



High Notes Newsletter

Volume 12 ♦ Issue 1 ♦ Fall 2011

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Notes From Nelly

(On the phone from a dance competition in Las Vegas) I am currently staying in a totally incredible place that represents both the old and new America. Here, everyone puts aside the differences they face in the outside world, focusing instead on the glittering beauty that surrounds them. This is an America united without the polarizing concerns of economic and social strife.

This sentiment is reflected in the contestants of the dance competition I have entered. They span ages 20 to 90 and come from a variety of backgrounds. On the floor, I have met everyone from a male nurse to a woman who holds a position as CEO of a major company. Our singular focus on this event unites us. When I dance, I try not to pay attention to my fluttering heart and instead pay sole attention to doing my best. I definitely will not win the highest level of this contest, but simply by participating, I am a winner in my eyes.

The students who have won our concerto competition and will perform on the wonderful November 2nd concert, are winners, not just because of a judge's decision, but because of all the effort and enthusiasm they have invested in preparing their pieces and honing their musical skills. I hope that you will come out to support their achievements; that they will inspire you to work hard and discover the champion within. Please showcase the fruits of your labor at one of our many performance classes and concerts scheduled this year. You will get great satisfaction out of each accomplishment.

I embrace all the future achievements of our students in the year to come.

Love,

Nelly

YCVT Concerto Competition Winners Perform with the West Chester University Symphony Orchestra - Nov. 2nd

As pedagogues, we know how important it is for young music students not only to practice their instruments, but to hear the achievements of their peers. On November 2nd, your children will have the chance to hear five extraordinary concerti by Chopin, Haydn, Rachmaninoff, Brahms, and Prokofiev played on violin and piano, performed by very exceptional young people with the West Chester University Orchestra. This concert will be incredibly beautiful. In Russia, going to concerts was not only a family tradition for many non-musical families, but it was a must for families whose children wanted to excel in a musical instrument.

Please make Wednesday, November 2nd, at 8:15 as that evening where your kids might not do homework, might not do any sports, and might go to bed a little later, but they will set aside that evening not just for learning about these particular concerti which they may never have heard before, but a huge addition to their musical studies in general. I remember myself as a young music student who sometimes did not want to practice, but would triple my efforts to do so after hearing those of my peers who were hardworking and goal oriented enough to achieve a very high standard in their performances. Hearing my peers perform meant much more for my own dedication to working on my instrument than anything else.

Please support Sara Yamada, Jonathan Adler, and Janet Wu as well as two fabulous college students, just as you wish they and their parents would support your students when they will perform.

Concert is: Wednesday, November 2nd, 8:15
West Chester University's Madeleine Wing Adler Theater

The tickets are: \$15 for adults or \$10 for students and seniors.

You may pay by credit card, check, or cash. Credit card orders accepted by phone at 610-896-5105. Checks may be made payable to SSI. Preordered tickets can be made available at the door.

~Elena



Featured Students
Our winners of the YCVT Concerto Competition

Janet Wu
A Day in My Life - A Poem

On a super busy week day,

I really want to wake up on time but I can't,

Catch the bus or I have to get the first emergency car ride of the day;

School is generally good as it would be on a normal day,

Then two or three after school activities waiting for me, and

I have to go with the one with the highest priority for the day;

Have no time for dinner and have to head to the private music lesson, or swimming practice, or performance of the school orchestra or band,

I really want to go to sleep after I get home at the end,

But homework and maybe some practicing are between me and the bed.

On a not so busy week day,

I wake up early enough to have my breakfast and catch the bus within the timeframe,

In school, I enjoy learning and socializing with my friends;

After school, I get to finish my homework and other activities as planned,

And I have time to enjoy home-made food for dinner and good conversations of the day;

After dinner, I chat with my friends for a bit, practice, and play some fun games,

And pretty soon it is time to head to bed so I can wake up the next day ☐

On a super busy weekend day,

I have several birthday parties, and occasionally a sleep-over party to attend,

Along with swimming meet, recitals, concerts, and important community events.

On a not so busy weekend day,

I get to catch up with my family, friends, homework, and some practicing if I can,

Along with some much needed sleeping and interesting events!

You may have similar or more hectic schedule, but my friend,

Life is as boring or exciting as one makes; enjoy, extend and expand as we all can!!!



Jonathan Adler

On the Ignition of his True Passion for Music



It was not until this past year that I fully became aware of my passion for music, and especially for the piano. A number of reasons factored into this realization, including being able to work on magnificent pieces such as Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 1 and Ravel's *Miroirs*; having the opportunity to work with Dr.

Igor Resnianski at the Nelly Berman School of Music twice a week; and finally performing with the Olney Symphony Orchestra and at the Tri-County Annual Youth Festival.

I wanted to continue to be immersed as much as possible in a musical environment, so this past June I attended the Summer Piano Academy at Indiana University along with about 60 other pianists. It was not only amazing to be living at the Jacobs School of Music, the largest music school in the country (and to be able to play on their 9-foot Hamburg Steinways), but it was also enlightening to be surrounded by serious piano students from all around the country, many of whom were planning to pursue music in college and to have solo careers. Another incredible aspect of the program was the exposure the students had to a diverse faculty. Instead of having one teacher for the entirety of the academy each student had a lesson with six different teachers, and this broadened my perspective even further. One final highlight of the program was when I had the chance to perform in a master class with Dr. Joseph Kalichstein from the Julliard School, an experience that was intimidating at first but in retrospect truly valuable.

As the new school year begins, one challenge I face is how I will be able to incorporate as much music as possible into my daily schedule as junior at Friends' Central Upper School. This year I am taking 6 classes, playing saxophone in our jazz ensemble,

studying for the SAT, and also trying to keep up my Mandarin Chinese studies outside of school. On the piano, I am preparing for the MTNA competition and an orchestra performance with the Westchester University Orchestra in November, and I have also begun to start working towards a solo recital in January. I sometimes stop and think to myself, "How am I possibly going to be able to juggle all of this, without sacrificing one pursuit for another?". But I believe that being busy helps and will continue to help keep me focused throughout the year. Even though during the week I will rarely have the chance to practice more than two hours a day, having limited time forces me to stay organized within practicing and to be able to have my goals more clearly laid out. These two hours are also an escape for me, where I can indulge in the music I love to play, and I'm grateful that I am able to sit at my piano and recognize that this instrument has become my true passion.

Sara Yamada

Sara Yamada is a second grader at Agnes Irwin School. She started taking violin lessons when she was 4 ½. She wanted to play violin because her older sister Lisa was taking lessons at the time. She has taken lessons at the Nelly Berman School of Music (NBS) for 2 years.

At elementary school, she enjoys music, math and art class. She often has a chance to play her new piece at the school, an opportunity she feels really honored to accept. At home, she loves to play with her two sisters, and especially likes to read. She recently started horseback riding lessons at a neighborhood farm, and is already into it. Her dream is to be a violinist, a horseback rider or a doctor.



Sara participates in the Philadelphia International Music Festival at Bryn Mawr College during the summer. There she met Ellie Choi, a 10 year old violinist. Ellie has inspired Sara to become a musician. I can't believe how mature my daughter has become,



and how her love of the violin has grown these past 3 years. The tone of her violin and the expression she produces has become more distinct recently. Of course, she still occasionally tries to skip practice by telling me she's sleepy or her hand hurts. I know almost no little child loves to practice. Her little 3 year old sister, Julie (the wild one) is always able to make our family smile and laugh. I wonder if I could do that with Sara and her violin practicing...

My husband has always been a great help to Sara and me; often driving us to her lessons or concerts, and supervising her practices when I am not at home. He does not know much about the violin, but, as a guitarist wanna-be, he knows what a musician should be!

We all love hearing her play and cannot wait to see her as a grown up violinist/horse-back rider. Just seeing her play makes me smile, and I hope she does that to everyone else, too.

Last but not least, I would like to convey my appreciation to Mr. Vladimir Dyo: her great mentor and patient teacher!

-Kana, Sara's mother

Another Exciting Concert on Dec. 18th!

Dr. Mikhail Yanovitsky & Galina Sakhnovskaya



Dr. Michael Yanovitsky is a world class pianist and a graduate of both the St. Petersburg and Moscow Conservatories, considered among the most prestigious in the world. After journeying to the United States from the former Soviet Union at the age of 23, he was accepted into the renowned Julliard School. His path led

him to Gary Graffman, the Director of the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia at that time. Mr. Graffman, very much impressed by Dr. Yanovitsky and seeking to promote this talented new acquaintance, contacted Nelly Berman. Dr. Yanovitsky quickly became one of the most sought after teachers in the Nelly Berman School. Impressed by his talent, Mrs. Berman recommended Dr. Yanovitsky to Harvey Wedeen, the Chair of Temple University's Department of Keyboard Instruction. He was accepted into the Doctorate Program and awarded an "An Artist in Residence" status. After winning the prestigious Young Concert Artists International Competition, Dr. Yanovitsky's career took him all over the nation. After several years away from Philadelphia, Dr. Yanovitsky was invited back to the city with an Artist-in-Residence position at Temple University. He has again joined the illustrious faculty of superb musicians at the Nelly Berman School of Music.

Born in Moldova, lyric soprano Galina Sakhnovskaya has emerged as a young artist of remarkable versatility and great vocal beauty. Galina made her operatic debut with the Delaware Valley Opera Company in Philadelphia, singing the role of Nedda in I Pagliacci in 2001, while still attending the prestigious Peabody Conservatory of Music, which she completed in 2003 with a Master's Degree in Vocal Performance. Ms. Sakhnovskaya's recital stage debut occurred in 2004 and was presented by the Tri-County Association for Emerging Artists. Ms. Sakhnovskaya has been the recipient of several awards and scholarships which include Washington International Competition in Washington DC, Center for Contemporary Opera Competition in New York, Giulio Gari Foundation International Vocal Competition in New York, New York Vocal Artists Competition, Peabody Conservatory Graduate Performance Diploma Scholarship and grant, and Mayor's Scholarship from the University of Pennsylvania where Galina received her undergraduate degrees in music and computer science engineering.

On **Sunday, December 18th, at 3:00pm**, at St. Luke's Church, you will have the chance to hear this talented couple in concert. They will undoubtedly delight their audience with such extraordinarily beautiful vocal repertoire as Richard Strauss's "Four Last Songs", Tchaikovsky's "Lullaby" and Rachmaninov's "Lilacs" among others.

Please do not miss this special performance on the Main Line!

Distinguished Musicians Concert Series!

- **Nov. 2nd – YCVT Concerto Competition Winners**
- 8:15 @ West Chester University
- **Dec. 11th – Advanced Student Concert**
- 3pm @ St. Luke's
- **Dec. 18th – Dr. Michael Yanovitsky & Galina Sakhnovskaya**
- 3pm @ St. Luke's
- **Jan. 20th – NBS Faculty Concert** -Featuring Irina Schuck, Svetlana Smolina, Vladimir Dyo, Dr. Mikhail Yanovitsky, & Dmitry Borisovsky
- 7pm @ St. Luke's Church



Dear Parents,

Did you know that many musically gifted students of the Nelly Berman School of Music are recipients of scholarships provided by the NBS Classical Music Institute, Inc.? The institute, which is a 501(c)(3), non-profit corporation, was formed on November 7th, 1994, to raise funds for gifted and talented students who may not otherwise have the opportunity to reach their fullest musical potential.

The Nelly Berman School of Music and the NBS Classical Music Institute, Inc. supports 30 music students on partial MERIT Scholarships throughout the school year. Students audition twice a year and must show continuous progress. The awards are designed for students willing to practice around two hours a day and have two lessons per week. Many of these students also dedicate their time to participating in chamber music groups and some may even play a second instrument. The Institute has awarded more than \$45,000 this year to deserving students. NBSCMI supports the pursuit of less common instruments such as clarinet, trumpet, and viola.

We invite you to join us for the next board meeting on Wednesday, November 16th, at 7 p.m., and see if joining our board may be inspiring to you. Not only do we enjoy each other's company, but we get a great sense of satisfaction fostering excellence in musicianship. Please RSVP with our office if you would like to attend.

We look forward to having the opportunity to discuss how you may be able to be part of this unique institution and its endeavor to develop the talent of its students to their fullest potential.

Most sincerely,

Irene Lane

Irene Lane - President
NBS Classical Music Institute, Inc.
501(c) (3) non-profit organization

*The Young Classical Virtuosos
of Tomorrow Competition*

This past spring, The Nelly Berman School partnered with Jacobs Music, the destination for Steinway pianos in the Tri-State Area, and West Chester University's School of Music, to create an exciting music competition. The Young Classical Virtuosos of Tomorrow competition drew 253 contestants not only from the Philadelphia area, but from neighboring New Jersey, Long Island, New York, and as far away as California, Michigan, even Germany and Bulgaria!

The students, ages 5-25, competed in four age categories, in multiple instrument categories including voice, piano, strings, woodwinds, brass, chamber music, and in a concerto competition. Forty two gold winners were chosen to play at the Perelman Theater at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, the home of the Philadelphia

Orchestra and a venue for world renowned musicians. The silver and bronze medalist performed at the brand new state of the art Madeleine Wing Adler Theater at West Chester University, as well as at Villanova University. The competition was a great success in motivating many students of all ages to work hard and perfect their skills as a young musician. As the Chinese saying states:

“Learning is like the horizon: there is no limit.”

2011 Board Members

- Irene Lane - President
- Denise Jones - Vice President
- Nelly Berman - Program Director
- Thomas Alberici -VP Events
- Leah Atlas
- Elena Berman
- Robert Carpenter
- Connie Clarke
- Linda Golkow
- Shailu Jaswal
- Michael Kearney
- Mark Love
- Bing Bing Qi
- Suneeta Ramaswami
- Elizabeth Wang-Hsu
- Helen Xing - VP Marketing
- Laura Zahn - Secretary





MUSIKGARTEN

Musikgarten offers children, between the ages of 2– 6, the opportunity to experience the joys of music in a classroom setting. Young students will dance, sing and jump as they learn basic musical concepts. Currently, classes are offered on Mondays and Tuesdays from 4:30-5:30.

Please see the office for further information.

Theory at NBS!

Theory classes are extremely beneficial to all music students. It will assist them with their sight reading and their understanding of music. We will need your help to motivate your children's interest in these lessons. Once we have enough students interested, we will formally schedule our theory classes.

FORMING ADULT CHAMBER MUSIC GROUPS!

The Nelly Berman School of Music would like to provide adults the opportunity to experience the bonding, collaboration, and fun that comes with performing in a chamber group. Many adults have had music in past but have followed other paths in life and have not been able to continue playing and performing.

These group classes are designed for adults who have achieved a level of proficiency with their instrument. Adult pianists will have the opportunity to play 4 hand duets and string players will be able to play with a peer accompanist or in a small string group. The groups will be conducted by a fantastic Nelly Berman School faculty member!

Performance Classes

3-4pm - Piano & 4-5pm - Instrumental

Join us Saturday afternoons for NBS Performance Classes hosted by Nelly Berman!

Performance classes are designed to give students the opportunity to perform for their peers and to get feedback in a friendly setting. It is certainly a unique opportunity!

****SEE SIGN UP SHEETS FOR AVAILABILITY****



Featured Teacher Igor Resnianski

I am sitting in the office, trying to focus on writing some important emails. However, I can not concentrate on the current task, as I am overcome with emotions listening to the exquisitely played passages of Chopin's Piano concerto wafting through the wall separating me from the recital room. It is almost 9:00pm and the marvelous



13 year old Janet Wu is playing. And this is just another teaching session, with Igor Resnianski still going strong. Janet is one of five winners of the Young Classical Virtuosos of Tomorrow Concerto Competition held last year. The winners have the opportunity to perform concerti in a concert with the West Chester University Orchestra on November 2nd. Jonathan Adler, 17 years old, is another winner and Igor Resnianski's student as well. And then there is Ethan Lee, 13 years old, yet another one of Igor's students, who will be playing with the Philadelphia Orchestra this spring. And then there are his other students...

Often I come to his lessons, to get some "tips" from his method. I have realized that his approach is very simple, and, as the Russian saying goes, "the truth lies in simplicity."

Memorize each measure, with each hand separately, then together; Be able to play each hand by heart from each measure, at random; be able to play each phrase, both hands, from numerous little sections, at random.

"Play from section # 26 by heart" says Igor- and the students oblige. "Play it Again...and Again...Again... Again."

"Now, find the most important point of tension in the section you just played and make your phrasing move towards it as if it was a magnet, and all the energy is being pulled into that point" "Again... Again...Again..."

Igor sits at the piano, and plays the phrase in question- here is how you play it. Now here, is what this melody needs to sound like." Of course, anyone who knows Igor, realizes that when he asks anything from his students, that request is always followed by a joke.

He is also Mr. Comedian.

And that is why he can ask his students to "repeat again, to the square root of the above "again"... "Otherwise," he says with a chuckle, "there will be a Russian revolution!"

Then, there is always the goal of performance for each of his students. There are Saturday performance classes at the Nelly Berman School of Music in which to participate and numerous competitions to try out for. And even if the student does not win that year, the sheer effort to bring the piece to perfection makes that student improve so much that he sounds more and more like a professional musician.

Ellen Morris, an alumnus of the Nelly Berman School of Music where she studied with me, Nelly, Irina Yurkovskaya (now in Washington, D.C.), and finally with Igor, is currently a music major at Northwestern University. She had originally tried her hand in the Math and Physics Department of the College but soon found her way back to music. In a recent visit to the Nelly Berman School of Music for a "check-up" lesson with Igor, Ellen told me "When I was studying Math and Physics, I realized that the teachers were so bored with teaching, they would tell us to learn the material on our own. In an effort to rediscover passion amongst my educators, I decided to get back to piano playing and took some lessons with one of the school's graduate students. To my amazement, I was better then she was, so I entered into the music school

Continued next page...

and am now studying with one of their piano professors. My teacher at Northwestern, although good, is not as good as my teachers at the Nelly Berman School of Music...it was the drive and passion that I experienced in my lessons with them that prompted me to return to my own enthusiasm for music.”

Igor Resnianski epitomizes passion for teaching. And he not only teaches well, but he “practices what he preaches” He tackles his own music with the same intensity, and careful attention to detail he requests of his students. How he finds the time, is hard to imagine. But he does.

As a performing pianist, he projects the same sensitivity and skill in his own playing that he asks of his students. Nelly, I, and a bunch of passionate student supporters and their families were fortunate enough witness this last Saturday, September 4th, at West Chester University’s state-of-art music hall, the Madeleine Wing Adler Theater. He played a supremely complicated and sublime concerto by Beethoven, called “The Emperor Concerto” with the Kennett Symphony. Nelly and I arrived a few moments before the concert started. Our seats, kindly provided by Igor, were right in the center of the auditorium. There was not a single chair that was unoccupied that night. The concert was completely sold out! The journey to our seats was through a tangle of legs and bodies which, in a way, impressed upon us the magnitude of this fantastic concert filled with extraordinary music and performed by a very special musician and teacher.

Congratulations, Igor. And thank you for all you do!

Elena, Nelly, Laura and Michelle

New Teachers

Dr. Steve Kramer, cello



Steve Kramer was born into a family of musicians and has been indulged in music since a very young age. He began playing the violin at age three with Grandfather Vladimir Yeshavavitch Novak, who was an eminent Soviet-Jewish violinist and teacher during his tenure in the Kiev Philharmonic, working under Maestro Nathan Rakhlin and teaching at the music school in Kiev. Novak has been Steve’s most profound influence in music pedagogy. Steve is dedicated to putting forward his grandfather’s legacy, which was greatly inspired by the music teaching philosophies of Leopold Auer, Pyotr Stolyarsky, Yuri Yankelevich, Abram Yampolsky, and Emmanuel Fischmann. At the age of five, Steve began playing the cello and soon became a pupil of the great Scandinavian cellist, Erling Blondal Bengtsson (pupil and 1st assistant of the legendary cellist, Piatigorsky at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia). He has been studying privately in Germany with Boris Pergamenschikov, and in Israel with Alexander Sinelnikov (both pupils of the legendary cellist Emmanuel Fischmann).

Galina Sakhnovskaya, voice



Born in Moldova, lyric soprano Galina Sakhnovskaya has emerged as a young artist of remarkable versatility and great vocal beauty. Galina made her operatic debut with the Delaware Valley Opera Company in Philadelphia, singing the role of Nedda in *I Pagliacci* in 2001, while still attending the prestigious Peabody Conservatory of Music, which she completed in 2003 with a Master’s Degree in Vocal Performance. Ms. Sakhnovskaya’s recital stage debut occurred in 2004 and was presented by the Tri-County Association for Emerging Artists. Ms. Sakhnovskaya has been the recipient of several awards and scholarships which include Washington International Competition in Washington DC, Center for Contemporary Opera Competition in New York, Giulio Gari Foundation International Vocal Competition in New York, New York Vocal Artists Competition, Peabody Conservatory Graduate Performance Diploma Scholarship and grant, and Mayor’s Scholarship from the University of Pennsylvania.



Dr. Mikhail Yanovitsky, piano



Mikhail Yanovitsky studied in Moscow Conservatory, the Juilliard School and Temple University. Shortly after arriving in the US, he won the Young Concert Artists International Auditions (1991), a significant recognition. After joining the roster of Steinway Artists in 2001, Dr. Yanovitsky completed his Doctoral degree at Temple University in the following year, where he defended his thesis on the piano music of Alexander Scriabin under the tutelage of his piano professor Harvey Wedeen. Later that year he assumed his post at Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago. Currently, Dr. Yanovitsky holds an Artist-in-Residence position at Temple University in Philadelphia. The Shanghai Music Company published a revised version of Dr. Yanovitsky thesis, which has been translated into Chinese, under the Scriabin's Early Piano Miniatures title. In addition to performing recitals in numerous European countries, as well as Mexico, Israel, Japan, and South Africa, Dr. Yanovitsky has concertized in 34 of the 50 US states and conducted master classes throughout the U.S., Europe, Russia, Israel, China, and Japan.

Justin Sekelewski, bass

Justin Sekelewski is a graduate of Temple University's Esther Boyer College of Music. His teachers at Temple included Terrell Stafford, Madison Rast, Dick Oatts and Bruce Barth. Mr. Sekelewski currently teaches at the University of Pennsylvania and maintains a private studio of students as well. He has performed with Ralph Bowen, Branford Marsalis, Nicholas Payton, Karrin Allyson, Joanna Pascale, Larry McKenna, Sid Simmons, Terrell Stafford and Tim Warfield Jr. amongst others.

Brian Rascon, trumpet

A native of the greater Seattle area, Brian Rascon moved to Philadelphia to complete a Masters Degree in Trumpet Performance, attaining that degree in the spring of 2011. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from Central Washington University. Brian has been a member of the Yakima Symphony Orchestra, and performed locally with the Lancaster Symphony, Media Theater and Academy Brass. He has had many students in the past few years and is looking forward to passing on his love of teaching and trumpeting at the Nelly Berman School. Brian studied with David Bilger, Brian Chin and Mark Babbitt.

Grant Uhle, voice

Grant Uhle is a graduate of Temple University's Esther Boyer School of Music holding both Master of Music and Bachelor of Music degrees in Vocal Performance. While at Temple, Grant studied privately with Christine Anderson and performed in diverse choral, opera, and musical theater ensembles. Grant is a gifted teacher for students of all ages and stylistic interests. He has performed in over 10 operas with Temple Opera Theater, Poor Richard Opera Company, Opera North Inc, and at Rock Hall in Philadelphia. He also currently performs as a tenor soloist and section leader with the Philomusica Chorale of Delaware Valley and Lutheran Church of the Holy Communion. In addition to teaching undergraduate vocal performance course and musical theater coaching at Temple University, Grant has worked with young students at Interlochen Arts Camp in Michigan.

Fabian Fuertes, clarinet



Fabian Fuertes is Instructor of Clarinet at the Nelly Berman School of Music. At the age of 16, his music career began after winning the Young Artist Concerto Competition and performing Mozart's Concerto for Clarinet in A Major, K.622 with the Patel Conservatory Youth Orchestra in 2001. While receiving his Bachelor's Degree in Music Performance at Florida State University, he was a member of the Dean's Student Advisory Committee, recipient of the Florida Bright Futures Medallion Scholarship and graduated Magna Cum Laude in 2007. While receiving his Master of Music Degree in Music Performance at the

University of Texas at Austin, Fabian provided private instruction and adjudication for the Leander Independent School District and the Dripping-Springs Independent School District. In addition, he was also able to record works by John Adams and John Corigliano with the University of Texas Wind Ensemble. He would graduate Magna Cum Laude in 2009. Currently, he is a student of Ricardo Morales and enjoys being a private clarinet instructor, recording artist, and freelance artist throughout the city of Philadelphia. Former teachers and festivals include: Deborah Bish, Frank Kowalsky, Richard MacDowell, Nathan Williams, Brian Moorhead, the Idyllwild School of Music and the Kinhaven School of Music.





Congratulations to the following students:

Katherine Hung

Winner of the 2011 NLPA National Young Musicians Showcase Competition

Jonathan Adler

Chosen by conductor Jack Moore to perform with the Olney Symphony

William Hyland

Won Gold in the Golden Key Music festival

Ethan Lee

winner of the Philadelphia Orchestra Concerto Competition – the date of the performance is Saturday, March 24th at 11:30am in Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center

Summer 2010 Youth Music

Festival Participants:

- Pianists **Melody Yu** (9 years old) **Carson** (10 years old) and **Caden Atlas** (8 years old) participated in the Tanglewood Music Festival, one of the top festivals in the world, together with students ages 14-18 in master classes with Prof. Maxim Mogilevsky, a faculty at both the Summer Tanglewood Institute and the Nelly Berman School.
- Pianist **Jonathan Adler** participated in the 2011 Indiana University Summer Piano Academy which “brings serious young pianists together with outstanding teachers and internationally renowned guest artists in an intensive and varied program within one of the world's great schools of music.” (for more information on Jonathan please see the Featured Students section)

Our Illustrious Alumni

Daniel Schlossberg

I graduated from Yale with a BA in Music in May 2010. My senior project was a 25-minute orchestral composition for the Yale Symphony Orchestra, which they premiered in full last October. After the premiere, I traveled to Paris, France to study composition with Narcis Bonet, who teaches at the Ecole Normale de Musique. While I was there, I played a recital with a soprano (and a good friend of mine) at the Fondation des Etats-Unis. In the winter and early spring, I was auditioning for graduate programs, mostly in composition. I got accepted at Yale, Juilliard, New England Conservatory, and USC, among others, and I ended up choosing Yale (they offer a full scholarship and small stipend to all their graduate students in music). In the late spring, I was living in Washington DC as the rehearsal accompanist for the Kennedy Center's production of "Follies" by Stephen Sondheim, starring Bernadette Peters (the production that is snow on Broadway). Over the summer, I spent a month as a student composer at the Aspen Music Festival in Colorado. I am now starting my Master of Music degree in Composition at Yale, studying with Christopher Theofanidis. I am also studying piano with Professor Hung-Kuan Chen, who has served as the Chair of the Piano Department at the Shanghai Conservatory and teaches at NEC as well.

Ellen Morris

I'm going to be a sophomore at Northwestern University, studying English and collaborative piano. Outside of classes I am also very involved in the theater life, music directing and playing in pit orchestras. In my freshman year, I worked on two of the biggest shows on campus as an assistant, and I'm very excited to be the musical director of "I Love you Because" in October and the assistant director of 42nd Street, a play with the biggest budget in University history - \$1,100,000! I also play for several classes and often accompany my friends' recitals. It's amazing the doors that have been opened because of music and the friendships I have made through it.



THE NELLY BERMAN SCHOOL
&
JACOBS MUSIC COMPANY

Jacobs Music Company was founded in 1900 and is a family-run business, owned and operated by the Rinaldi family. Jacobs is the exclusive Steinway & Sons representative in the Southeastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware areas. Jacobs also represents Yamaha, Disklavier, Clavinova and Samick pianos as well as Pianonation and Pianodisc player piano systems, but Jacobs is more than just a retailer. They have become a staple of the surrounding music community by providing instruments and services to artists, and music institutions, as well as sponsoring recitals, master classes, competitions and other events and presenting awards to outstanding graduating pianists at several area Universities. The members of the Rinaldi family, some of whom are musicians themselves, truly understand and support the importance of classical music in our community.

All of these great qualities resonate with the ideals of the Nelly Berman School of Music, as we seek to produce full-fledged musicians, who will carry and share the gift of music throughout their lives. We believe that we have found our match in the local music community and are very excited for our future with Jacobs Music.

Jacobs is helping our school in a number of ways. First, they supply the school with some beautiful instruments, giving your children the chance to play on the finest pianos available. They also be sponsored our annual competition, called "Young Classical Virtuoso of Tomorrow." To reciprocate all of their contributions, NBS will participate in some very exciting Jacobs Music, which will be announced in the near future. Also, a plan is being implemented for the Nelly Berman School to open a branch in Jacobs Music Company's Center City flagship location!

Please take the time to visit Jacobs Music's website at www.jacobsmusic.com

JACOBS MUSIC | HONORS

JACOBS RECEIVES HIGHEST STEINWAY AWARD

Philadelphia-based piano dealer Jacobs Music has received the Steinway & Sons Partners in Performance Dealer of the Year Award for the second consecutive year.

"It's a great honor to win this recognition even once, but it's more remarkable to win it two years in a row," said Chris Rinaldi, president of Jacobs Music.

The 111-year-old retailer competed in the Major Metropolitan cities category with Steinway dealers in Los Angeles, Chicago, Boston and Washington, D.C. Jacobs Music also has stores in Willow Grove and Whitehall, Pa.; Cherry Hill and Lawrenceville, N.J.; and Wilmington, Del.

"Our association with Steinway & Sons leads us to service some of the world's most legendary artists, which is not only a wonderful opportunity but a responsibility we take very seriously," said Al Rinaldi, chairman and CEO of Jacobs Music.



MUSIC INC., November 2011

The Nelly Berman School of Music *in the tradition of Russian Musicianship*

The Nelly Berman School of Music is a private community school that offers a full range of music, ensemble and instrumental classes for all ages. The school has over 400 students ranging in age from 2 to 80 and 40 faculty members. The instructors at the Nelly Berman School of Music studied at the finest European and American conservatories. The school was recognized by its peers when it was nominated and accepted as a **Member of the National Guild of Community Schools of the Arts.**

The school also believes in financially supporting gifted students in an extensive music program required to fulfill their potential. To respond to this need, the NBS Classical Music Institute was founded in 1995. The Institute is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to raise funds necessary to provide scholarships to gifted students based on financial need. The Institute through its Board of Directors receives its funding from grants, the gifts of generous contributors, and fund raising annual benefit concerts. Through the school, the institute also maintains an active community outreach program by bringing free concerts to various venues in the community, such as libraries, retirement communities, museums and bookstores.

The enriching cultural experience of classical music is thus shared with everyone.

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