Greetings!

It is hard to believe that fall semester is rapidly coming to a close! In the upcoming weeks, Arts Outreach students will be showcasing all their hard work and talent in the Holiday Concerts. I wanted to take a moment and thank everyone for their time and commitment to the program. Our goal is to nurture the student’s love and understanding of music, and together we are accomplishing that goal. Thank you to our wonderful teachers for their fine work! A special thanks to Loretta (Lanning) Cetkovic, Carmen Maret, Andrew Bergeron, Bob Fry, Cameo Elzinga, Cassandra Kroondyk and Annette Henry for sharing their talents during our inaugural Faculty Showcase and Scholarship Fundraiser. It was a pleasure sharing the stage. Thanks to all who came for your support! Best wishes to everyone on a smooth end of your semester and a joyous holiday season!

Important Dates:
There are no group classes on Tuesday, November 26. Last sessions of violin groups are on December 10 and 12. Please be sure to check with your teacher regarding individual lessons schedule. Final week of the semester at Park church is December 9-13.
Lessons resume January 6 and groups start on January 14.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Although we’ve enjoyed a warm Michigan fall, blizzard conditions may be just around the corner. Here’s a reminder of Arts Outreach Inclement Weather policy:

In the event of inclement weather, Arts Outreach lessons and classes may need to be canceled. An announcement regarding cancellations will be posted on the website, AO voice-mail and text messaging system rainedout.com. To receive a text message regarding GRCC AO cancellations, please text message the word: grccao to phone number: 84483. Standard text message charges may apply from your wireless provider.

If the college is closed due to inclement weather, all Arts Outreach Activities are canceled. If Grand Rapids Public Schools district closes evening activities, all Arts Outreach Activities are canceled (see website or call (616) 234-4981 for updates). Individual teachers may decide to cancel lessons in which case parents will be personally notified.
Birthday Bash! November Birthdays

6 ~ August I.
10 ~ Maely G.
13 ~ Ben L.
15 ~ Jameson V.
18 ~ Ashley G.
23 ~ Maksym P.
26 ~ Liam O.
29 ~ Yhair H.

December Composer Notes:

10, 1908 Olivier Messiaen
This French composer wrote and performed *Quartet for the End of Time* while imprisoned during World War II.

11, 1803 Louis-Hector Berlioz
Berlioz often wrote for huge orchestras, some with over 1,000 musicians! One of his best-known works is *Symphonie Fantastique.*

17, 1770 Ludwig van Beethoven
This famous German composer began suffering hearing loss at age 26. While being unable to hear, Beethoven was able to write some of the most beautiful symphonies of all time. Beethoven was completely deaf when he composed *Symphony No. 9* which features *Ode to Joy.*

22, 1858 Giacomo Puccini
*La Bohème* is an excellent example of Italian operatic tradition. It was roughly based on Puccini’s own experiences as a youth in Milan.

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Tiny Twinklers = Winter Semester

*Tiny Twinklers* is a class designed for pre-school children ages 3 and 4 who are ready for a group activity, but not quite ready to begin an instrument. Students and their parents are introduced to foundational music skills in a fun and engaging way. These skills develop naturally into the Suzuki repertoire that is a part of any instrument in the Suzuki family. Included is the opportunity to explore some of the different instruments in an orchestra. This class is taught by Carmen Maret.

When: Fridays 1:00 ~ 1:45 pm January 17 ~ April 4 (12 sessions)
Where: GRCC Music Center
Cost: $120

Questions, Comments, or Concerns?
E-mail: grccao@gmail.com

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Suzuki Shirts are in!
See Park Church student worker to pick up your shirt. Twinkle, Minuet and Bourré groups need Suzuki attire for 12/13.

2014 Minijournal Cover Design Contest

Guidelines: Original cover design by a Suzuki student between the ages of 4 and 14. Suzuki or music-related subject matter preferred. Please do not send computer-generated artwork. One entry per child. View 2013 winners [here](#).

Deadline: January 1, 2014
Send to: SAA Cover Contest, PO Box 17310, Boulder CO 80308

Penny Per Minute

*Penny Per Minute* is almost running out of time! Last day to practice (for the fundraiser ☺) is December 13. I hope you were able to keep track of minutes throughout the semester.

Please submit ALL practice minutes here. All proceeds will be collected this month and donated to Ronald McDonald House of West MI. We welcome donations of any amount!

Student with the most practice minutes will receive a gift certificate to Meyer Music!