



**DANA MARTIN STUDIO**  
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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR  
DANA MARTIN STUDIO  
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Free to students enrolled in  
Dana Martin Studio

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KEYS | OCTOBER 2021

## What's New for Dana

Anthony and I have spent most of our Saturdays this fall in Louisville watching Will, Natalea and Ryan play soccer. Always a fun day when we spend it with the grands!

I'm hosting a Worship Keys Workshop for worship keyboardists from around the state this month. Several have registered so far, including from

Radcliff, Pikeville, Danville and Midway.

Will turns 9 on October 30. Happy birthday, Will! 🍷



Landree and Hadlee



Natalea and Evie



Megan and Andrea



Will with his cousin,  
Race



Ryan with his  
soccer trophy

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KEYS

OCT

2021

# NEWSLETTER

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR DANA MARTIN STUDIO

## COMMUNITY

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

LEXI BORCK	10.23
JOSEPH REEDER	10.14

### IMPORTANT DATES

#### NO LESSONS

TUES NOV 23—THU NOV 25  
(THANKSGIVING WEEK)

MONDAY STUDENTS **WILL**  
HAVE LESSONS  
THANKSGIVING WEEK

#### CHRISTMAS RECITAL

MONDAY, DEC 13

## STUDENT HIGHLIGHT: AUDREY KELLEY



Audrey at Garden of the Gods in Colorado

Her activities include piano, dance, and cheerleading. Her favorite books are *The Babysitters Club* series, and her favorite TV show is *Good Luck, Charlie*.

Audrey loves drawing art. "I won the yearbook cover drawing contest for school two years ago, and my drawing was featured on the cover of our yearbook!"

She says her favorite trip was "when we went to Cape Coral and had a house with a pool and ate lots of seafood."

Audrey loves music and says she's taking piano because "I enjoy learning more about music."

Some fun facts about Audrey: "I can do the splits. I love to play cross net, and I enjoy taking my dog for walks."

Audrey has been taking piano with me since January. I love having her as a student because she's bright, funny, and has wonderful manners.

Audrey participated in the group classes this past summer, and I was impressed with her kindness to all the other students. 🍷

Meet Audrey Jean Kelley. She lives with her dad Don, mom Heather, older sisters Caitlyn (15) and Lauren (13), and their mini Australian Shepherd, Newton.

Audrey attends Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School.



# + TIPS

## 5 ways to use your practice time effectively

1

Schedule your practice times. Make practicing a priority, put it on your calendar and stick to it. Practice at least 5 days each week for a minimum of 20 minutes. Practicing more often for a shorter amount of time is better than one marathon practice. It creates muscle memory and quickens the pace to playing competently (or better) without even thinking about it.

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3

Play ALL your pieces every day you practice. Start with your technical exercises and scales, followed by your lesson book or main piece. Save your project pieces (usually more fun) for last as a reward for doing the other pieces first.

4

If you're going to practice for longer periods of time, take a five-minute break every 20 minutes or so. This gives your brain a rest and helps you come back refreshed and with a renewed sense of determination. Younger students may want to divide daily practice into two 10-minute periods.

5

Choose a time and place (if you have a portable keyboard) that's quiet and free from distractions. Don't multi-task. You'll accomplish much more in less time if your focus is entirely on practicing. Keep your phone around only if it contains practice tools like a metronome or a timer. Put it in Do Not Disturb or Airplane Mode to avoid getting calls during this time.

## Positive Feedback from New Lesson Notes

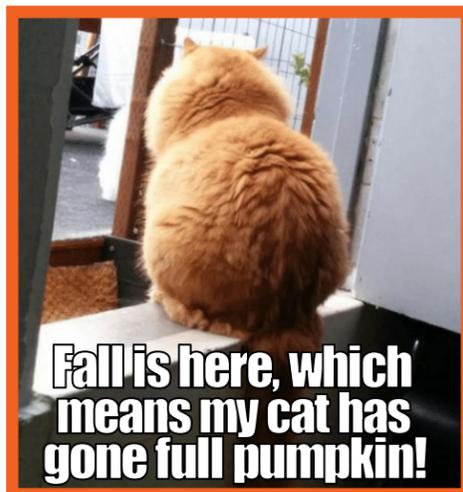
We started using our updated Lesson Notes last month with students rating their own practice habits for the week. Students point the arrow to the emoji and number that best reflects their weekly progress.



Students are being honest and transparent about their practice routines, and it gives me more insight to how their progress developed throughout the week.

I love how students are realizing if their practice at home is effectively helping their progress!

Parents, be sure to ask your pianist about how they rated their weekly progress after each lesson. ●



## 30-Piece Challenge Update

I'm so proud of all my students who are working toward the 30-Piece Challenge!

To make the list, students must play a piece for me with musicality (correct tempo, rhythm, dynamics and expression). Each piece must be at least 16 measures long (8 measures for beginner students). ●

## 30-PIECE Challenge 2021-2022

NAME	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Vivienne	○	○	○	○																										
Olivia	○	○	○	○	○	○																								
Grace	○	○	○	○	○	○	○																							
Emma	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○																					
Cohen	○	○																												
Kasi	○	○	○	○	○	○																								
Abby	○																													
Cody																														
Murphy	○	○	○	○	○																									
Naa Enyonam	○	○	○	○	○																									
Molly	○	○																												
Liya	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○																					
Audrey	○	○	○	○	○	○	○																							
Selase	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○																					
Etor	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○									
Beatriz	○	○	○																											
Alexandra	○	○																												
Peyton	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○															
Joseph	○	○	○	○	○																									
Lexi	○	○																												
Claira	○	○	○	○																										
Eyram	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○																
Triniti																														
Evie	○	○	○	○	○																									
Natalea	○	○	○	○	○																									

## 100-Day Practice Challenge

We're almost half-way through our 100-Day Practice Challenge. A BIG SHOUT OUT to these students who have made it this far:

- Kasi Depew
- Emma Siguenza
- Grace Siguenza
- Olivia Russell
- Lexi Borck
- Cohen Freese
- Alexandra Joiner-Garcia
- Beatriz Bezerra
- Selase Akafuah
- Etor Akafuah
- Naa Enyonam Omane-Achamfuor

## Professional Recital Videos

I'm excited to announce that a professional videographer will video our Christmas Recital this year!

Victor Siguenza, owner of StarClock Media, is Grace and Emma's dad, and his specialty is dance and music recitals.

I was delighted when Victor approached me about videoing my recitals because the videographer I hired to video the spring recital didn't pan out. I've seen Victor's

work, and believe me, it is professional and top quality.

Students will receive a video order form this month so you can pre-order your Christmas Recital videos. He offers several video format options to fit your needs.

Be on the lookout for the order form in your student's music folder soon. ●