



Building Lifelong Pianists

April 2024 Newsletter



Alek Wasserman, Owner

 **Triad Music Academy**

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Table of Contents

Student of the Month: Oliver N.

Page 1

Two Years of TMA!

Page 2

New Instructor: Daniel Bukin

Page 3

New Studio Highlights

Page 4

April Referral & Signup Specials

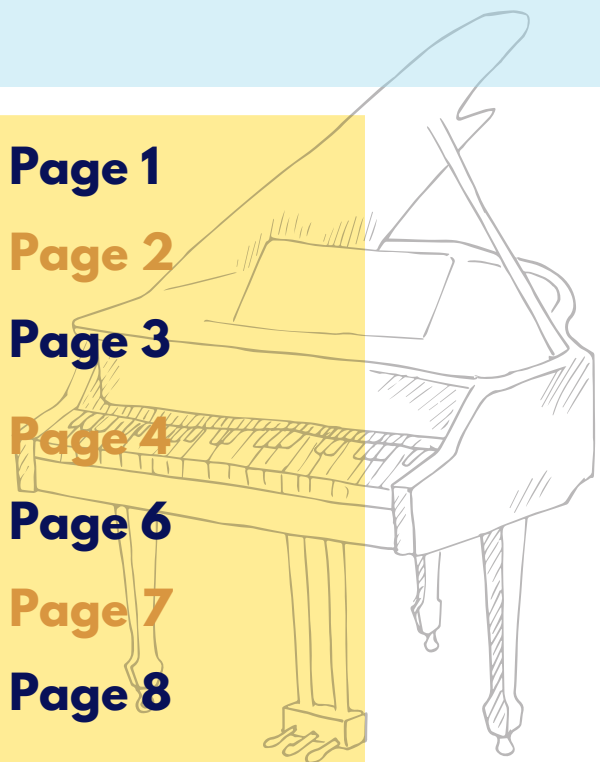
Page 6

Lesson Openings

Page 7

Upcoming Events!

Page 8



Student of the Month: Oliver N.



Q: What do you like most about playing the piano?

A: I love learning to play new songs and it is exciting to keep progressing through the book and learning new things at each level. Right now I'm learning to play chords!

Q: What has been your favorite experience with Triad Music Academy?

A: I'm enjoying playing duets with my teacher, Shannon Lindegren, each lesson.

Q: Which musicians do you look up to or like to listen to?

A: With my father being from Austria, we like to listen to classical music on Sunday mornings. Mozart is my favorite composer.

Q: Why did you decide to take piano lessons?

A: My mom took lessons as a child and she wanted me to learn as well. So far I love it! I also want to eventually learn to play the electric guitar.

Q: What other activities do you do besides playing the piano?

I just started playing ice hockey this Winter and I'm about to start soccer as well. In my free time, I enjoy playing with my little brother Alex and helping my mom in the garden.

“Oliver has practiced so consistently, has made a ton of progress, and is always eager to play the piano.”

-Shannon Lindegren, TMA Instructor



State of the Academy: Two Years of TMA!



**By Alek Wasserman,
Triad Music Academy
Instructor/Founder**

It's hard to believe that we've come this far, but Triad Music Academy celebrates our second anniversary this month! Let's briefly cover some of our accomplishments since April 20th, 2022:

- **Peak student body of 100 lifelong piano learners**
- **Five lesson locations: Main Winston-Salem Studio; In-Home Winston-Salem; Home Studio in Lexington; In-Home Raleigh; Online**
- **Six student recitals given so far (five for children and one for adults)**
- **Nine dynamic piano instructors, each with unique musical and educational skillsets**
- **Three masterclasses given with guest faculty from UNC School of the Arts, Duke University, and Winston-Salem State University (two more booked with UNC Greensboro and UNC-Chapel Hill)**
- **One student matriculated to study at the Berklee College of Music**
- **Countless musical skills learned and memories made!**

When I set out to build lifelong pianists two years ago, there were many uncertainties. Where would I teach lessons? Which method books would be best for which students? There were really only two things I knew for certain - that the journey would be a learning experience, and that it would be student-centered.

For two years now, our students have thrived! They have taught me more than I could hope to write in a short article, and I can't say enough about them and their families for their support of our vision.

And for the past ten months, our growing roster of piano instructors has taught with passion and developed all of this love for the piano. We wouldn't be who we are without them.

On behalf of the entire organization, I'd like to say thank you to everyone who's played a part in our success. Here's to many more years!

**-Alek Wasserman,
Founder & Lead Instructor**

New Piano Instructor: Daniel Bukin Raleigh In-Home Lessons



Daniel Bukin

**MM in Orchestral Conducting,
UNC School of the Arts
BA in Music Theory &
Composition, App State**

Triad Music Academy is proud to expand into the Raleigh area with our newest piano instructor, Daniel Bukin!

Daniel will be pioneering our vision of lifelong piano playing in Wake County with lessons in students' homes. A former classmate of mine at the UNC School of the Arts, he adds some unique experiences and skillsets to the TMA teaching roster. As a pianist and conductor, Daniel is a specialist in musical theater with more experience than we could hope to list here.

Daniel currently serves as the Director of both Musical Theater and the Vocal Jazz Ensemble at UNC Pembroke; in this role he conducts ensembles, leads from the piano, teaches professional musicians-in-training, and coordinates student experiences.

To me, Daniel stands out among piano educators with his passion and commitment to a musical lifestyle.

A few of Daniel's illustrious conducting engagements are listed on the next page:

New Piano Instructor Daniel Bukin, cont.

- The Albuquerque Little Theater
- The Winston-Salem Theater Alliance
- Triad Area Medical Orchestra
- Musical Theatre Southwest (Albuquerque, NM)
- WS/FCS All-County Orchestra

While I have known Daniel for several years, what I am most impressed with is his combination of diverse experiences. Prior to his experience with UNC Pembroke, Daniel spent a year teaching group piano and choir in the Moriarty-Edgewood School District in Moriarty, New Mexico.

As a former public school music educator myself, I can say that it's very rare to find a musician with Daniel's combination of performance and teaching experiences.

Here's what Daniel had to say about the importance of teaching the piano:

"Next to the human voice, the piano is easily the most versatile instrument in the world."

"On the piano, you can explore nearly every genre of music, learn from hundreds of years of history, comprehend mathematical relationships in time and pitch, and beyond. The piano teaches patience and strengthens your connection with yourself and with others."

Finally, all new TMA instructors must pass State, Federal, and National Sex Offender Registry background checks in order to be welcomed onto the team. It is my priority to ensure your student's safety and wellbeing as they pursue their lifelong piano playing journey with TMA.

If you are interested in piano lessons with Daniel, please reach out to me via (336) 497-1136 or alek@triadmusicacademy.com and we'll be more than happy to get you on his schedule!

-Alek Wasserman
Founder & Lead Instructor

New Studio Highlights

On March 10th, we began operating lessons out of our new main studio located at [895 Peters Creek Parkway, Suite 203, Winston-Salem, NC 27103.](#) Here are a few highlights in the new space!



April Referral & Signup Specials

To celebrate two years of TMA,
we're running some great
deals for students!

New Students: Comment the code
“NEW2024” when you fill out our Contact
Form in April and receive your first lesson
FREE!

TMA Contact Form:

<https://www.triadmusicacademy.com/contact>

Current Students: Receive \$25 off your May
tuition when a new student starts lessons
after commenting your name in our Contact
Form.

Lesson Openings

Teacher	Location	Day	Time
Laura Agner	Main Studio	Sunday	11:00 AM - 3:15 PM & 4:15-5:00 PM
Daniel Bukin	Raleigh In-Home	Tuesday	10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Austin Caldie	Main Studio	Sunday	1:15-1:45 PM
Eric Schwartz	Main Studio	Tuesday	4:00-8:00 PM

**Fully Booked Instructors:
Natalie Barela, PG Hazard & Han Vu**

Upcoming Events!

Annie Jeng Masterclass

UPDATED: Saturday, April 13th @ 4:00 PM
Triad Music Academy

Annie Jeng
**Assistant Professor of Piano &
Piano Pedagogy, UNC Greensboro**



Select Triad Music Academy students will be chosen to perform. Email alek@triadmusicacademy.com if you would like to watch!

TMA Spring Recital

Saturday, June 1st @ 4:00 PM
[Piedmont Music Center](#)

Recitals open to all Triad Music Academy students. Email alek@triadmusicacademy.com with any questions!

***Recital may be updated to different times for different teachers' studios, TBD. Any changes will be communicated in advance by email.