

Rhapsody News

Rhapsody Arts Center is a non-profit community school of the arts

STUDIO CALENDAR

JANUARY

- 1/5 Lessons and group classes resume this week
 1/6 Learn to Draw begins
 1/7 Advanced L to D begins
 1/8 Painting Masters begins
 1/12 Go Green: Recycled Art begins
 1/19 Although the building is open, there will be no regular lessons on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Monday students will have their lessons made up, dates at the discretion of the instructor.

FEBRUARY

- 2/3 Drawing 101 begins
 2/4 Cartooning 101 begins
 2/7 Valentine's Workshop
 Four Winds Concert, 2pm
 2/9 Middle School Art begins
 2/11 Open Studio: Adult Drawing Sessions run February 11, 18, 25, 6-8:30pm
 2/12 Paint your Pet begins
 2/22 National Federation of Music Clubs Auditions
 2/23 Ensemble Experience Week

* OFFICE HOURS*

The RAC office is open 9am-4:30pm Monday, 9am-5:30pm Wednesday, 9am-5pm Tuesday, 9am-2pm Thursday and 10:30am-5pm Friday.

Items of Note

* Thank you so much to all of the parents who completed their **teacher evaluations**. These are extremely helpful in helping us provide quality education and to assure satisfaction for all of those involved!



***Summer information** will be coming soon. If you have ideas for classes or camps you'd like to see Rhapsody offer, please let Katie or anyone in the office know.

STUDIO NEWS

Stressed about Solo & Ensemble?

Are you a Rhapsody Arts Center student who needs an accompanist? We'll provide an accompanist, one 30-minute rehearsal with your teacher, and your performance at Solo and Ensemble for the day for \$30. What a deal! Please contact Mickey at mickey@rhapsodyarts.org for more information on hiring an accompanist.

If you are not a Rhapsody Arts Center student, you may pick from one of the following packages.

-ONE STAR-

Four 30 minute private lessons
 Accompanist at last 2 lessons
 \$100.00

-SPIT AND POLISH-

Three 30 minute private lessons
 Accompanist at last 2 lessons
 \$75.00

-GOT IT MADE-

Two 30 minute private lessons
 Accompanist at last lesson
 \$50.00

Mickey's Tip for Busy Moms

Wish you had some help organizing your family life? Cozi is a FREE online service that helps you manage your family calendar, track your shopping and to-do lists, organize your chores, and stay in touch with your family. Access Cozi from anywhere—home, work, or on the go—with any computer or mobile phone. All you need to get started is a Cozi account (www.cozi.com)—it's quick and easy, with no downloads required!

Performance Opportunity

Four Winds Manor is inviting Rhapsody students to perform for them on Saturday, February 7 at 2pm. Treats will be provided for all performers after the concert. If your child would like to perform, especially if they weren't able to play on the December recitals, please sign up in the lobby binder or email Genia at genia@rhapsodyarts.org.

Ensemble Experience Week

The next ensemble experience week is February 23rd-March 1. Private music lesson students should attend the same ensemble experience that they did in the fall; private students do not have their regular lesson during ensemble experience week. If you forgot what time your child is signed up for, or have questions about Ensemble week, please contact Katie at katie@rhapsodyarts.org.

New Art Classes Galore!

The Rhapsody Gallery's 2009 winter/spring brochure is here! I'm excited to share our January, February, March, and April art classes with you. Please check out our website or pick up a paper copy of our art classes in the lobby.

The perennial favorites are back; Wild Imagination, Learn to Draw, Cartooning 101 and Paint your Pet are ready to introduce new kids to the wonders of art. Your budding artist can also explore some of our brand-new classes; All Mixed Up (pop art), Painting Masters, Advanced Learn to Draw, Go Green! Recycled Art, and more.

Need something for the whole family? Try our Valentine's Day Workshop on February 7; make three cards and a gift for only \$10. Little siblings can enjoy their own art classes too; as preschool art teacher Courtney Jablonski hosts Color Mixing and Asian Art for 3-5 year olds in

Music News

March. Adults have a chance to brush up on their skills in our February Open Studio: Adult Drawing classes.

After looking through the brochure, do you have questions? Suggestions for future classes? Email katie@rhapsodyarts.org or call me at 848-2045.

Inclement Weather Policy

Wisconsin winter is upon us, so here are some basic policies to know about inclement weather situations. As stated in the Studio Policies, school cancellations do NOT imply class cancellations. Since everyone's driving/snow tolerance is different, assume private lessons and classes are as scheduled, but call as far in advance of your lesson time as possible to cancel if necessary. If individual teachers decide to cancel lessons or classes due to extreme weather conditions, you will be notified by telephone. Lessons cancelled by the teacher WILL be made up; all other lessons missed due to inclement weather will be made up if scheduling permits. Students are not allowed to wait outside for their ride during cold weather; please plan accordingly and try to arrive 5 minutes before your child's lesson or class is scheduled to end.

Katie's Picks: Top 5 Websites for String Players

1) Sphinx Kids www.sphinxkids.org

(Grades K-8)

A great site about string playing, but especially valuable for its emphasis on minority composers and performers, this site includes an interactive practice room, matching games, and performance videos that are all very kid-friendly.

2) Meet the Music www.meetthemusic.org/

(Teens and Adults)

A service of the American Orchestra League, this website makes it easy to find concerts near you. It also includes information on attending symphony concerts.

MeettheMusic.org will acquaint you with orchestral music, help you find live performances and recordings of featured pieces, answer questions about the orchestra concert experience, and direct you to an orchestra in your community. Insightful context of orchestral repertoire along with audio musical examples, will allow any new concertgoer to feel connected when attending live concerts. Veteran concert attendees may also gain new insights and perspectives on unfamiliar works.

3) From the Top <http://www.fromthetop.com/> (Grades 6-12)

From the Top is a radio show featuring young performers, and their website is designed for young classical musicians as well. This clever site has: reference areas, message boards, performance archives and an area for parents and teachers. Partnered with the highly successful radio program, this site offers the more serious young musicians an opportunity to hear from others like them and benefit from online socialization with peers.

4) Hilary Hahn www.hilaryhahn.com (Middle School-Adult)

Do you ever wonder what its like to be a concert violinist and travel around the world performing as your job? Solo artist Hilary Hahn has kept an online journal for several years that gives curious readers the scoop on everything from airport mishaps to her favorite concert halls. She often posts pictures of the places she visits as well.

5) Violinist.com www.violinist.com (Teens and Adults)

This site is undoubtedly the biggest resource on the web for string players, and parents. Search the discussion archives for the topic of your choice, or simply enjoy reading posts from violinists all over the world. Discussion topics range from finely detailed technique debates right down to familiar worries about practicing, stage fright, and shoulder rests. Browse the blogs and keep up to date with their "violin news" news feed. The site also includes wikis under the tab "The Violin" answering common questions about strings, sheet music, and instrument purchasing.

Happy Birthday!

January

Charlie Hartlaub, Drew Maier, Grace Bondurant, Jamie Herb, Julia Wilson, Ryan Conybear, Emily Christianson, Dana Maxwell, Brett Seliger, John McFarland, Jacob Satterfield, Jacques Frank-Loron, Emily Christianson, Emily Rohn, Trevor Nierman, Sarah Bellissimo, Bill McDonald, Michelle Duppler, Zach Nechvatal, Heather Slawny, Alan Zarzycki, Kathy Pientka, Lauren Brown, Mark Mathews, David Jelle, and Steen Traxler

February

Maddie DeMorett, Sarah Schultz, Elanora Dovat, Emily Janes, Raina Voss, Erica Reiners, Kayla Cunningham, Emily Nierman, Arielle Stadler, Logan Smith, Joshua Phelps, Max Toepfer, Anna Stoneman, Claire Evensen, Evan Patton, Rosemarie La Secki, Elyse Pierce, Karla Hano, Molly McMahon, Delanie Kinney, Philippe Fromberger, and Kelly McMahon

The Musical Joke Corner

Q: Why did Beethoven get rid of his chickens?
A: "They kept saying 'Bach, Bach!'"

Q: What type of music are balloons scared of?
A: Pop music!

Q: What part of the turkey is musical?
A: The drumstick!

Q: Why couldn't Mozart find his piano teacher?
A: He was Haydn!

Q: Why did the girl sit on the ladder to sing?
A: She wanted to reach the high notes!

Upcoming Concerts

January

January 10: Kids in the Rotunda: Circus Boy at the Overture Center for the Arts

January 10: The Phantom Tollbooth at the Overture Center for the Arts

January 15: Open dress rehearsal night at the Madison Symphony (must call ahead to get your name on the list, kids are welcome)

January 16-18: Madison Symphony Orchestra presents Henning Kraggerud, Violinist and narrator James DeVita, with the music of Mozart, Sibelius and Prokofiev in Overture Hall

January 31-Ancora String Quartet plays Haydn, Shostakovich, and Beethoven at the First Unitarian Society

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