

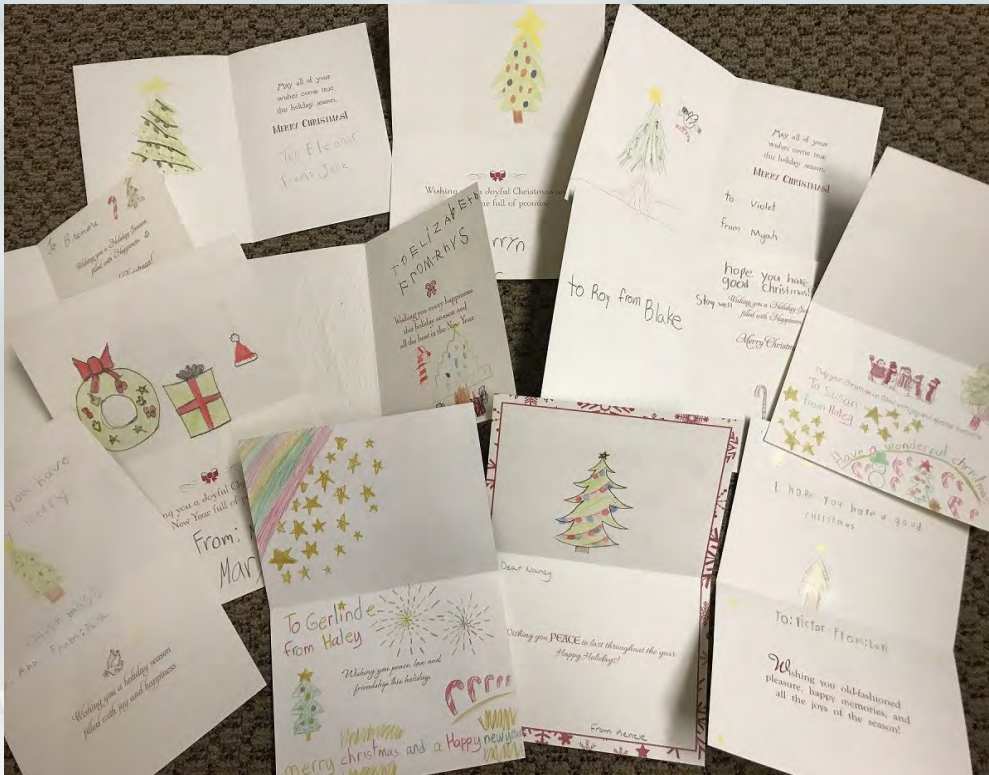
Musical Notes

Vernon Community Music School
Winter, 2020

Spreading Cheer in our Community



We have the most wonderful students in our Music School community. Earlier this month we were given a list of residents from one of our local retirement facilities. Our thought was that our students would decide to each take one name from the list, and write the residents a Christmas card with the hopes of bringing a smile to each face who may not get to spend the holiday with their families this year. Not only did our students step up to the challenge, they went above and beyond in their creative abilities to design the most beautiful cards. We are so excited to present these cards, and we can't wait to hear about the joy they will bring. Thank you to all of the students who participated, you all did a fabulous job!



Floating Around

We are so excited to participate in the Vernon Winter Carnival Parade again this year! To ensure COVID-19 distancing measures are followed, there will be a REVERSE PARADE. This means that we will be stationary on the road and spectators will drive by to see the spectacle! We plan to create a scene that makes people point out their car window and shout "Wow look at THAT!" The theme is Wild West Carnival! Come out and see our creation on Saturday, February 6th. Mark your calendar and get a wiggle on for a hog-wild time!

WILD WEST
Carnival ❄️
Feb 5-14, 2021

Presented by
Valley First
A DIVISION OF FIRST WEST CREDIT UNION



The Music School Continues to Build Community

People are always excited to play an instrument and love to learn in a community setting, but what does the Vernon Community Music School really do? What do we focus on? Why are we so passionate about our students and why do we care about their success?

The Music School is a community organization that is passionate about guiding and developing future community leaders. We know that students learn in an environment that is fun, supportive and inviting. It is important to us to start developing these skills in early childhood, so that children involved in our programs can be leaders within their own social and familial spheres. We also know that when we foster positive self-esteem and self-confidence through work and creativity, children exhibit this behaviour and portray it in their academic studies as well.

The Music School not only has the ability to help build self-esteem and foster creativity for children, but it also creates a musical element for parent/child engagement to help set the child up for success. When parents are engaged in their children's musical abilities, students have the support and knowledge they need to not only learn and complete new pieces, but also develop a lifelong love of learning music. It is a great way to create a positive learning environment for every student.

Speaking of a lifelong love of music, we are so fortunate to have such a variety of teachers at our school who are just as passionate about teaching adults as they are about teaching children. They will tell you that it is never too late to form bonds over music and good conversation.

What's another reason music is so great? Music is also effective as a stress reliever and stress management tool. Listening to music can have a tremendous relaxing effect on our minds and

bodies; it can slow the pulse and heart rate, lower blood pressure, and decrease the levels of stress hormones – all added benefits to our physiological functions. This is something we could all use, especially during a pandemic.

After reading all of the above, you may be thinking “this sounds really great, and I know that my mental health is worth it, but I really can't afford lessons this year because of our tight finances.” One more great thing about our Music School is that we have a bursary program that may be able to help you out. We also have monthly payment options, to make payments a bit easier and more feasible. We are truly focusing our efforts on “community”, and we believe so strongly that you belong here. Join our community, we would love to see you!



The Gift of Music

Given that we won't be able to have Christmas recitals at any of the retirement homes in our community this year, we are creating a project called

"The Gift of Music"

If you are learning a Christmas piece and want to be recorded, please let us know! We will compile all of the videos together, and send them to the various retirement homes in town via their Facebook page. Residents can then watch the videos in their facilities, on a big screen.

Deadline for the video submission will be Wednesday, December 9th.

You are encouraged to introduce yourself and the piece you are playing in the video. You are also more than welcome to dress up if you wish!



Let's bring joy to the seniors in our community who really need it during this holiday season!



Wall of Fame



Way before COVID took over our lives, (remember the good old days?), the Vernon Music Festival took place in March, earlier this year.

We wanted to say congratulations to Amy Glasser and Amy Milne, students of Karen Rempel, who won the Intermediate Duet Piano Medal and the Top Duet Overall Award!

Students of Karen Rempel who also participated at the Vernon Music Festival are:

- Anna Konrad, Level 10
- Josh Mark, Level 7
- Sophie Joerissen, Level 6
- Amy Glasser, Level 5
- Amy Milne, Level 5
- Abigail Osborn, Level 5
- Sophie Joerissen and Josh Mark, Intermediate Piano Duet

Students of Daisy Penner who participated in the Vernon Music Festival are:

- Noah Wessels, Level 10
- Tianna Dickie, Level 7
- Thea Vermeulen, Level 6
- Myah Hayes, Level 2

Congratulations to all of those who participated in the Festival, thank you for your dedication and hard work, and for making the Music School so proud! You did it!

Also, congratulations to the following students of Karen Rempel who successfully completed RCM exams in 2020:

- Jennika Bobryk, Level 10 Piano, First Class Honours
- Ella Newman, Level 10 Piano, First Class Honours
- Anna Konrad, Level 10 Piano, Honours
- Simone Konrad, Level 9 Piano, First Class Honours—RMT Award
- Josh Mark, Level 7 Piano, First Class Honours with Distinction—RMT Award
- Sophie Joerissen, Level 6 Piano, First Class Honours with Distinction—RMT Award
- Emma Glasser, Level 6 Piano, Honours
- Aimee Glasser, Level 5 Piano, First Class Honours
- Hadley Lanaway, Level 4 Piano, First Class Honours with Distinction
- Ella Bannon, Level 8 Theory, First Class Honours with Distinction—RMT Award
- Ava Stanley, Level 8 Theory, First Class Honours with Distinction



Wall of Fame



- Josh Mark, Level 8 Theory, First Class Honours with Distinction
- Sophie Joerissen, Level 5 Theory, First Class Honours with Distinction
- Amy Milne, Level 5 Theory, First Class Honours with Distinction
- Abigail Osborn, Level 5 Theory, First Class Honours with Distinction
- Aimee Glasser, Level 5 Theory, First Class Honours with Distinction

Congratulations to the following students of Geoff Barker who won an award at the RCM exams in 2020:

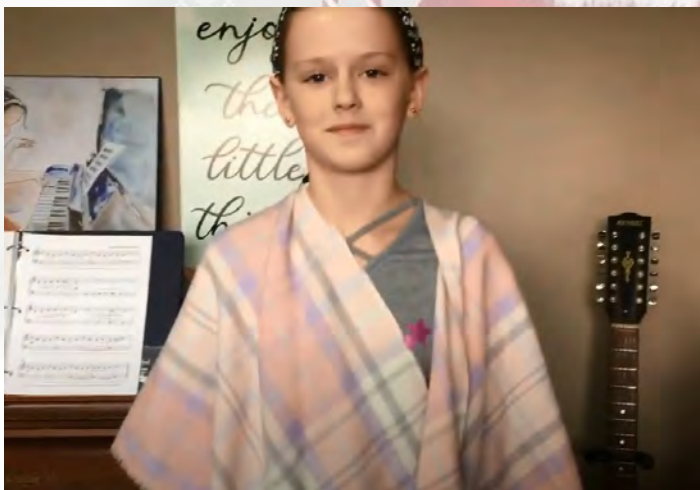
- Kim Clarke, Level 9 Written History, Honours with Distinction
- Rachel Scuka, Written Elementary Piano Pedagogy
- Rachel Scuka, Practical Viva Voce Intermediate Pedagogy
- Elohim's Blessing Cripps, Practical Viva Voce Elementary Pedagogy
- Ben Hrabchuk, Level 2, Honours with Distinction and the RMT Award

The following students of Daisy Penner also passed their RCM exams in 2020, and we are so proud of them and all of their hard work! Congratulations to:

- Noah Wessels, Level 9
- Rishali Vincent, Level 7
- Mackenzie Scidmore, Level 4



Meet Ms. Maddy Fehr's student, Kennedy Wicklund. She is practicing her video for our "Gift of Music" submission, and as a trial she sent her video clip to her Great Grandma, who lives in one of the local retirement homes in town. Look at the smiles! This is why community is so important to us; everyone should be able to enjoy the Gift of Music, especially at Christmas. Thank you for sharing this with us, Kennedy! Just a reminder to everyone to submit your video by December 9th, so we can compile all of the submissions in time for the holidays.



Greetings from the Harp Community

In the days before we couldn't gather, we did gather, (very carefully) - for a most welcome tiny Harp Circle in the Loft! You might even say it was a Harp Hexagon... as we were 5 students and one teacher, masked and cleansed upon arrival and departure. Thankfully the Loft is spacious and bright!

For a precious hour or so, we thoroughly delighted in each others' company, in each others' music, and in the miracle of performing those pieces that challenge us, and fulfill our longing to be creative.

Photos: Cathy Marshall dazzling us all with a waltz called "Sholeh"; Jacqui Hughes in listening mode; Bob Korth playing the beautiful Irish "Danny Boy". Also playing were Beverley Barling, Pam Nulph, and instructor Caroline Mackay. Thanks to everyone who could make it that day. We look forward to the freedom to play in the same space again in a few months, perhaps... And whether you are studying online or in person, we wish all our fellow musicians at VCMS happy days with your music!



Annual Leaf Raking Non-Party

At the beginning of November, the Music School had its annual leaf raking afternoon, to collect and compost some of the thousands of leaves that seem to fall every year. Thank you so much to everyone who came out to help rake, many hands make light work!



Masks mandatory in indoor public spaces



COVID-19 IN BC

As per the BC Government, masks (or face shields) are now mandatory in our facility where social distance cannot be maintained. This includes hallways and common areas. Thank you so much for adhering to these new guidelines, we appreciate it and look forward to staying open to enjoy music.

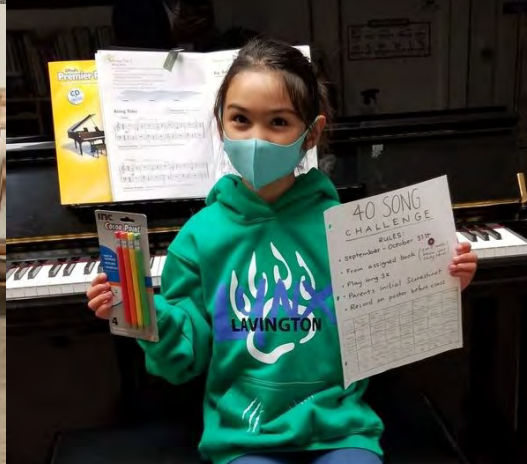
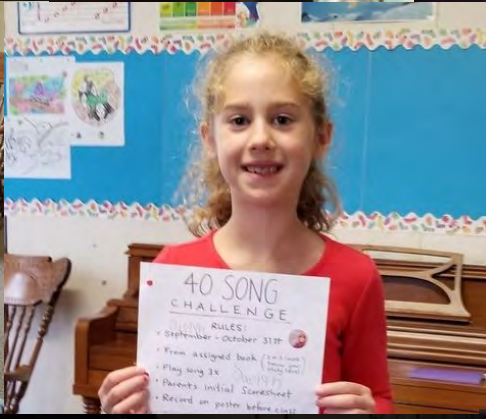
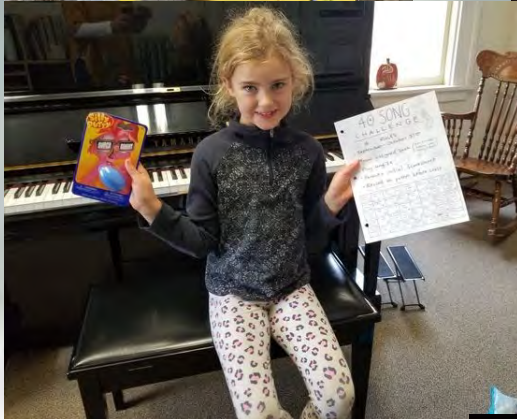
In keeping with our theme of music in families, check out this fantastic photo of one of our Cello instructors, George, with his daughter and three of his grandchildren. George's family just moved back to the area, which is wonderful because it allows them more time and opportunities



to practice together. It was truly a gift to be able to sit and listen to the three generations play, and as we know, when parents are engaged in their children's musical abilities, students have the support and knowledge they need to not only learn and complete new pieces, but also develop a lifelong love of learning music. Welcome to Vernon, Ardeth and family!



How great is this? Louka is discovering violin, so Bev Martens gave him a pretend violin made out of an egg carton to learn the proper technique for holding the instrument, as well as using the bow. We're so excited for you, Louka!



Congratulations to **Ms. Daisy's** students who have completed the **40 Song Challenge**! The rules are you must play a song three times from your assigned book, get your parent's signature, and record your achievement on the poster before class! Daelyn, Savannah, Joelle and Aubree, Emmett, Merryn, Audrey and Kara are all pictured, showing their achievements. Other fantastic finishers are Ossian, Solana, Justine, Blake, Walter, August and Makena. Great work, everyone!