

KeyNotes Chronicle

The Official Newsletter of KeyNotes Piano Studio



Welcome to our first newsletter!

We're so excited to share the very first issue of our KeyNotes Piano Studio newsletter. Each month, we'll bring you updates from the studio, tips for making the most of your piano practice, student highlights, upcoming events, and a little musical inspiration to keep you playing with joy.

Thank you for being part of our musical community — let's make this year full of beautiful notes and new milestones!

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**KEYNOTES WILL
TURN 30 YEARS OLD
NEXT YEAR!!**

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**TO CELEBRATE, THE
STUDIO WILL BE
GETTING:**

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-Two Yamaha C3
Concert Grand Pianos

-New bookcases,
lighting, flooring and
much more!



Halloween Recital

Mark your calendars for the spookiest music event of the year at the Studio on Tuesday, October 28th at 06:00 p.m. Everyone should be wearing their costumes!

Remember to call in sick if you are feeling unwell. All lessons will be made up. Help keep everyone around you healthy!



Christmas Recital

The year's most special recital. Saturday, December 13th at 11:00 a.m. at the Dohnányi Recital Hall - FSU COM

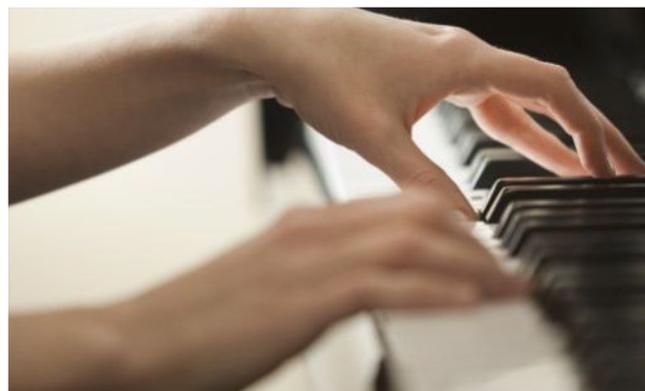
The Importance of Slow Practice

Slow practice is one of the most powerful tools a pianist can use to build mastery. When you play slowly, your brain and muscles have time to absorb every detail – fingering, phrasing, tone, and rhythm.

Each note becomes intentional, allowing you to truly understand the movement and sound it produces. This level of mindfulness prevents sloppy habits and ensures that, as you speed up, your playing remains clean and confident.

Beyond accuracy, slow practice also develops musicality. By reducing tempo, you can listen deeply to tone quality, dynamic shape, and emotional expression. Subtle nuances that are often lost at full speed become clear, helping you shape phrases with greater artistry. In essence, slow practice turns mechanical repetition into conscious refinement. It's the foundation on which precision, control, and expressive playing are built — a quiet discipline that transforms effort into elegance.

Patience is key to this process. Rushing to play fast before mastering control often leads to frustration and ingrained mistakes. By taking time to move



slowly, you strengthen both mental focus and muscle memory. Over time, this deliberate approach allows your technique to feel effortless, and your music to flow naturally — proving that true speed is born from stillness and understanding.

Slow practice also nurtures a deeper connection between the pianist and the music itself. When you strip away speed, you create space to explore the emotional and structural layers of a piece — how harmonies unfold, how tension builds and resolves, and how each phrase contributes to the larger narrative. This kind of deliberate exploration transforms technical drills into moments of discovery, where interpretation and intention evolve together. Many great pianists, from Liszt to Rubinstein, have emphasized that true artistry begins not in performance, but in this quiet, mindful space of slow, focused repetition.

THIS MONTH WE CELEBRATE FRANZ LISZT'S BIRTHDAY

Franz Liszt (1811-1886) was one of the most dazzling and innovative figures of the Romantic era. Born in the Kingdom of Hungary, Liszt displayed prodigious musical talent from an early age, giving public performances as a child that astonished audiences and critics alike. He later became celebrated across Europe as perhaps the greatest pianist of his time—renowned for his technical brilliance, expressive intensity, and charismatic stage presence. His concerts were legendary, inspiring near-hysterical reactions from admirers in what critics later dubbed "*Lisztomania*." But Liszt was not only a virtuoso performer—he was also a prolific and groundbreaking composer.

