

iMA Newsletter

Voted **top 100 educators in the world** by the International Biographical Centre
Winner of the **Consumers' Choice Award** for best music school in the GTA.
Winner of the Royal Conservatory of Music **Gold Medal for Teaching Excellence**
Winner of the **York Region Character Community Award**.
Markham Board of Trade **Business Excellence Award** finalist.



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International
Music
Academy

Year XXX, No. 6

June 2026

WELCOMING OUR NEW STUDENTS

Amelia Mak, piano
Danica Lowe-Ching, violin
Jerry Zheng, clarinet

IMPORTANT DAYS IN JUNE

- June 1.** RCM Summer examination session registrations deadline.
June 1-20. RCM practical examinations.
June 5. PA day (YR) – elementary
June 12-July 25. Canadian Music Competition.
June 13-14. **iMA SUMMER FESTIVAL** at Cornell Recital Hall (Markham)
June 15. **iMA annual progress reports**
June 20. **Meridian Arts Centre. Kindred Spirits Orchestra. Time and Transformation.**
June 25-26. PA days (YR) – secondary

IMA STUDENTS' BIRTHDAYS IN JUNE

Ethan Wong, Radin Haeri, Aveenish Pratheesh, Isaac Sin, Hidayat Shaikh, Shonu Bhasin, Danica Lowe-Ching, Kento Francisco, Celeste Mui, Chloe Ho, Clara Zheng, Diya Joby, Dante Rodriguez Parra, Amelia Mak, Evie Lim, Cheryl Leung, Chloe Leung, Yi Shen, Chris George

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

GET A \$30 CREDIT ON YOUR NEXT MONTH TUITION

We are always very happy to welcome new students of all ages, levels, and instruments to the iMA. **Please tell your friends about your experience with the International Music Academy.** Do you know someone who is thinking of taking music lessons or who has **children** who may be interested in getting their hands on a musical instrument or singing? Do you know a **teenager** who needs a high school OAC credit? Do you know an **adult** who has wanted for a long time to learn how to play a musical instrument but has never had the time or inclination? **Please tell them about the IMA.** As an appreciation for your referral, we will give you a **\$30 credit** for each new family who registers at the International Music Academy as a result of your referral.



COMPOSERS' ANNIVERSARIES IN JUNE

01/06/1804 - Michail Glinka was born
02/06/1857 - Elgar was born
03/06/1875 - Bizet died
03/06/1899 - Johann Strauss died
06/06/1903 - Khachaturian was born
08/06/1810 - Schumann was born
11/06/1864 - Richard Strauss was born
14/06/1671 - Tomasso Albinoni was born
15/06/1843 - Edward Grieg was born
17/06/1818 - Charles Gounod was born
17/06/1882 - Igor Stravinsky was born
20/06/1819 - Jacques Offenbach was born
21/06/1908 - Rimsky Korsakov died
25/06/1767 - Georg Telemann died

FEATURED STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Thomas and Marcus Luong



- 1. What instrument do you play?** We both play the piano.
- 2. How long have you taken lessons?** We have been taking piano lessons for over 3.5 years.
- 3. Who are your favourite musical artists?**

Our favourite musical artist is Ludwig van Beethoven.

4. **What are your other hobbies, besides music?** Besides music, we like to play sports and go to the park to play.
5. **Favourite food?** Our favorite foods are rice, sushi and French fries.
6. **What is the coolest thing you've learnt in your lessons in the past three months?** The coolest things we've learnt in the past 3 months are playing jazz songs and playing trills (rapid alteration of two notes).
7. **Do you have any performance coming up?** We are going to be performing in the upcoming IMA Summer Music Festival!

FEATURED TEACHER OF THE MONTH

Pooyan Sheikhi, B.Mus., LRCT
Piano Studies and interpretation



Mr. Sheikhi has earned a B.Mus. degree in piano performance from the University of Arts in Tehran. He has also specialized in Orff pedagogy for early childhood music education at the Pars Music Institute in Iran. In addition, he has completed masterclasses in conducting and music theory. Mr. Sheikhi has received prestigious awards: 1st place at the Tehran Shamse Music Festival, and "Best musician" at the 2021 Festival of Arts and Music in Tehran. He has given numerous concerts at the Shahin Music Academy and at the Pars Music Institute. He is currently pursuing a Bachelor in Fine Arts degree in piano performance at the York University in Toronto. His teaching philosophy applies personalized programs and methods to piano teaching of every student while taking into consideration differences in learning styles and personalities.

Mr. Sheikhi was happy to answer a few questions for our students and parents:

1. What do you like most about teaching? - The most enjoyable thing is the interaction with the students, the moment of "truth", meaning the moment when I see that they "got" it, understood my explanation and can apply it. Teaching is a bit like being on stage: you have your "script", the curriculum, but you adapt it to your students, to the prevailing mood of the day. I think the most rewarding thing about being a teacher is that when I looked at the students faces, I was looking at the future. And that's a privilege.

2. How do you inspire students to practice more? - Intrinsic motivation is most easily achieved and sustained over a longer time, if the student knows why s/he learns, has a goal that s/he wants to reach and what s/he has to do in order to reach that goal. I tell them what I think they've improved upon and where they still have work to do and how they can get to

where they want to go. That takes quite some time but it's worth it.

3. What roles does performance play in student's development? - A performance task is any learning activity or assessment that asks students to perform to demonstrate their knowledge, understanding and proficiency. Performance tasks yield a tangible performance that serve as evidence of learning.

4. Who are your favourite composers? - In my opinion, music is equal parts technique and expression; in other words, the best music isn't just that which is technically perfect or expressively rich, but both. There are so many of composers, and so many great ones. However, I'm a huge fan of Johann Sebastian Bach, and the Baroque style in general. On the other hand, Mozart is widely considered to be a master of melody, harmony, and form, and his music is characterized by its beauty, elegance, and emotional power. In addition, Mozart was a prolific composer, producing an astonishing body of work despite his short life.

5. What was the last piece of music (sheet music or a recording) you purchased for yourself? - I have recently purchased the Moonlight Sonata Op. 27, No. 2 (Complete Book) - Ludwig van Beethoven Original Version.

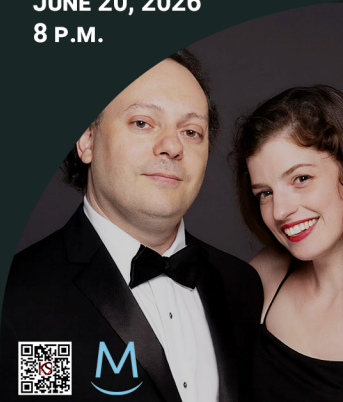


KINDRED SPIRITS ORCHESTRA
 Kristian Alexander | Music Director



TIME and TRANSFORMATION

SATURDAY
JUNE 20, 2026
8 P.M.



E. DOHNÁNYI
Symphonic Minutes

F. POULENC
Concerto for two pianos and orchestra

J. SIBELIUS
Symphony No. 2




Kristian Alexander | conductor
Berkovski-Solomon | piano duo

MERIDIAN ARTS CENTRE | 5040 YONGE ST., TORONTO | 416. 733.9388 | KSORCHESTRA.CA

International Music Academy

GIFT CERTIFICATE

for new students only

1 offer per family

ONE FREE LESSON

Call the IMA Office at

905.489.4620 (Markham) or

905.640.6363 (Stouffville)

to schedule your first lesson.

Once scheduled, the lesson cannot be rescheduled. Cannot be combined with any other offer. No refunds, no exchanges.



Music is soooooooooo beautifull

Register for lessons by

June 15, 2026 and receive

\$50 off

New students only. 1 offer per family

Cannot be combined with any other offer.

REFER A NEW STUDENT and GET ONE FREE LESSON!

When you refer a new student to the IMA, who registers for lesson, you will get one free lesson for every new student. So, if you refer the IMA to 2 new students, we will give you 2 free lessons; for 3 new students – 3 free lessons etc. Fill in the coupon below and leave it with the IMA Office administrator.

Your name: _____

Name of the new student: _____

You can print or photocopy this coupon as many times as you need.

Cannot be combined with any other offer.