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# Noteworthy News

a publication of Sherrine's Piano Studio

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## Calendar of Events:

Salvation Army Bell Ringing.  
Come to NE Furniture Mart and show your piano talents while working for a good cause. Friday, Nov 13th 5:00 - 8:00

November make-up class  
Sat. Nov 21st 1:00 - 1:45  
Sun. Nov 29th 4:00 - 4:45

Nov. 23 - 28 Vacation Week; no classes

An Afternoon of Music and Merriment  
Saturday, Dec. 5th 2:00 - 4:00

## Words to "Dreams" by Anna Stoltenberg:

In the Meadow Here,  
Looking at the Sun,  
See the pretty color,  
Feeling Warm inside  
Can't wait to get home,  
Tell the whole family,  
Don't think I will sleep  
(Wait 4 beats after the word "sleep" and then say,)  
Don't think.



## Announcements

### Please remove your shoes

With the snow season upon us, I'd like to ask students and parents to remove shoes in the downstairs hallway before class starts to prevent a wet floor. Please keep sanitizing those hands!

### Seeking Testimonials

I would love to add some positive news about Simply Music lessons to my portion of the [omahapiano.com](http://omahapiano.com) website. Sharing your testimonial is a great way to show others the impact Simply Music can have in their lives too!

### Mark Your Calendars!

On Sat. December 5th, we will have an "Afternoon of Music and Merriment" at Hope Presbyterian Church (159th and Q st) from 2:00 to 4:00. I am asking students to play a Simply Music song and a holiday accompaniment piece. I'd like parents and other guests to sing along, and I'm also asking parents or relatives who play other instruments to join in. Please bring a snack to share! This should be a great event for the whole family!

### For Facebook Users

I have set up a fan page for Sherrine's Piano Studio on facebook. I would love for you to join the fan page to see upcoming events, videos, and other Simply Music information!

## Omaha Simply Music Conference Update

Over 40 teachers from around the USA attended the Simply Music conference the end of September. It was fantastic having Neil Moore as the keynote speaker, as well as other Simply Music teachers. Some of the workshops included lesson time management, comp and improv ideas, accompaniment skills, as well as personal growth, and other ways to improve our teaching skills.

Neil informed us of Simply Music's growth with over 500 teachers currently, and soon to expand into 27 European countries, along with Singapore.

Neil has a way of going beyond the technicalities of music and getting into the psychology of music and people. It was an inspiring weekend!

There were about 150 people including several of you that attended the Meet and Greet with Neil and had a chance to share a few words with him. Neil addressed the audience about the importance of music education for students to gain new skills, and also for the future of businesses who search for people who are creative, adaptable, and willing to improvise.

Q. "What is the most important thing to do this week?"

A. "You need to go forth in the world and be wonderful!"

~Neil Moore when addressing a group of students at the Sept. Simply Music conference



You can tune a piano but you can't tuna fish...  
Sure you can, you just adjust it's scales!  
pianoworld.com



Neil with Student  
Kara Cody

## Importance of Practice Routine in Learning to Play an Instrument

by Karen Berger

While music teachers may differ on the specifics, depending on the student, the age, the level, the instrument, and the teaching philosophy, teachers almost universally agree that practice should be part of a regular, preferably daily routine. Last minute cramming works about as much in music education as it does with any other subject, which is to say, not at all. It is better to practice in routine small chunks than in sporadic, intense, long outbursts. The brain simply processes musical information better that way.

In a day and age when every family seems busier than the family next door, finding time to practice in between soccer, homework, and play dates is admittedly difficult. It's even more difficult if parents don't have their own personal experience with, or are ambivalent about, music education and the sustained daily effort it requires.

Practice has to be looked at as a primary activity, like doing homework, eating lunch, or going to school. Parents need to understand that daily practice is not an easy habit. (And any parent who thinks practice is, or should be easy, should take a hard look at his or her own exercise habits. Practicing every day is just as hard as keeping New Year's resolutions to go to the gym.)

Children need to be reminded and encouraged to practice their instruments, just as they need to be reminded to brush their teeth or do their homework. One effective solution that works for some families (but certainly not for everyone) is for the child to practice in the morning before school. Just as with exercise, this gets the job done and out of the way. If there is time for more practice later in the day, great. If not, at least the minimum practice requirements have been met.

[http://musicappreciation.suite101.com/article.cfm/music\\_studentsanddailypracticerequirements#bzz0SvZFYTS0](http://musicappreciation.suite101.com/article.cfm/music_studentsanddailypracticerequirements#bzz0SvZFYTS0)