



2016-2017 Program Newsletter

March 16, 2017

MERIT IN MUSIC -- BUY TICKETS NOW



Thursday, March 30, 7:30 pm
Music Box Theatre (3733 N. Southport)
Tickets for Film Screening: \$15

Join us for the opening night of the DOC10 Film Festival for a screening of [Sweet Dillard](#) and a Q&A with the film's director!

To learn more about the film and evening or to buy tickets visit meritmusic.org/MeritInMusic.

STRING STUDENTS TAUGHT BY YO-YO MA

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Shop Amazon Smile

TODAY, Thursday March 16, is a great day to [shop with Amazon Smile](#) and support Merit students!

For one day only (today, March 16), Amazon is donating 5% of the price of eligible purchases to an organization of your choosing. That's **10 times** the usual donation rate.

Click the image below to shop Amazon and support Merit!

10x your support goes 10 times as far.

On March 16, Amazon is donating 5% of the price of eligible purchases at smile.amazon.com. That's 10 times the usual donation rate.

amazon

Bone Rangers win MYA Chamber Competition

Congratulations to the Bone Rangers (Omar Tlatelpa



On Saturday, March 11, 20 string students from Merit had the incredible opportunity to receive instruction from Yo-Yo Ma as part of the Chicago Youth in Music Festival, presented by the Negaunee Music Institute at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

They were:

Violin 1 -- Tara Hagle, Grace Reyes, Myles Bell,
Bryce Thompson, Sidharth Shukla, Hongjia Chen

Violin 2 -- Sisy Chen, Alejandra Fred, Kares Pratt,
Fernando Alvarez, Nazeeh Shahid

Viola -- Jemima Adeyinka, Alyssa Zavala, Helena Mackoff,
Leilani Saccone

Cello -- Olivia Park, Bruce Thompson, Serena Reyes,
Ma'ayan Kerche

Bass -- Hayden Park

In all, nearly 90 string students from six music organizations across Chicago took part in a string symposium featuring side-by-side playing with CSO musicians and coaching from Yo-Yo Ma and respected conductor Edwin Outwater.

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION OPENS SOON

Nieto, Karl Kirkpatrick, Jonah Blake, and Michael Turner) for winning their division at the MYAC Discover National Chamber Music Competition!

On February 26, the group competed against brass, percussion, wind, and vocal ensembles comprised of musicians in their age group and were awarded first place by a panel of professionals.

All four received a \$250 tuition scholarship and were invited to perform at the competition's Winners Recital on March 4.

Conservatory Students Accepted to National Youth Orchestra

Steven Baloue (viola) and Amer Hasan (clarinet) have been invited to join the National Youth Orchestra of the USA, a touring group organized by Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute.

This summer, Steven and Amer will receive instruction from a faculty of principal players from many of America's greatest orchestras and have the great privilege of performing at Carnegie Hall and touring Latin America to play alongside the top youth musicians in each scheduled city.

Bravo, Steven and Amer!

Performathon Highlights



SUMMER CAMPS & CLASSES

REGISTER ONLINE
 March 20 | Priority Registration Begins
 April 3 | Open Registration Begins
www.meritmusic.org

EARLY CHILDHOOD
 JUNE 20 – AUGUST 19

INSTRUMENTAL & VOCAL MUSIC
 JUNE 26 – AUGUST 15

SUMMER 2017 CAMPS
 JUNE 26 – AUGUST 11



Did you miss Performathon 2017 or want to see highlights of the weekend's 115 performances? Check out this short video recapping the 12+ hours of music from this year's event.

Bravo to all our students for amazing performances and thank you to our Performathon sponsors, especially Presenting Sponsor William Blair.

Merit's diverse array of summer programs is returning this June! Priority Registration for current students begins March 20 and Open Registration for new students begins April 3. To find information on specific camps, visit Merit's [website](http://www.meritmusic.org).

Early Childhood (June 20 - August 19)

- Shake, Rattle, & Roll
- Movers & Shakers
- Music Masters I
- Recorders Rule!

Instrumental & Vocal Music (June 26 - August 15)

- Children's Choir
- Piano
- Guitar
- Strings
- Summer Band

Summer 2017 Camps (See dates below)

- June 26 - July 26
 - Summer String Orchestra

- June 26 - June 30
 - Guitar Camp
 - Horn Camp
 - Trombone Camp
 - Tuba/Euphonium Camp

- June 27 - August 8
 - Conservatory Wind Ensemble

- July 10 - July 14
 - Flute Camp
 - Percussion Camp
 - Piano Camp, Session I
 - Saxophone Camp
 - Trumpet Camp

- July 17 - July 21
 - Chamber Music Camp
 - Intro to Jazz Camp
 - Intro to Band Instruments
 - Piano Camp, Session II

Student Success

Congratulations to the following silver medalists from the Sonata-Sonatina Festival (NSMTA division, Northshore division) held on Feb. 12:

- Celeste Chen
- Aida Skaraite
- Nicole Wong
- Ricky Wu
- Sara Zhang

All are students of Ligia Takei.

MPA Meeting

The Merit Parent Association will hold its next meeting on **Saturday, March 18 at 10:00 am**. The meeting will be held in the Community Room at Merit's Joy Faith Knapp Music Center. We encourage all parents to attend.

Pizza Days

- July 24 - August 4
- Band Camp
 - String Camp

- August 7 - August 11
- Summer Conservatory Choir
 - Conservatory Piano Camp
 - Solo String Workshop
 - Voice Camp

EARLY CHILDHOOD

Week of Friday, March 17

Conclusion of Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday winter session classes

Saturday, March 18

Regular class day for all Saturday classes

Spring session registration deadline. Please visit [Merit's website](#) or the Student Services office to enroll in classes.

Monday, March 20

Summer Priority Registration Opens

- Check your e-mail for your student's class recommendations and registration instructions.

Saturday, March 25

Saturday sessions of Shake, Rattle & Roll, Movers & Shakers, and Music Masters 1 conclude for the spring session. Music Masters 2 continues through the end of the year.

Week of March 27

Spring Session Classes Begin

- Check your e-mail for your welcome letter and orientation materials.

Monday, April 3

11:00 am - 11:45 am = Merit Storytime (Gottlieb Hall)

- Free and open to the public; bring your friends!
- No registration required -- drop-ins welcome!
- Open to students 2 years old and up -- parent/caregiver attendance required
- Ms. Jan will be hosting in April -- come join her for stories, games, and networking!

Summer Open Registration (for new and returning families) begins.

INSTRUMENTAL & VOCAL MUSIC

Saturday, March 18

Merit Young Musician Competition (MYMC) application deadline

- See Merit's [website](#) or your teacher for details and applications.

Monday, March 20

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR

PIZZA DAY

A Fundraiser for Merit School of Music

Pizza will be sold in Merit's Lobby; First come, first served!

MARCH

Saturday

March 18 @ 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Thursday

March 23 @ 4:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Stuffed Cheese = \$3 per slice
Stuffed Sausage or Pepperoni = \$4 per slice
Stuffed Veggie = \$4 per slice

Pre-Order an entire pizza!
Call: 312-287-4461



March Pizza Days:

Saturday, March 18

11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Thursday, March 23

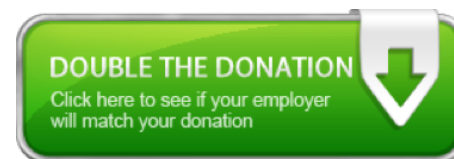
4:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Individual slices of Lou Malnati's pizza cost \$3 for cheese and \$4 for sausage, pepperoni or veggie and are sold on a first come, first served basis. Cash, checks and credit cards are accepted.

Matching Gifts

Is your company or employer a matchmaker?

With matching gifts, [you can double or triple your gift to Merit School of Music](#). Click [here](#) to find out if your company/employer will match your gift.



Student Services

Summer Session Information

- Priority Registration Opens **March 20**: Check your e-mail for your student's class recommendation and registration instructions.
- Open Registration (for new and returning families) begins **April 3**

Summer Priority Registration Opens

- Check your e-mail for your student's class recommendations and registration instructions.

Tuesday, March 21

6:15 pm = IVM Band Faculty Recital (Gottlieb Hall)

- Featuring Merit Faculty members Susan Crandall, Tom Syndacker, and Paul Lowry

Friday, March 24

MYMC participant schedules e-mailed home to families

Week of Monday, March 27

Merit Young Musician Competition

Open Division

Monday, 3/27 - Piano; 4:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Tuesday, 3/28 - Band; 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, 3/29 - Guitar, Piano, & Voice; 4:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Thursday, 3/30 - Strings; 4:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Artistic Division

Friday, 3/31 - Piano & Strings; 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Monday, April 3

MYMC result packets available from your teacher.

Summer Open Registration (for new and returning families) begins.

Wednesday, April 5

5:30 pm = MYMC Winner's Concert (Gottlieb Hall)

PRIVATE LESSONS

Saturday, March 18

Merit Young Musician Competition (MYMC) application deadline

- See Merit's [website](#) or your teacher for details and applications.

Monday, March 20

Summer Priority Registration opens.

- Check your e-mail for your student's class recommendations and registration instructions.

Friday, March 24

MYMC participant schedules e-mailed home to families.

Week of Monday, March 27

Merit Young Musician Competition

Open Division

Monday, 3/27 - Piano; 4:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Tuesday, 3/28 - Band; 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, 3/29 - Guitar, Piano, & Voice; 4:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Thursday, 3/30 - Strings; 4:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Artistic Division

Friday, 3/31 - Piano & Strings; 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm

- If you wish to be considered for financial aid for the Summer Session, please submit your 2016 1040 tax return to Student Services or studentservices@meritmusic.org

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday: 1:30 pm - 7:00 pm CLOSED

Saturday: 9:30 am - 2:30 pm

Spring Break Hours (April 10 - April 16)

Monday - Friday: 11:30 am - 5:00 pm

Saturday: CLOSED

Merit Competitions

Merit Young Musician Competition

Applications for the Merit Young Musician Competition are now available from your teacher, the Student Services office, or [online](#).

Spots are limited and are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted. The application deadline is *Saturday, March 18*.

Private Lesson Competition

Merit is proud to offer various private lesson scholarships to outstanding Alice S. Pfaelzer Tuition-free Conservatory students. The five winners of the 32nd Annual Conservatory Private Lesson Scholarship Competition will each receive a cash award for private lesson instruction during the 2017-2018 school year.

Applications can be found [online](#) and the entry deadline is *Saturday, March 25*.

Monday, April 3

MYMC result packets available from your teacher.

Summer Open Registration (for new and returning families) begins.

Wednesday, April 5

5:30 pm = MYMC Winners' Concert (Gottlieb Hall)

[Make A Payment](#)

[Register For Classes](#)

[Events Calendar](#)

[Make A Donation](#)

BRIDGES: PARTNERS IN MUSIC**Saturday, March 18**

Merit Young Musician Competition (MYMC) application deadline.

Tuesday, March 21

4:30 pm = Barton Elementary Afterschool Showcase (Barton Auditorium)

Friday, March 24

MYMC participant schedules e-mailed home to families.

Week of Monday, March 27

Merit Young Musician Competition

Open Division

Monday, 3/27 - Piano; 4:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Tuesday, 3/28 - Band; 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, 3/29 - Guitar, Piano, & Voice; 4:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Thursday, 3/30 - Strings; 4:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Artistic Division

Friday, 3/31 - Piano & Strings; 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Monday, April 3

MYMC result packets available from your teacher.

Summer Open Registration (for new and returning families) begins.

**ALICE S. PFAELZER TUITION-FREE
CONSERVATORY****Saturday, March 18**

11:50 am = Live from Gottlieb (GH)

- Guests: Lakeshore Rush

Sunday, March 19

2:30 pm - 6:00 pm = 2nd Annual Solo Voice Competition (GH)

Monday, March 20

Summer Priority Registration Opens

- Check your e-mail for your student's class recommendations and registration instructions.

Private Lesson Scholarship Competition applications are available at the Front Desk, in Student Services, or [online](#).

- Applications are due March 25

Tuesday, March 21

6:15 pm - 9:00 pm = Wind Symphony Rehearsal (Foreman Hall)

Sunday, March 25

11:50 am = Live from Gottlieb (GH)

- Guests: KAIA String Quartet

Tuesday, March 28

6:15 pm - 9:00 pm = Wind Symphony Rehearsal (Foreman Hall)

Saturday, April 1

11:50 am = Live from Gottlieb (GH)

- Guests: Composers Forum Spring Performance

Tuesday, April 3

6:15 pm - 9:00 pm = Wind Symphony Rehearsal (Gottlieb Hall)

Merit School of Music | Joy Faith Knapp Music Center
38 S. Peoria St., Chicago, IL 60607 | 312.786.9428 | www.meritmusic.org

