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The Concord Conservatory of Music

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In This Issue

[News at CCM](#)

[Technology in the Classrooms](#)

[It's all Baroque to Us](#)

[Value Gained from Studying Baroque and Classical Music](#)

[Student Spotlight: CCM students who play Baroque and Classical music](#)

[CCM's 2018 -2019 Concert Series](#)

News at CCM

Important November Dates:



- [Mozart and the Masters of the Baroque](#), November 9th, 7:30 pm
- Student Recitals, Saturday, November 17th, 1:00, 2:30, and 4:00 pm
- Thanksgiving Break, Thursday, November 22 through Sunday, November 25th



Save the date! Saturday, March 30th, 6 pm for the CCM **American Roots Winter Party** featuring the band [Twisted Pine](#). *Details to come soon.*

Technology in the Classrooms



“This week he was so excited and eager to start his lesson using the iPad! It helped capture his attention and focus on learning. Of course, it makes it more fun!”

--CCM faculty member Chieko Loy

Exciting news! **Thanks to a generous donor, CCM now has iPads with powerful apps for use in all of our studios.** An iPad loaded with the right applications and connected to the internet is a dynamic tool for instruction, practice, lesson notes, audio and video recording, and more.

Today, there's always an app for everything, and now we've got the best music teaching apps ready for our faculty and students. Such resources include the Sight Reading Factory, for customized sight reading practice, and Goodear Pro, for ear training. The Sing and See app provides immediate feedback for voice students. All students will benefit from TonalEnergy

Tuner, ForScore (for sheet music), Spotify, and YouTube. Providing iPads with these licensed apps for our faculty members to use in their lessons elevates the learning experience at CCM, and increases the fun factor.

Internet access and recording capability are two more key benefits of each iPad. Online music resources and videos give students the opportunity to play along with a song either as-is or at a slower tempo. Videos and photos taken in the student's lessons aid in daily practice, from reviewing the student's posture to showing the faculty member performing their song. The endless list of benefits makes our iPad program a great learning tool.

It's all Baroque to Us



According to Merriam-Webster dictionary, *baroque* is “relating to or having the characteristics of a style of artistic expression prevalent especially in the 17th century that is marked generally by use of complex forms, bold ornamentation, and the juxtaposition of contrasting

elements often conveying a sense of drama, movement, and tension.” Baroque music (c. 1600 – c. 1750) came after the Renaissance time and before Classical.

Are there instruments that lend itself well to Baroque music? CCM faculty member Dr. Greta Feeney loves the sound of a harpsichord, cello, violin, and flute or oboe d’amore for this repertoire. “This creates an exciting but transparent sound that allows me to blend with the ensemble without worrying about projecting past them,” she says. Although CCM has a piano instead of a harpsichord, Greta assures us that the Steinway in the sanctuary is one of the best she’s heard in recent memory—very supple and light. Mozart and the baroque music will come alive with Greta’s singing and with the beautiful mix of our other performers, cellist [Fabrizio Mazzetta](#), [Nicholas Southwick](#) on flute, and guests, violinist Jordan Delphos, and pianist Nicolas Giusti this Friday evening at CCM.

One interesting fact supplied by Greta—men who sang in the soprano register played the heroic leading roles in Baroque Opera while the tenors and baritones usually played villains and buffoons. The castrato who became a star ignited the hearts of many women in the audience and regarded essentially like the 'rock stars' of the day. Contrary to this, join us on Friday evening to hear soprano, Greta Feeney, sing Mozart and baroque classics.

Value Gained from Studying Baroque and Classical Music



According to Greta, baroque music can be difficult to learn but essential. She says, “students gain a deeper understanding of beauty, which is essential in all artistic pursuits. Baroque music is ravishingly beautiful to me because I feel it speaks deeply of the human obsession with beauty, and with its exoticism and irregularity (like the famous 'Baroque Pearl' in Vermeer's ubiquitous painting)”.

Learning classical and baroque standards helps students gain techniques, methods, and skills to develop their music abilities. Does it also improve brain functioning? Numerous studies have attempted to prove this theory. Consequentially, the creation of *The Mozart Effect* and its underlining theory that Mozart makes us smarter. According to Wikipedia, “The term was first coined by Alfred A. Tomatis, who used Mozart’s music as a stimulus in his work attempting to cure a variety of disorders.”

We know that learning music, in general, provides benefits to young and older minds. Music provides emotional and social benefits. It helps the student develop their math capabilities and aids with academic development. Specifically, do students who learn keyboard/piano at a young age benefit from learning Mozart early? Moreover, what’s Mozart’s effect on epilepsy patients? There’s much to read on the topic.

Decide for yourself; here's one article on the topic: [The Mozart Effect \(Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine, 2001 article\)>>](#)

Student Spotlight: CCM students who play Baroque and Classical music



CCM aims to make lifelong music lovers. When we hear about CCM students who go on to pursue music at college, it's a feel-good moment for us. **Olivia Ceterski**, who has taken viola lessons with Susan Gottschalk for years, is in her final year in high school and then heads to college for MUSIC! We are truly excited to hear that Olivia aims to have a career in music! She mostly wants to keep it about classical music and is interested in participating in a chamber group, such as a quartet or quintet while at college. One of her goals is to work with orchestras that record music for movie and video game soundtracks!

Although Olivia loves playing both classical and baroque music, playing contemporary music is her favorite. She says, "I enjoy contemporary pieces of music. I was introduced to this type in my high school orchestra, and it sounds significantly different than classical, baroque or romantic." She finds that modern pieces are easier to connect to, which she suspects makes her playing better.

Does she have a favorite composer? Yes. Olivia said that she enjoys pieces written by English composers, such as Ralph Vaughan Williams and Gustav Holst. She finds that many pieces written by these composers are quite beautiful and, in her opinion, they highlight and reflect more emotion than pieces from older composers. *We look forward to hearing her play throughout this year.*

Ji Kwon, **Jason Gee's** cello instructor, tells us that he too excels at playing baroque music. Jason says, "I mainly like playing baroque and classical music because I like the simplicity of the music and the meaning behind the pieces. I enjoy both styles of music, but I would prefer classical music because you have more freedom to play the piece the way you want to play it."

Why does he think other students should learn baroque and classical music? Jason says, "I think that students should learn both classical and baroque music because of beauty and simplicity of it. Also, it will teach students how to learn more about the different styles of music that generations before them had enjoyed and liked, just as we like popular music today. He says, "the difference that I found between classical and baroque music was that baroque music is more consistent with the tempo and dynamics, whereas classical music you have more freedom with the tempo and the style, and you can play the music the way you want to play it."

CCM's 2018 -2019 Concert Series—*mark your calendars or better yet, purchase your tickets today!*



The Series continues after CCM Jazz – Standards Our Way with more jazz as well as classical and American Roots music.

November 9, 7:30 pm, [Mozart and the Masters of the Baroque](#)

An exciting evening of Mozart, Myslivecek, Vivaldi, Porpora and more! Dazzling and virtuosic baroque music, including opera arias written for the 18-century superstar male castrato soprano Farinelli, featuring members of the outstanding faculty of the Concord Conservatory of Music, in ensemble with soprano Greta Feeney. [To purchase tickets>>](#)

February 8, 7:30 pm, [Mile 12 – Bluegrass](#)

[Mile Twelve](#) is a fresh, hard-driving young band beautifully walking the line between original and traditional bluegrass. Fast gaining recognition for their outstanding performances in bluegrass and folk circles, Evan Murphy, Bronwyn Keith-Hynes, Nate Sabat, BB Bowness and David Benedict write captivating songs and daring instrumental pieces from diverse influences. Banjo luminary Tony Trischka says, “Mile Twelve is carrying the bluegrass tradition forward with creativity and integrity.” [To purchase tickets>>](#)

March 9th at 2:00 pm – Grammy-Award winning [Okee Dokee Brothers, a Family Concert](#)

The GRAMMY Award-winning Okee Dokee Brothers perform and record family music in the American Roots tradition with the goal to inspire children and their parents to get outside and get creative. The four-time Parents' Choice Award winners have garnered praise from the likes of NPR's All Things Considered and USA Today, and have been called “two of family music's best songwriters.” [To purchase tickets>>](#)

April 5, 7:30 pm, [CCM Jazz – Originals](#)

We bring the CCM Jazz faculty to kick off National Jazz Appreciation Month. Tsuyoshi Honjo on saxophone, Justin Meyer on bass, Brian Friedland on piano, Phil Sargent on guitar, Gabriela Martina on vocals, and Mike Connors on percussion will perform their original compositions. [To purchase tickets>>](#)

[Please consider purchasing your tickets in advance>>](#)

