



DANA MARTIN STUDIO

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QUICK LINKS



KEYS

DANA MARTIN STUDIO
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER INFO

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KEYS | JANUARY 2026

WHAT'S NEW FOR DANA

December was truly a "concert month" for us! Anthony and I kicked things off with the Chris Tomlin Christmas concert in Louisville, which was such a beautiful way to start the season.

A few days later we had the incredible honor of attending John Michael Montgomery's concert at Rupp Arena as VIP guests. We were so grateful for the "best seats in the house," and watching his banner drop at Rupp was a powerful moment we will never forget. As a "hometown boy" from just down the road in Nicholasville, seeing him honored in Lexington's most iconic venue was deeply moving. Experiencing live music at that level is always such a great reminder of why we do what we do!

On December 17th, Andrea and Jonathan reached an incredible milestone: their 20th wedding



anniversary. We're so proud of the love and life they have built together over the last two decades. Cheers to many more years of happiness!

Our hearts were full as Andrea, Jonathan, and the whole family came up to celebrate Christmas with us. It was such a special time together, making memories and enjoying the magic of the season. Our son, Jon-Michael and his family were celebrating with his in-laws in Oklahoma this year.





DMS has been invited to participate in the Art Beat Celebration for the second year in a row! It's a local week-long focus on the arts for children. Here are the details about when DMS students will perform:

Friday, January 16, 4:30 pm
Marksbury Family Branch Library
2197 Versailles Road, Lexington

Choose a recent fave or something new. We'll only have 2 piano lessons before the performance, so practice NOW to be prepared in time!

Please RSVP (yes or no) here:
<https://bit.ly/dmsartbeat2024rsvp>
 or scan the QR code.



SCAN ME

DMS STUDENT RESOURCES

Need a new keyboard, MIDI cable, or some sheet protectors for your music?
 Our studio's [Student Tools](#) webpage is your one-stop hub for helpful piano resources. From keyboards and writing supplies to all the materials needed for our **Piano Express** program, students can easily access what they need to support confident, successful learning. Visit the page anytime (danamartinstudio.com/studenttools) to stay equipped, inspired, and ready to play!



HAVE A CONFLICT WITH YOUR LESSON?

PX Students reschedule your lesson here: calendly.com/danamartinstudio/px-reschedule.

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

EXCITING NEWS: PIANO EXPRESS FOR IPAD/IOS!

We are so excited to announce that the Piano Express (PX) app is now compatible with your iPad and iPhone! This is a fantastic way to make practicing at home even more seamless.

Here is how to get started:

- Download the App:** Head to the App Store on your iPad or iPhone (best suited for models 2022 or later) and search for "Piano Express."
- Get Connected:** Visit our [Student Tools Page](#) to find the specific items needed to connect your device to your keyboard.
- Setup Guide:** We've posted a helpful video on that same [Student Tools Page](#) that walks you through the setup process.

Need a hand? If you have any questions or need help troubleshooting, please reach out to Ethan Abrams. He is our resident expert and is happy to help!

- Email:** ethanabrams.dms@gmail.com
- Phone:** 859.488.9148

Happy practicing!

FUNNY CAT MEMES



PRACTICE TIPS

How Practicing Piano Is Like Following GPS

1

Scan the Route: Before beginning your "journey" of playing the piece, look over the piece first to see "where you're going." This helps minimize any surprises along the way. It also helps you avoid pausing to figure out what comes next, so you can keep a slow, steady rhythm.

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3

Mark Your Map: Before you practice a new piece, take a few moments to "map out" the piece. Look over each hand individually, noticing the key signature, hand position, intervals, etc., as well as anything unexpected such as changing hand positions. Mark your music to remind you of these "unexpected turns" as you play your piece.

CHRISTMAS RECITAL FUN!

We had an amazing Christmas Recital with 42 talented students! From "Silent Night" to "Jingle Bell Rock," we enjoyed everything, including jazzy tunes, beautiful flowing pieces, and some awesome duets. Our grand finale was a super fun duet, "Carol of the Bells."

After the recital, we warmed up with delicious hot chocolate and cookies.

A quick shoutout to a few students who had to leave early and aren't in the photo—missed you guys!

Thanks to all the students for your hard work and to the parents, grandparents, siblings, and friends who came to support. You all made the evening magical. We appreciate you!

