOTE** WORTHY

So proud of **Ethan**! He had the special honor of playing "Turning Page" by Sleeping at Last as the bride walked down the aisle at his uncle's wedding. What a beautiful moment!



Ethan



