





**DANA MARTIN STUDIO**  
 864 Wellington Way  
 Lexington, KY 40503  
 859.552.4419

## QUICK LINKS

-  [DanaMartinStudio.com](http://DanaMartinStudio.com)
-  [dana@danamartinstudio.com](mailto:dana@danamartinstudio.com)
-  [@danamartinky](https://twitter.com/danamartinky)
-  [DanaMartinStudio.com/keys](http://DanaMartinStudio.com/keys)

# KEYS

DANA MARTIN STUDIO  
 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

### NEWSLETTER INFO

Publisher: Dana Martin

Contact info:  
 864 Wellington Way  
 Lexington, KY 40503  
[dana@danamartinstudio.com](mailto:dana@danamartinstudio.com)  
 859.552.4419

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 Free to students enrolled in  
 Dana Martin Studio

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KEYS | JUNE 2023

## WHAT'S NEW FOR DANA

Ryan turned 6 on May 26, and Megan turned 4 on June 3. A trip to Chuck E. Cheese was a fun way to celebrate!

Baseball season has come to a close for Will and Ryan. Ryan finished his season with a grand slam! As pitcher Will kept most teams from scoring, and he enjoyed playing catcher as well. Evie's volleyball team placed second for game play but lost in the tournament.

Congratulations to Jonathan who is now the new Assistant Principal at Cochrane Elementary in Louisville!



Landree & Hadlee



Will

Ryan

Megan

Natalea

Andrea & Evie



# KEYS

## NEWSLETTER

DANA MARTIN STUDIO MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

- IN THIS ISSUE
- PAGE 1 | Mother's Day Composition Student Spotlight
  - PAGE 1 | Community
  - PAGE 2 | Fall Registration
  - PAGE 3 | Why You Should Keep Eyes on the Music
  - PAGE 3 | Recital 2023
  - PAGE 4 | What's New for Dana

## MOTHER'S DAY COMPOSITION

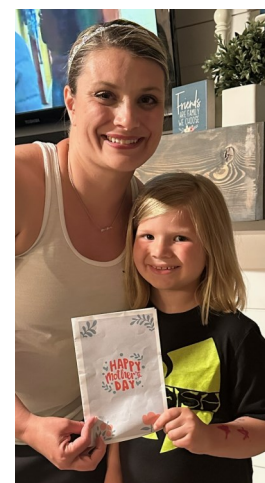
### STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

About 25 students composed an original song for their moms for Mother's Day.

We started with some rhythmic phrases and the students composed a melody for the chosen phrase. Some students even put chords to their music. Many wrote lyrics as

well, and all gave their song a title and played it for mom on Mother's Day. My favorite title: "My Mom's the Bomb!"

Below (and next page) are photos of some of the participating students with their moms.



## COMMUNITY

### Studio Happenings



WELCOME NEW STUDENTS!

ANAYA CHILUWAL  
 CAMDEN HAYNES



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

JACKSON ABRAMS JUNE 9  
 SELASE AKAFUAH JUNE 11  
 PIPER HUNT JUNE 16  
 DANA MARTIN JUNE 21



IMPORTANT DATES

SUMMER LESSONS WEEKS:  
 JUNE 12, 26  
 JULY 10, 17

SUMMER GROUP CLASSES  
 (K-5)  
 JUNE 14  
 JUNE 28  
 JULY 12

SAGA LAND GROUP (6-12)  
 JULY 17

# MOTHER'S DAY COMPOSITION

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT (continued)



## FALL REGISTRATION IS OPEN

I love our piano community! Thank you to everyone who has registered for fall lessons.

All students who plan to return to lessons in the fall

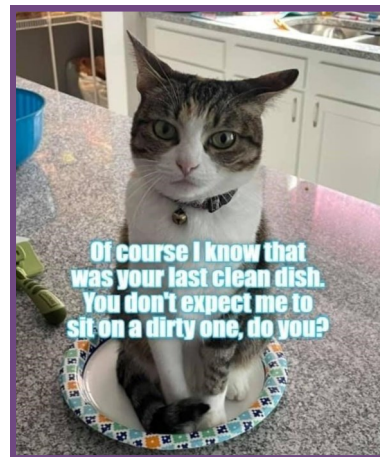
please **REGISTER NOW**. It's important to register early, especially if you need to change your lesson day or time or you're adding a new student.

Students who don't register risk

losing their time slot to students on the waiting list. Scan code or visit [danamartinstudio.com/lessons](http://danamartinstudio.com/lessons) to REGISTER NOW.



## FUNNY CAT MEMES



## PRACTICE TIPS

*Why You Should Keep Your Eyes On the Music When Sight Reading*

**1** Three negative things happen when you look back and forth from the music to your hands while playing piano: **1) You stop and start a lot** which keeps you from feeling the flow and mood of the piece. **2) You lose your place** which also slows you down because you keep starting over. **3) Your brain gets confused** because you're asking yourself to process too much information.

**2** On the contrary, three positive things happen when you keep your eyes focused on the music: **1) You create spatial awareness.** That's a fancy way of saying your hands learn where to go on their own. Your fingers learn how to feel the different intervals without looking down at your hands. **2) Your brain stays focused** which helps you to sight-read much faster and more accurately. **3) It's easier to play with expression and dynamics** when you can hear the flow and feel the mood of the piece you're playing.



## SPRING RECITAL 2023

**Thirty-four students participated** in our Spring Recital last month. We heard Beethoven to James Bond and Gospel and everything in between. It was a fun night!

**Twenty students received recognition** for achieving the 30-Piece Challenge. Congrats to Paxton Smith for learning 75 pieces this year!

**Our 8th Annual Practice Competition was impressive** as well with students practicing a total of 35,656 minutes in 4 weeks! Eight students qualified at the Bronze level, practicing 180+ minutes each week of the competition. Seven students reached Silver at 300+ minutes weekly, and three mastered the Gold level at 420+ weekly minutes. Five students practiced all 28 days of the competition. And we had the following winners who topped a category: Paxton Smith – Most

Practice By a Beginner with 1420 minutes; Scarlett Ochs with the Best Single Day of Practice at 720 minutes; and Brad Davidson swept 3 categories: Great Start 1005 minutes the first week, 28 Consecutive Days of 60 minutes of practice, and Most Minutes Overall with 5480 minutes. Congratulations students for all your hard work! All qualifying students are invited to a pizza party later this summer (date TBD).

**We also said, "So long," to Brad** who graduated high school this spring and is going to Asbury University this fall to major in music education and piano.

**Thanks to all my students** who worked so hard to prepare for this evening of beautiful music. And thanks to the parents, grandparents, siblings and friends who came and supported our students. We appreciate you!

