



# Piano Notes

July 2011 Volume 9 Number 1

“Music cleanses the understanding; inspires it, and lifts it into a realm which it would not reach if it were left to itself.”

~ Henry Ward Beecher

## 2011-2012 School Year

Beginning August 1, we will begin the new school schedule. The studio is open:

→Monday – Wednesday until 8pm

→Thursday and Friday until 6pm.

The lessons for the school schedule are first come, first served. Please contact me immediately so I can accommodate your scheduling needs.

Homeschool families: I am waiting to hear about my school schedule at Loma Vista but piano lessons will most likely be held Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.



## Fun Music

Reading music is similar to your child reading books – there are assigned books in school and then the books your child chooses to read for fun. Fun music depends on your child’s taste – pop, jazz, movie songs, Disney, country, etc. Sheet music can also be downloaded from [www.musicnotes.com](http://www.musicnotes.com) Books can be found at local music stores or [SheetMusicPlus.com](http://SheetMusicPlus.com).

## Piano Concert Series

We have four scheduled concerts this year. I hope to see your pianist perform in them!

### Movie Music Concert: August 6

What better way to spend a Saturday afternoon than to listen to movie music! This is our second annual movie music performance and the first of our 2011-2012 concert series. A favorite of musicians, they will perform music from *Pirates of the Caribbean*, *Star Wars*, *Pinocchio*, *Anastasia*, and *Addams Family*. A Night At the Movies is Saturday, August 6 at 2pm, held at the Brentwood United Methodist Church.



I love this concert because pop music is a great tool to learn tricky rhythms and different note combinations that aren’t always found in traditional piano music. Although this (along with the Christmas concert) is probably the most challenging for the performer because the audience knows almost all the songs, the benefit is building self-confidence and high performance standards while having fun.

### Fall Recital: October 22, 2pm

This is a formal recital and an opportunity to hear many of the great composers such as Bach, Chopin, Beethoven, Bartok, Grieg, Schumann, and Rachmaninoff.

### Christmas Concert and Sing-Along: Tentatively Dec 10

This concert is a lot of fun, and also helps build real-job skills. Most pianists are hired in churches or to play for musicals. The more advanced students will be playing the piano while the audience sings along.

### Spring Concert: Tentatively April 26

Our second formal recital, where musicians perform memorized music by the great composers. It’s always neat to see the improvement in just half a year.

## Quick Notes

- ♫ Studio closed: July 18-29
- ♫ School Schedule Begins: August 1
- ♫ Movie Music Recital Sat, Aug 6, 2pm
- ♫ Group Lessons: Mon., October 3
- ♫ Fall Recital Oct. 22 at 2pm
- ♫ Group Lesson: Mon, November 21
- ♫ Christmas Concert: Tentatively Dec 10

Questions? Visit [PianoObsession.com](http://PianoObsession.com) or Contact me at 925-783-4147 or [Alexis@PianoObsession.com](mailto:Alexis@PianoObsession.com)