

## **Carswell Music – Newsletter 2010 Spring**

*"Music, when soft voices die, / Vibrates in the memory..."*  
*Percy Bysshe Shelley*

### ***Competition in June for the Carswell Studios Scholarship***

We are very pleased to announce that two prestigious Carswell Studio Scholarships will be awarded again this year, one in piano, and one in voice. The winner in each category will be announced at the June recital. Each will receive a scholarship of \$50, to be used for lessons in the coming year. Nominees for this award must achieve 85% or higher in examinations and competitions. Along with expertise, the nominees must also demonstrate dedication and showmanship. Studio teachers are responsible for nominations, so speak to your teacher about next year's competition!

This year's nominees in the piano category are: Sophie Coelho, Spencer Ross, and Lindsay Orlowski. In the voice category, the nominees are: Nada Awan, Ena Selmanovic, Laura Popa, Rosalyn Glass, and Adriana Ward. Best of luck to each nominee and congratulations on being recognized for excellence by your teachers!

### ***Examination Results!***

Our Studio's reputation for producing music students of highest calibre has been bolstered once again by the commendable achievements of the following students in their Royal Conservatory examinations this year.

|                 |         |        |     |
|-----------------|---------|--------|-----|
| Sarah Fernandes | Grade 3 | voice  | 76% |
| Katie Eadie     | Grade 3 | piano  | 73% |
| Rosalyn Glass   | Grade 4 | voice  | 78% |
| Mika Harrada    | Grade 1 | theory | 91% |
| Joanne          | Grade 1 | piano  | 93% |

|           |  |  |  |
|-----------|--|--|--|
| Fernandes |  |  |  |
|-----------|--|--|--|

Carswell Studios offers examinations comparable to those of the Conservatory, but at half the price and for twice the length, which provide students with crucial feedback about their performances, allowing them to build upon their present skill level. These exams are available for voice, piano, theory, and instruments. E-mail or call the Studio for more information, and to schedule your exam.

### *The First Annual Carswell Studios Theatre Camp*

Carswell Studios is proud to announce that it will be running a day-camp aspiring young singers and actors. Our camp will afford them the chance to delve into the world of musical theatre. This amazing experience will be overseen by two of our young teachers, Elizabeth Amos, and Madison Oliver, and will be located in Mississauga at the historic Grange, located near Dundas and Erin Mills Parkway. Elizabeth has much semi-professional acting experience and has had lead roles with the Meadowvale and Etobicoke theatre companies. Madison will be our rehearsal pianist/accompanist and activities coach.

The camp runs for two weeks, starting August 3, from 1:00 to 4:30 pm daily, and will centre upon learning and rehearsing the children's musical *The Best Little Theatre in Town*. Classes will involve singing, dancing, choreography, and acting. Madison will run aerobic and exercise classes designed to promote better breathing and fitness, both of which are essential to theatrical performance. The camp's grand conclusion will be the full performance of the musical (involving costumes and make-up) on the Saturday night for friends and family at the Erindale Community Hall.

For more information about this tremendous experience (and to sign-up), visit our website. Enrolment is limited to 15 and we are almost full already. Cost of enrolment (which is all-inclusive) is \$220 per student.

*Teacher News*

Thanks to Luisa and Elise Ceolin for hosting our Spring and Fall workshops, led by Jim Carswell and David Lowe. These workshops allow all attending students the chance to fine-tune their performances before the December concerts and spring examinations. They are also a great way build students' confidence before the upcoming recital on June 9th.

Congratulations and best wishes to vocal teacher Raylin Barnsdale on her upcoming wedding to fiancé Joshua. Raylin continues to perform with Windmill Productions, which produces excellent musical cabarets with a variety of different genres of music. Raylin ran a very successful voice workshop for all our budding singers at the home of Elizabeth and Linda Amos in Mississauga.

Jim Carswell continues to work on his forthcoming piano book, Piano Exploration, with the help of professional music editor Ruth Pincoe. Ruth has edited and been the consultant for various Conservatory piano, voice, and theory courses, and she has helped develop many of their syllabi. Our amazing drum teacher David Lowe, along with graphic artist Christopher Beaune, will be designing the layout of Piano Exploration. Stay tuned for the launch later this year.

#### *Photo Galleries for Recitals and Workshops*

Check out the exciting photo section of Carswell Studios' website ([www.carswellmusic.com](http://www.carswellmusic.com)). A number of our students are featured. These pictures were taken by our talented webmaster and internet specialist by Webxoom. For information and services of website and development, please contact Webxoom at [info@webxoom.com](mailto:info@webxoom.com).

#### *Studio Students Compete in the Peel Music Festival*

Madison Oliver, Nada Awan, and Laura Popa competed in various competitive classes at the Peel Music Festival this Spring. Amid stiff competition, Laura, Nada, and Madison played and sang exceptionally well. Laura achieved first place in her Music Theatre class (under 11) and won a scholarship, which will be presented at their gala concert night. Hearty congratulations to them for representing our school with such amazing performances.

*Carswell Studio Students Perform at the Living Arts Centre's LIVE Cuisine Restaurant*

Some of our talented music students performed while patrons dined during the restaurant's famous lunch buffet, as well as part of the pre-dinner entertainment. Check out the pictures on our website.

*Carswell's Corner:*

Sight Reading: A Time-Saving Signature

Since the invention of the piano (and the piano lesson), every student has dreaded the words, "Did you practice today?" from his or her parents, as much as every teacher has had nightmares about listening to students who do not practice. Surely there is a solution to this age-old problem. As a matter of fact, there is, and it involves only five or ten minutes a day. They key? Sight reading.

Ask your teacher to suggest a number of pieces that are at a slightly easier level than what you normally play. Start each practice session with a brand new piece and soon you will become better at reading your notes and rhythms. This will carry over to your regular work, which will seem easier and you will start to read these notes more quickly. This will mean that you can practice half the time and do double the work. This is clearly a win-win for everyone for you and your teacher. Try this new technique!

Spring Recital on June 9th

The time has come once again for students to showcase all that they have learned this year! Parents, friends, and relatives are cordially invited to this two-part concert. Please arrive **20 minutes** early to avoid any surprises. The recital will be held at **Sheridan Park Alliance Church (near Fifth Line and Dundas St. W.)** The first part of the recital begins at **6:30 pm**; the second at **7:45 pm**.