



Music Lessons on Piano, Voice, Guitar & Violin

January 2026 Newsletter



Alek Wasserman, Founder



[triadmusicacademy.com](https://www.triadmusicacademy.com)

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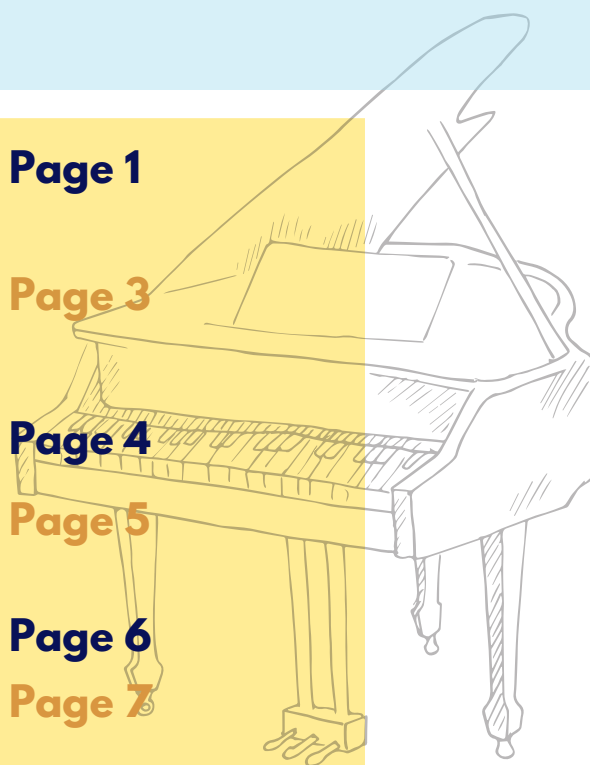
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Student of the Month: Shelby A.

Piano Student of Josh Waldron



Q: What do you like most about piano lessons?

A: Learning something new and getting to play the piano.

Q: What other activities do you do besides piano?

A: I am in Art club at school and a scout in Scouting America. I like archery, hiking, and camping.

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

A: I enjoyed playing in the recitals.

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

A: Lindsey Stirling and Imagine Dragons are current favorites. I also like listening to piano music on YouTube.

Q: Why did you decide to take piano lessons?

A: My great grandmother has a piano at her house and I wanted to learn to play it and read music.

"Shelby is one of my most engaged students. She's great at learning and memorizing patterns, so she especially loves learning the rote pieces in Piano Safari. On top of that, the rote pieces are often more dramatic and she really enjoys the opportunity to express that in her performance."

- Josh Waldron, TMA Piano Instructor



Teacher of the Month: Erick Esparza

Guitar Instructor



Q: How did you decide to become a professional musician? What did the journey look like for you?

A: I developed a strong interest in music when I started playing guitar at 13. In high school I decided I wanted a career in guitar, so I focused a lot on playing and getting better because I wanted to go to music school. After that I just never gave up and kept doing my best to learn the most and get experience applying everything I've learned. As a professional musician I've signed up to be a lifetime learner of music.

Q: What is your favorite type of music to listen to? What do you like to perform?

A: I love listening to jazz, blues, R&B, classic rock, funk, classical, pop, etc. I have a wide variety of music I like to listen to. I've performed mostly pop, Classical, jazz, and classic rock with other professionals who are each masters of their own instruments. It is a lot of work but I love it and I always find myself having a great time.

Q: Do you have any hobbies or special interests outside of music?

A: I have recently developed a big interest in learning how to fly planes. And I will be working on getting my private pilot license during my time outside of teaching and performing. I love to see the world from a different perspective, what better way than to see it from the sky?

"Erick is an awesome guitarist and teacher. He joined TMA recently, adding to our Saturday offerings. His students enjoy a relaxed, but thorough approach to learning how to play the guitar. I've known him since we were students and it's awesome to have him succeed with TMA!"

- Alek Wasserman, TMA Founder & Lead Piano Instructor



Piano Duet Masterclass Recap

On Saturday, December 6th, we held our annual Piano Duet Masterclass featuring Dr. Allison Gagnon from the UNC School of the Arts. Six students paired up to perform, receive feedback, and learn all about small ensemble playing. Bravi tutti!



New Piano & Voice Instructors

Please welcome our newest Piano Instructors, Anna Thornton and Fjoralba Zguro, as well as our newest Piano/Voice Instructor, Braden Jarosz! All three are experienced teachers that we are lucky to have on our teaching team. - Alek



Anna Thornton, Piano Instructor
-BM in Piano Performance,
UNC School of the Arts (in progress)
-AA in Music, Kazan Music College
(Kazan, Russia)



Fjoralba Zguro, Piano Instructor
-DMA in Piano Performance, UNC
Greensboro (in progress)
-MM in Piano Performance,
Carnegie Mellon University
-BM in Piano Performance,
Baylor University



**Braden Jarosz,
Piano & Voice Instructor**
-MM in Piano Performance & Pedagogy,
Salem College (in progress)
-BM in Vocal Performance,
Liberty University

Lesson Openings

Program	Day	Time
<u>Piano</u>	Monday	3:30-4:00 PM 5:30-6:00 PM 6:30-7:30 PM
	Tuesday	6:00-6:30 PM
	Thursday	6:00-6:30 PM
<u>Guitar</u>	Friday	3:30-4:00 PM
	Saturday	12:30-1:00 PM
<u>Voice</u>	Saturday	11:15-11:45 AM
<u>Violin</u>	Fully Booked!	N/A
<u>Piano (In-Home)</u>	Sunday-Friday	Various Times (Email us!)

Upcoming Events!

Spring Recitals

Time/Date TBD

Temple Emanuel Winston-Salem

All Triad Music Academy child students are welcome to participate. Email alek@triadmusicacademy.com if you have any questions