

# *ten thousand stars*

## studio

*I'd rather learn from one bird how to sing  
than to teach ten thousand stars how not to dance.*

*-e. e. cummings*

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December 2011

Two years ago, I began a graduate degree in Educational Psychology. Since then, I have juggled teaching and performing, classes and papers with various degrees of success. Mostly I just don't think much about it, realizing that it is far more difficult to finish a marathon if you get too fixated on the many miles still to go.

But the end is in sight. Assuming that I don't drop too many balls in the next few months, I should graduate in May with my Master's in Ed. Psych (I'm sure it is helpful to have TWO useless masters degrees). This upcoming semester is threatening to be the toughest yet in terms of school. I am bowing out of doing much performing for the spring, and have resigned myself to a few months of keeping my nose to the grindstone ("It's only three months," my advisor keeps reminding me when I whine that this schedule is going to be *awful*.).

As many of you already know, this will also affect you somewhat. I have had to rearrange some lessons for the spring, and have scheduled a sixth teaching day every week. Like a house of cards, this schedule will only work if nothing goes wrong.

Keep your fingers crossed.

For those of you who are counting, there are actually 17 weeks of lessons scheduled this semester. This means that we have one "free" week to play with. Like always, I am taking the week of Spring Break off in the middle of March. Then later that month I have to be in NYC to speak at a national conference, so will be taking that week off as well. But still, even accounting for these two weeks, there is an extra week out there.

And so, as needed for my sanity, every day of the week will have an additional off week. I'll announce them as we go in my monthly studio notes. If you are a Sunday lesson, you can count on the fact that your additional off day will be Easter Sunday. Everyone else will have to stay tuned.

In the meantime, enjoy your holidays: eat plenty of cookies, wear mittens outside, sit under your Christmas tree and look up at the lights.

Here's wishing you a blessed 2012.

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## ***Performance Classes***

On one hand, performances classes will be rather predictable: no far-flung field trips or guest clinicians. They will all take place at the house, in our usual groups divided by age. However, study the schedule closely. The Chopin and Beethoven classes are meeting at a different time this semester.

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## ***Contact Information***

All updated policy information, newsletters, and studio's semester calendar can be found on my website:

[www.tenthousandstarsstudio.net](http://www.tenthousandstarsstudio.net)

I can be reached at: 505-573-5121 or at: [amy@tenthousandstars.net](mailto:amy@tenthousandstars.net)

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## ***Make-up Lessons***

Students are allowed **one** make-up lesson per semester free of charge. These will take place on Saturday and Sunday, May 19-20. Depending upon how many make-ups lessons I have, I may chose to do some make-ups in pairs of students of similar age and level. If you know in advance that your child will miss a lesson, you are welcome to ask if I have another opening that same week. If I do, I'm happy to oblige. However, many (*many!*) weeks go by without a cancellation, which means I often do not have random spots available. If this is the case, you will have to take your free make-up lesson for the semester. Any additional lessons missed will NOT be made up.

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## ***Piano Tuners***

Oh the weather outside is frightful, and pianos are reeling from the temperature changes this fall. If you haven't had your piano tuned recently, do.

Jean-Luc Matton: 259 2368

Fred Sturm: 345 2154

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## *Semester Tuitions and Schedules*

Semester tuitions are set based on 16 private lessons and 3 performance classes. Monthly rates are divided into 5 equal payments, each due at the first lesson of the month. Tuitions received after the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month are subject to a \$25 late fee.

### *Semester tuition:*

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### ***Spring 2012***

#### **January 8**

Spring semester begins

#### **January 20**

Beethoven Performance class 5:00-6:15PM

#### **January 21**

Mozart Performance class 9-10AM

#### **January 27**

Chopin Performance class 5:00-6:30PM

#### **February 24**

Beethoven Performance class 5:00-6:15PM

#### **February 25**

Mozart Performance class 9-10AM

#### **March 2**

Chopin Performance class 5:00-6:30PM

#### **March 11-16**

Spring Break: No Lessons

#### **March 24-30**

MTNA Conference: No Lessons

#### **April 20**

Beethoven Performance class 5:00-6:15PM

#### **April 21**

Mozart Performance class 9-10AM

#### **April 27**

Chopin Performance class 5:00-6:30PM

#### **May 5**

Spring Recital 5PM

#### **May 19-20**

Make-up Lessons

#### **May 21-June 3**

Spring Recess