

# Musical Notes

Vernon Community Music School  
Spring, 2021

## Still Going Strong

Well, we have made it to March. We are very excited to be able to remain open to continue immersing ourselves in lessons and do what we love to do; teach, grow and play music! This is in large part because our families and students have been so diligent in their hand washing, mask wearing and sanitizing, and so we want to say 'Thank YOU' for continuing to be thoughtful and respectful in our Music School. It has been a year of uncertainty, many changes, and strange new routines, and we are very grateful that you continue to support us and give us the opportunity to bring music into your homes and families. If this past year has shown us anything, it's that your resiliency is strong and important, and that strength helps us to remain open and functioning.

As we move forward in the second half of the year, a reminder that if you selected to pay for lessons in two installments, the second installment is now due. Feel free to call the office and connect with Heather, she would love to hear from you.



## Update on the Virtual Christmas Recital

Thank you so much to all of our glorious students who helped us send a Christmas card to each resident at The Hamlets at Vernon this season, and who submitted a video to add to our Christmas Recital collaboration. We received 50 videos, which were compiled into a one hour and 30 minute long concert. It was then uploaded to our



YouTube page, and to date we have had 523 views. We sent the link to all of our care homes in town, (including the Hospice House) and received fantastic feedback. We also sent it to Interior Health, who shared the link on their social media pages. The good news is because of the fantastic response, we will do this again in May, as a year-end recital! Wahoo! So, continue practicing your piece that you would love to share with others, and watch for more information to follow in the upcoming weeks for deadlines. Can we beat our current record of a 50 video submission? Of course we can!



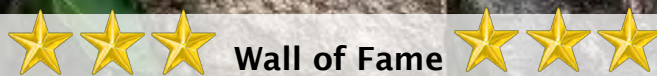
## Guess Who?

Did you know that our teachers were once children too? Take a look at these adorable faces and see if you can guess who is who!



1st Row, left to right: Carole Ruth, Geoff Barker, Therese Parent, Lori Johnson  
2nd Row, left to right: Ken Scott, Aaron Jamlin, Daisy Penner, Katie Flaherty  
3rd Row, left to right: George Kiraly, Imant Ramins, Bev Martens, Natalie Kober





## Wall of Fame

Congratulations to the following students who recently completed RCM exams!



Natalie Kober's student Danielle Spitzer completed her grade 6 violin RCM exam, and received First Class Honours! Congratulations, Danielle! Well done!



Bev Marten's student Akasha McCleary completed her grade 4 violin RCM exam, and received First Class Honours with Distinction! Congratulations, Akasha! Wahoo!



Karen Rempel's student Amy Milne completed her grade 5 piano RCM exam, and received First Class Honours with Distinction! Congratulations, Amy! Great work!

### Starting Music Lessons at a Young Age—Aaron Jamin

I am very proud of my son David who started piano lessons this month. With the early childhood group programs on hold at the music school during COVID, it is hard to know if he is ready for piano at age 5. It is more just going on intuition. We have an old piano at home, and David loves to sit and play every key on the instrument. He has asked us several times if he can take piano lessons. David also seems to like the one on one interaction that you would get with private lessons. David starting piano shows that these beginnings still go on despite the pandemic. As parents we feel that it is worth it to try it, because we know how much it will benefit him if he decides music is his passion in life. For now, it is great to see him during my work day with a big smile on his face. It is a bright spark in my week. Way to go, David!





## Music Scavenger Hunt

Are you looking for something to do over Spring Break? Check out one of the most exciting scavenger hunts ever! Complete the tasks and send us photos of your hunt by MARCH 31st, we'll feature them in the next newsletter. Here we go!

Call a friend or family member and sing or play a song for them.	Make a list of all the nursery rhymes you know by heart.	Make up dance moves to a song. Can you perform them twice as fast? Twice as slow?
Read a book you have already that has a song in it.	Draw a picture of all the musical symbols you remember.	Make an instrument. Decide if it is a member of the string, percussion, or wind family.
Write down a rhythm and see if you can teach it to someone else in your family.	Listen to a piece of music that doesn't have any words. Draw a picture of what it makes you think about.	Create a dance that uses your toys as props.



**NATURE'S FARE MARKETS**

the  
**3% CLUB**

Community Giving Program

We are raising funds for:

**WE WANT YOUR RECEIPTS**

We are raising funds by grocery shopping! It's as easy as:

- 1 Shop at Nature's Fare and save your receipts.
- 2 Put your receipts in our 3% Club receipt box.
- 3 Put yourself on the back—our non-profit just benefited from your grocery shop!

Have questions?  
Learn more online at [naturesfare.com/3percentclub](http://naturesfare.com/3percentclub)  
or talk to:

[naturesfare.com](http://naturesfare.com)

## Nature's Fare 3% Club

Thank you so much for continuing to bring in your Nature's Fare receipts! To date we have received **\$2,740.04** to go towards our programs and maintenance of our heritage building! We are thrilled! Please continue to bring them in, the box is located just outside the office door. With every receipt that is brought in, the Music School gets 3% back as a donation, and every little bit helps.



## **\*NEW\* Spring Concert Series**

Close your eyes and picture listening to beautiful sounds of a hardworking student play the magic of a song, the smells of spring and blossoming flowers tickle your nose, with a gentle breeze flowing around you. Your heart feels happy and joyful because this is one of the first times you've heard live music since the pandemic started. This year we are excited to announce our Spring Concert Series. This is an outdoor concert series that will be held out the front of the Smith House, by the newly restored pillars. The series will be held on Sunday afternoons, from May 23-June 13, starting at 1:00pm. Sign up sheets will be by the office; students and their teachers can each select a spot to perform a piece they have been practicing and would like to play in front of an audience. Please bring your own camp chairs - spots on the grass will be marked out so that physical distance can be maintained. More information to follow in the upcoming weeks, check our social media pages and website blog to learn more!



**Outdoor Spring Concert Series**

**Sundays, May 23rd—June 13th**  
**starting at 1:00pm**

**sign up sheets by the office**



## Carriage House Orchestra in the Time of Covid—Natalie Kober

One of the amazing parts of the Suzuki violin and cello program here in Vernon is the Carriage House Orchestra, which allows every student the chance to play in a group with other budding musicians. I grew up in this program with Bev and Morna, and am so proud to be a part of it now as a teacher.

Since March our Suzuki groups and our orchestra have not been able to meet in person. There are far too many of us for one thing (50+ students — not including parents or teachers) and using an online platform for this sort of group class was not feasible.



The idea for a virtual orchestra project came after many of the Suzuki students and their parents lamented how much they were missing the group classes: the camaraderie, the experience of playing with others in unison or in harmony resulting in beautiful music, and the inspiration that comes from older students playing with younger ones.

The song I knew would work for this virtual orchestra project was Pachelbel's Canon: It is a piece with multiple parts and many layers. With some tweaking it works for our beginner students and even those who are more advanced.

Technologically, I am relying on the expertise of my photographer/videographer husband, Daniel Hayduk. I would not be able to do this without his support, and since all his international assignments have been cancelled, he has time!

If you or your child are interested in learning more about creating multi-layered tracks and videos, check out the CBC music counts website for videos on how to do this.

### ***What is a Click Track and how do we end this?***

There are a number of things to consider in a virtual orchestra, but most important is the student staying in time without a director or anyone supporting them on their part. Enter the click track, which consists of a set metronome to help synchronize sound. This is something we worked with students on during their lessons. But in the case of Pachelbel's Canon, we slow down at the end, meaning the set metronome doesn't help. I made a video of myself playing the ending, which allowed students to play with me and watch for my cues to slow down at exactly the same time.

The second challenge has been how to get all the video clips once they have been recorded. Video files are too big to send over email so we have to use different file sharing options to collect all the many gigabytes of files.

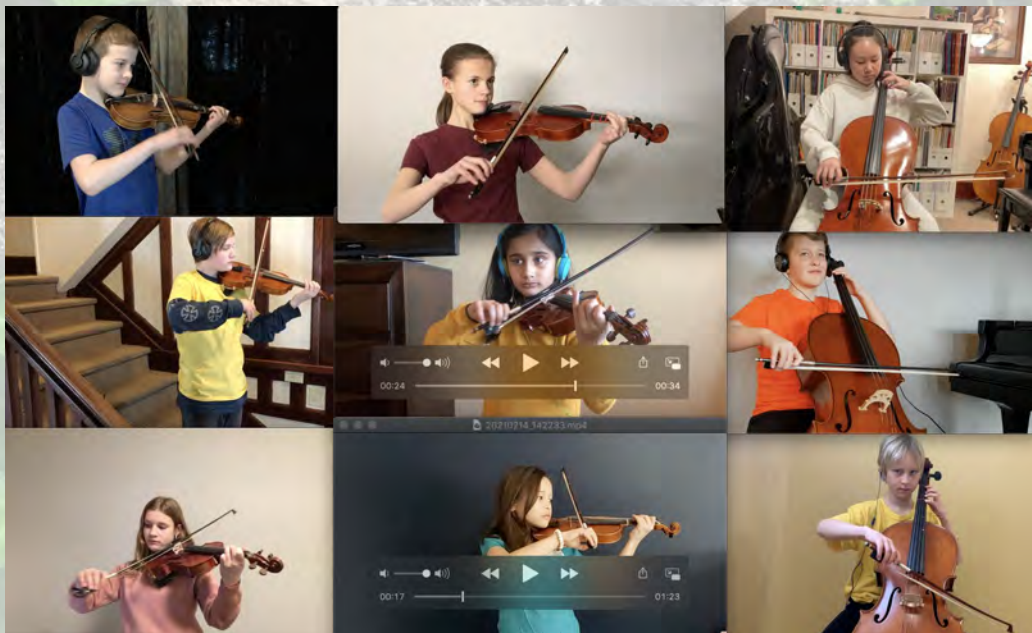
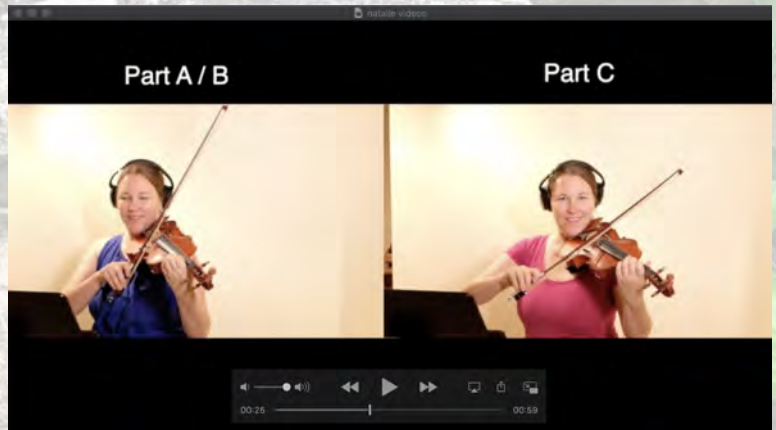
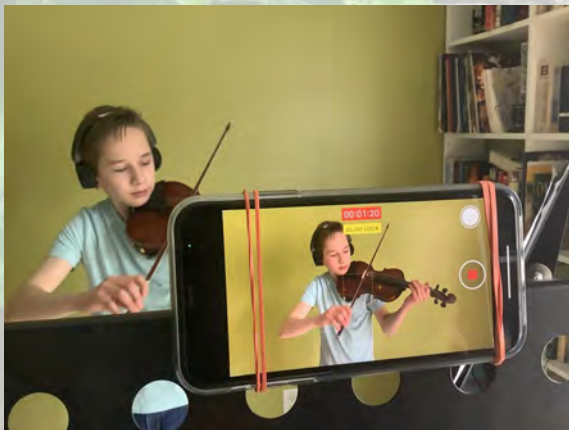


Editing isn't as easy as dragging and dropping the files. Things like frame rates, sample rates, lighting, and horizontal or vertical orientation all need to be considered before hitting record. But if that all works out, then the files get put into the video editing software, Final Cut Pro, where both the video and audio are lined up and mixed. Lastly, the video tracks are arranged into little grids, creating the virtual choir effect.

Every minute of film you see is probably the equivalent to 10 hours background work — which gave me a whole new appreciation for those people in the audio-visual industry.

I know people have asked if we will be doing another project like this — If groups are not up running again in the near future, I would like to try this again. I have learned so much from this time around I think it would be interesting to try this again, perhaps with a different style of piece.

If you are interested in seeing the completed video project with over 60 Suzuki cello and violin students, check out the Vernon Community Music School Facebook page or [www.vernonviolin.ca](http://www.vernonviolin.ca) at the beginning of March.





## Scholarship Recital

For over two decades the Scholarship Committee at the Music School hosts the annual Scholarship Recital, held every May; in the record keeping since 2013, close to \$44,000 has been awarded to deserving students in scholarships to assist with their financial investment in lessons. Every dollars that is raised for this initiative goes right back to the students. Our goal is to help empower and support them in achieving their musical goals, as well as reward them for their dedication and hard work to their studies. As well, every year we have been so lucky to receive scholarship money from people within our community who have a passion to see our Music School continue to grow and thrive.

Plans are in the works again this Spring to award deserving students a scholarship, so if you (or a business you know) are interested in helping to contribute to this truly fantastic cause (especially during a pandemic), please contact Heather in the office. We would like to thank the families who continue to support this initiative by donating a Memorial Scholarship through the Community Foundation of the North Okanagan, including:

- Elizabeth Scott Scholarship for Young Musicians
- Dante Darkazanli Memorial Scholarship
- Caroline Galbraith Memorial Scholarship
- Olive Woodley Memorial Scholarship
- Peter & Pauline Memorial Scholarship
- George Shaw Memorial Scholarship
- Dr. Jane Laidlaw Scholarship
- Reekie, Kineshanko, Tulloch Scholarship
- Hurlburt Memorial Scholarship
- James Frederick Roh Memorial Scholarship

as well as the Banducci family with the Sandro Banducci Memorial Scholarship.



Banducci Family



Scholarship Recital