



**DANA MARTIN STUDIO**  
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## QUICK LINKS



# KEYS

DANA MARTIN STUDIO  
 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

### NEWSLETTER INFO

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 Dana Martin Studio

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KEYS | JANUARY 2025

## WHAT'S NEW FOR DANA

Andrea and Jonathan surprised Anthony and me with tickets to the Gaither Vocal Band Christmas concert at Southeast in Louisville on December 11.

We had a wonderful time at Andrea and Jonathan's church Christmas Eve service. It was truly special!

We celebrated Christmas with Andrea, Jonathan, and their family the weekend after Christmas. It was wonderful!

Jon-Michael, Tiffany, and their family went to Oklahoma (in-laws) for the holidays this year, but we got to talk with them on Christmas.



Jon-Michael, Landree, Tiffany, Hadlee



Anthony, Dana, Andrea, Jonathan, Megan, Will, Evie, Natalea, Ryan



Anthony & Dana at concert

JANUARY 2025



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## GRACE BAILEY STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Grace

Hi, I'm Grace Bailey. I am 9 years old, and a 3rd grade student at Rosa Parks Elementary. I live with my mom, Lucy and my dog, Hart Biscuit.

My favorite subject is writing, and my least favorite is technology. I enjoy art, drawing, writing my own stories, having dance parties with my mom in the kitchen, and singing; I'm learning to sing along with the piano as I play, for example, I accompanied my mom and I singing the Christmas carol "Silent Night" and we sent out a video of us to family and friends on Christmas eve this year! I also enjoy theatre and have been involved with Lexington Children's Theatre as an after-school activity when I have the time. Recently I'm into journaling, it makes me feel so sophisticated! I love spending time with my friends, especially since I'm an only child, and I try to keep up with a busy

social life. I like swimming in the summertime but can be a bit of a sloth in the wintertime, enjoying my lazy, cold, gray days watching TV, playing games on my kindle, and creating new worlds for my littlest pet shop to explore.

I also love to travel and see new sights, since my Dad is from NYC, we have spent several Christmases in the city, sightseeing, and I have an aunt and uncle who live in Los Angeles, so we like to travel out west, go to the beaches, go for hikes, eat yummy foods that I don't usually eat, and of course go to Disneyland!

I've been taking piano from Ms. Dana for one and a half years, and when I struggle, I just take a break, and I always find my way through...

I know practice does not make perfect, because perfect does not exist, but practice sure has helped me come out of my shell, and build my confidence, so has playing at recitals. What can I say, I'm a work in progress.

*Grace is always up for a challenge and is making amazing progress in piano. She's full of energy, never at a loss for words, and an absolute delight!*



## COMMUNITY Studio Happenings



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

KRISHWIN KUMARAN JAN 22  
 KASI DEPEW JAN 26



IMPORTANT DATES

WINTER-SPRING SEMESTER  
 BEGINS JAN 6

ART BEAT CELEBRATION  
 JAN 17

WINTER PERFORMANCE  
 FEB 22

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DMS has been invited to participate in the Art Beat Celebration, a local week-long focus on the arts for children! Here are the details about when DMS students will perform:

**Friday, January 17, 4:30 pm**  
**Marksbury Family Branch Library**  
**2197 Versailles Road, Lexington**

Choose a recent fave or something new. We'll only have 2 piano lessons before the performance, so practice NOW to be prepared in time!

Please RSVP (yes or no) here:  
<https://bit.ly/dmsartbeat2024rsvp>  
 or scan the QR code.



## NOTE WORTHY

**Gabe Bailey** accompanied The Lexington School middle school chorus singing "Winter With You" at Lexington Catholic's holiday concert.

**Natalea Carey** sang a solo in the Trinity Chapel Christmas program. Watch the video here:

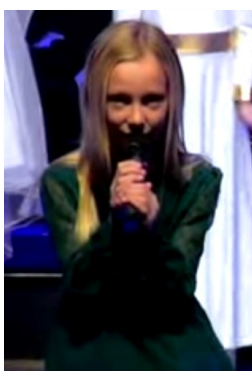
<https://youtu.be/g9exlaOIsHA?si=WDHaHhr-co276-yB>. **Ryan and Megan Carey** recorded back-

ground vocals in a recording studio for the Christmas song.

**Receive recognition** or participate in something cool or note worthy? Share it with me along with a photo of your participation and get in the DMS Keys newsletter!



Gabe at the Lexington Catholic concert



Natalea singing "Who Would Imagine a King"



Ryan



Megan

## FUNNY CAT MEMES



## PRACTICE TIPS

*How Practicing Piano Is Like Following GPS*

**1**

When you pull up GPS directions for destination, probably like me, you read over the entire directions before beginning your journey. It's the same with a new piece. Before beginning your "journey" of playing the piece, look over the piece first to see "where you're going." This helps minimize any surprises along the way. It also helps you avoid pausing to figure out what comes next, so you can keep a slow, steady rhythm.

**2**

When following GPS, knowing ahead of time if the next turn is going to be left or right allows you to be in the correct lane in plenty of time. Likewise, in playing music, knowing what's coming up lets you be prepared for it.

**3**

Before you practice a new piece, take a few moments to "map out" the piece. Look over each hand individually, noticing the key signature, hand position, intervals, etc., as well as anything unexpected such as changing hand positions. Mark your music to remind you of these "unexpected turns" as you play your piece.



## CHRISTMAS RECITAL FUN!

We had an amazing Christmas Recital with 31 talented students! From "Away In a Manger" to "Carol of the Bells," we enjoyed everything, including jazzy tunes, beautiful flowing pieces, and some awesome duets. The parent/child duets were a big hit, as always! Our grand finale was a super fun duet, "Sleigh Ride Fantasy."

After the recital, we warmed up with delicious hot chocolate and cookies.

A quick shoutout to a few students who had to leave early and aren't in the photo—missed you guys!

Thanks to all the students for your hard work and to the parents, grandparents, siblings, and friends who came to support. You all made the evening magical. We appreciate you!

