

**Gallucci String Studio news**  
**May 2006**

**Reminders:**

Studio fees for May are due starting Monday, May 1, thank you for paying on time.

The studio will be closed Monday, May 29, for Memorial Day.

**Special announcements:**

**Spring Recitals:**

**The week of May 22 there will be no regular lessons. Instead we will rehearse for and perform in the recitals below.**

**Monday, May 22, recital at Ross Manor, 6:30pm. Students arrive at 6pm.**

Dress rehearsal will be 3:30-5pm at RDL Strings. This is a large group; I will likely split the rehearsal into two segments so that parents are not kept waiting a long time. More details as the date approaches.

**Tuesday, May 23, recital at Philip-Strickland House, 4pm.** Students arrive at 3:30pm for tuning and warm up. Because of the early time there will be no rehearsal that day.

**Wednesday, May 24, recital at the Woodlands in Brewer, 6pm.** Students arrive at 5:30pm. Dress rehearsal will be 3:30-4:30pm at RDL Strings.

**Thursday, May 25, recital at Eastside Rehabilitation Center, 6:30pm.** Students arrive at 6pm. Dress rehearsal will be 4-5pm at RDL Strings.

**Dress:** Please look nice. No jeans or sneakers.

**Coffeehouse MP3s on website:** The Coffeehouse concert recordings are up on the website for your enjoyment.

**Time to think about summer!**

I will be teaching lessons part time throughout the summer. Part time lessons are a good way to keep your child's playing skills healthy, without necessarily maintaining the same practice routine as the school months. I will be offering some flexible lesson packages for the summer months, to help coordinate lessons around vacations, camps and sports. If you would like to maintain regular weekly lessons in summer, I encourage it!

### **Time to think about Fall!**

As I plan for the Fall, it is important that I know your intent for next year. This will help me understand how many new students I may be able to take in September. It will also help me begin to set the Fall schedule. Please consider your plans and be prepared to fill out a short survey this month, which will indicate if you plan to return, and if so, if you want to keep your current lesson day and time, or change to a more desirable time.

### **Make up lessons:**

Effective immediately, all postings for available lesson times will be made on the website, [www.lauragallucci.com](http://www.lauragallucci.com), under the link Time slots available this week. I will send out a reminder once a month that the link is there, but will stop sending e-mails otherwise. It is up to you to check the site if you need a make up lesson or want extra lesson time. The site is updated daily.

### **Summer Camp:**

#### **Summer Music on Central Street**

Featuring the software program SmartMusic, a computer based home practicing program that uses artificial intelligence to help students make the most of their practice time. A one year subscription is included with the cost of the camp. There is still space, please inquire if you are interested or want a demonstration of the software.

### **Concert opportunities**

#### **Music students / Bangor Public Library patrons attend BSO concerts free . . .**

Music students can contact the Symphony office, provide the name of the music instructor, and receive a ticket to a Bangor Symphony classical concert free of charge. Youth 17 and under can bring their Bangor Public Library cards to a Bangor Symphony classical concert and receive a ticket to attend the performance free of charge. All youth must be accompanied by an adult.

#### **Zukerman Chamber Players**

Saturday, May 6, 2006

8:00 pm in Minsky Recital Hall

Pinchas Zukerman, Violin; Jessica Linnebach, Violin; Jethro Marks, Viola; Ashan Pillai, Viola; Amanda Forsyth, Cello. Program TBA.

### **Bangor Symphony 110<sup>th</sup> season finale**

May 21, 2006  
3 p.m., Maine Center for the Arts

Bedrich Smetana: The bartered bride: Overture  
Camille Saint-Saens: Le Carnaval des animaux (Carnival of the Animals)  
Antonin Dvorak: Symphony no. 8, op. 88, G major

Guest Soloists Henry Kramer & Pallavi Mahidhara (Saint-Saens)

### **Youth Concerts**

May 22, 2006  
Monday, May 22, 2006 at 9:45 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 1:15 p.m.  
Maine Center for the Arts

Bangor Symphony Orchestra's annual Youth Concert Series featuring *Carnival of the Animals* with Henry Kramer and Pallavi Mahidhara

### **Fiddlin' 'n dancin'**

#### **Fiddlin'**

Fiddle Jam at Umaine campus  
Every Tuesday, 6pm-8:30pm  
FFA Room in the Memorial Union  
Now until May 2 . All levels welcome. Contact Larry Corbett at 581-1683 or email at [larry.corbett@umit.maine.edu](mailto:larry.corbett@umit.maine.edu)

#### **Local contra dancing**

Orono, Keith Anderson Building  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of each month  
Optional beginner's session at 7:30 and the dance usually starts around 8:00 and runs until 11:30ish. The Marsh Island Band is the house band.

Hampden, Hampden Grange Hall  
4<sup>th</sup> Sat of each month  
The band is Up River Reel. Dancing starts at 7:30 and usually runs until around 11:00ish.

This month's article:

**The Future of practicing: SmartMusic**

SmartMusic is a software program that uses artificial intelligence to help a student practice an instrument. How well a student practices effects progress. Students must learn to self analyze and evaluate in the absence of the teacher in between lessons. Over the years, as the student improves in this skill, they need the teacher less and less, until they can teach themselves and create beautiful music on their own. Then they are truly a musician and artist.

SmartMusic technology improves the students ability to self evaluate by providing them with instant feedback about their playing. This is done by artificial intelligence technology in the form of accompaniment, pitch, rhythm and methods study. By providing the student with the means to practice with immediate feedback in between lessons, several important skills are reinforced.

- the ability to keep a steady beat at the tempo at which the student can currently play the piece.

- the ability to evaluate intonation by listening to the piano double the solo line.

- the ability to play with accompaniment at all!

- the ability to listen to more than one part at once and fit one's own part within that context.

- the ability to observe nuance and dynamics as predetermined within the piece.

- the ability to record oneself and turn the recording into an MP3 so the student can listen to oneself objectively, for future referral, or to e-mail to friends and family.

- finally, the ability to hone self evaluation skills.

The SmartMusic subscription is only \$25 for a one year subscription for my students. A \$15 microphone is also necessary. There is an optional footpedal (\$15) one can purchase for hands free operation. The subscription includes piano accompaniment for the first six Suzuki methods books for violin and viola. The subscription is not limited to just stringed instruments, or just classical methods materials, so families with children who play multiple instruments and styles would also benefit.

Training is provided at the Summer Music on Central Street camp. If there is sufficient interest, I may also provide training in the fall. I will have my laptop in the studio on a regular basis now, please inquire if you would like a demonstration. For more information, visit [www.smartmusic.com](http://www.smartmusic.com).

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