



Music Lessons on Piano, Voice, Guitar & Violin

July 2026 Newsletter



Alek Wasserman, Founder

 **Triad Music Academy**

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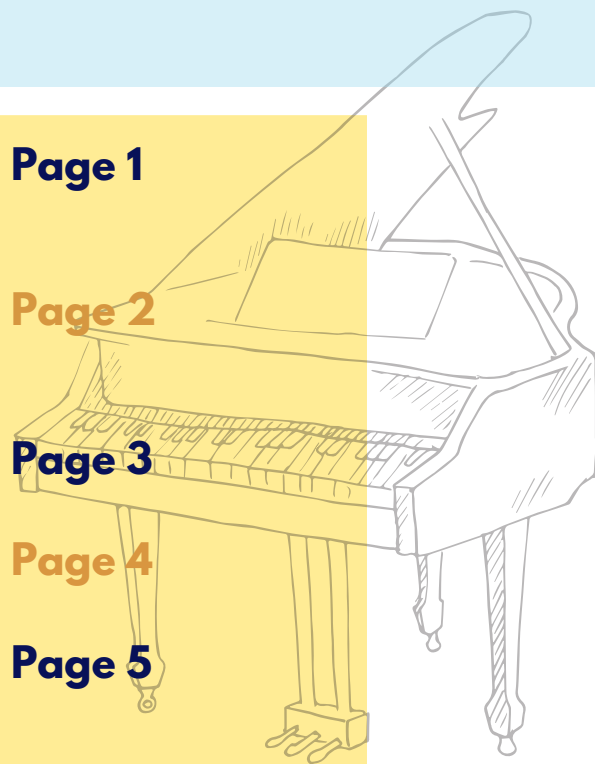
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Student of the Month: Matilda V.

Piano Student of Dr. CJ Everett



Q: What do you like most about piano lessons?

A: I like that we get to draw, too. I like to play piano and I also get to draw letters and animals in between playing.

Q: What other activities do you do besides piano?

A: Gymnastics, swim, dancing, arts and crafts, baking with my mom, listening to Yoto stories, reading chapter books, and I love to have playdates.

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

A: I loved making the spring picture (in Piano Safari Friends), and I loved learning and playing the song "Picnic Time."

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

A: Kacey Musgraves and K Pop Demon Hunters.

Q: Why did you decide to take piano lessons?

A: Because I wanted to learn to love playing an instrument and playing piano, like my dad.

"Matilda has proven herself to be a quick learner who shows dedication to mastering new concepts. I am impressed by her ability to remember music and play it thoughtfully. She also shows a wonderful mix of enthusiasm, fun, and focus during her lessons!" - Dr. CJ Everett, TMA Piano Instructor



Teacher of the Month: Austin Caldie

Piano Instructor & Head Piano Technician



Q: If you could only play one composer for the rest of your life, who would it be?

A: It would have to be Rachmaninoff. He's got it all: intricate counterpoint, beautiful melodies, flashy technical passages... a pianist's dream.

Q: What is one thing that you think you teach uniquely?

A: I try to be unique in how I approach improvisation, encouraging my students to use their imagination to think of gestures, shapes, colors, how animals would sound, fun stuff like that before laying down any strict rules. Think of how kids babble before learning grammar!

Q: What is your favorite part about being a piano instructor?

A: Being able to see the connection between emotional and musical development is incredible- not just for my younger students, but my adults too! Watching everyone get closer and closer to effortlessly expressing their inner selves is a reward in itself.

"Austin is both one of our longest-tenured and highest volume teachers. His students learn to love playing the piano and regularly perform their own self-composed music on recitals. Austin also takes care of our five pianos. TMA would be very different without him!"

- Alek Wasserman, TMA Founder & Lead Piano Instructor



Spring Recital Highlights

TMA held our Spring Recitals on Sunday, May 31st, at Temple Emanuel Winston-Salem.

Around 75 students performed across three recital groups. While most students were pianists, the first recital featured a very talented voice student and another milestone: our first-ever violin students performing in recital!

We are so proud of all of our students who performed that day. Enjoy these highlights from a few special rising stars in our program:



Violin student Aubrey performed for the first time with "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."



Voice student Allison brought the house down with "How to Be Not Alone" from the musical "Maybe Happy Ending."



Piano student Ellie played "Ukrainian Folk Song" from The Russian School of Piano Playing, Book 1, Part 1.

Lesson Openings

| Program | Day | Time |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| <u>Piano</u> | Sunday | 2:45-3:15 PM |
| | Monday | 5:45-6:15 PM & 6:30-8:00 PM |
| | Wednesday | 5:00-6:00 PM |
| <u>Guitar</u> | Friday | 3:30-4:30 PM & 5:00-5:30 PM |
| <u>Voice</u> | Monday | 5:30-6:00 PM |
| <u>Violin</u> | Wednesday | 7:00-8:00 PM |
| <u>Piano (In-Home)</u> | Various | Email or text for specific times. |

Email alek@triadmusicacademy.com or text (336) 497-1136 to schedule your lesson.

Upcoming Events!

Fall Recitals

Sunday, November 22nd - Times TBD (afternoon)

Temple Emanuel Winston-Salem

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