



newsletter

Music Matters



Battle Creek Hastings Marshall
269.963.1911 ext 2585 269.948.9441 269.781.8256

A program of The Music Center
www.MusicCenterSCMI.com

Winter//Spring
2010

Private Lessons and Much More

Community Music School began in 1996 with private lessons and soon added early childhood classes. Over the years more lessons, more classes, more locations, have given community residents more choices to learn. Here's what our 54 faculty in three locations offer now:

-BARRY COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL JAZZ BAND: The name says it all!

-DRUMSTICKS: Beginning snare drum technique and exploration of other percussion instruments. Ages 7-10. Battle Creek.

-EARLY CHILDHOOD MUSIC CLASSES: Mu-

sic First in Battle Creek and Marshall, based on the Gordon Music Learning Theory, (infant to 7 yrs) and Kindermusik (infant to 5 yrs) in Hastings.

-FIDDLES 'N STRUMS: Folk music for guitarists and fiddlers grades 2-3, meets at Fuller Street School in Nashville. Funded in part by the Michigan Fiddlers Association and the Barry Community Foundation.

-HASTINGS KIDS CHOIR: Grades 3-6

-MARSHALL CHILDRENS CHOIR: Grades 3-8

-MARSHALL WOOD-WIND ENSEMBLE: High school players in Marshall and surrounding areas.

-PIANO TOGETHER: Fun, no-pressure group approach to the piano. Classes for grades 1-2 and adults in Battle Creek and Marshall.

Private Lessons: Most band and orchestra instruments, voice, piano, guitar. Still our most popular choice for music instruction.

Visit our website for more faculty and lesson/class information

"Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything."

Plato

Did you know that the average upright piano weighs between 700—1000 pounds? Wow, no wonder we don't like to move them!



Knowbody

THE PIANO:

The invention of the piano is credited to Bartolomeo Cristoforo around the year 1700. The piano is a combination of a string and percussion instrument, as the musical tones originate in the strings, which are

struck what hammers to cause the string to vibrate, When a piano key is pushed down, the mechanism inside makes a hammer go up or forward to strike the strings. The string then vibrates and is connected to a large soundboard that amplifies the sound. When the key is let go, a felt pad, called a damper, drops back onto the string and stops the sound.

The piano started out with about 60 keys but expanded to 88 keys in the middle of the 19th century. There is actually a piano made today with 96 keys, which is 9 1/2 feet long—the Bosendorfer Imperial Concert Grand.



Meet Doug Acker, CMS-Hastings Instructor

Focus on... Doug Acker is beginning his third year teaching at the Community Music School. Being a music teacher is only one of his many gifts. Doug, besides being a small business owner (Progressive Graphics), is very involved in the Arts Community in Hastings.

- He has his own band, Grumpy Old Men, an "oldies" band that plays all over Barry County.

- He is a founding member of the Thornapple Arts Council. A community-based arts education group.
- He plays trumpet in "Les Jazz", a band that plays classic jazz music from the big band era.
- He is a founding member of the Thornapple Players, a civic theater group. He acts in these productions and, occasionally, directs them as well. He has even written a fully staged musical!

Thanks for sharing your talents with the Community Music School, Doug!



Calendar

Sep 8-Dec 18 Fall Semester, 14 weeks

Oct 1 Battle Creek Spotlight Recital at Mill Creek Senior Living Community, corner Dickman & Carl, 7 pm

Oct 17 Hastings Fall Festival, 9:30 am-noon

Oct 17 Marshall Fall Festival, 2-5 pm

Oct 17 Hastings Cabaret, 6:30 pm-midnight, downtown Hastings

Tickets \$15/person. Live music, dancing, silent auction, food, raffle. Call 269.948.9441.

Oct 18 Battle Creek Fall Festival, Music Center, 1:30-5 pm

Oct 24 Battle Creek Symphony concert Planet Thunder,

WK Kellogg Auditorium, 7:30 pm

Nov 2 Winter registration opens to returning students.

Nov 14 Music Center Choruses in concert: With a Voice of Singing,

Pennfield High School, 7:30 pm

Nov 18 Battle Creek Spotlight Recital, Music Center, 7 pm

Nov 30 Open registration for Winter semester

Nov 24-27 Thanksgiving Break (Mon, Nov 23 is a teaching day)

Dec 9 Battle Creek Spotlight Recital, Music Center, 7 pm

Dec 12 Marshall Spotlight Recital, 10 am

Dec 12 Music Center Choruses in concert Christmas Festival Concert,

1st Presbyterian Church, 7:30 pm

Dec 19 Battle Creek Symphony concert The Nutcracker Ballet, WK Kellogg Auditorium, 7:30 pm

Dec 21-Jan 8 Christmas Break

Jan 11-May 28 Winter semester, 19 weeks

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
 ☆ **Free tickets to** ☆
 ☆ *Music Center concerts* ☆
 ☆ *for CMS students under* ☆
 ☆ *age 18 with purchase of* ☆
 ☆ *an adult ticket. 50% off* ☆
 ☆ *ticket price for adult* ☆
 ☆ *CMS students.* ☆
 ☆ *Call 269.565.2199* ☆
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