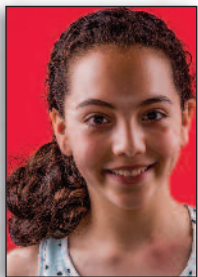


# a Look at the Performers!



## *Luciana Balzer*

**Luciana is 12, in 6th grade, and is finishing 5 years of piano study.** She has really persevered through some very challenging pieces and has done amazing work. She loves exciting

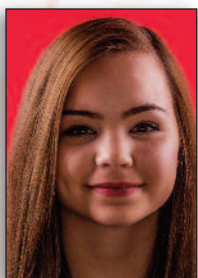
music and beautiful pieces, never settling for ordinary sounding songs! I appreciate her hard work and the great attitude she brings every week! Her duet with Serena has been a great achievement being much more challenging than we thought it would be! Luciana, you have proven your performing abilities! Congratulations! ✨



## *Serena Balzer*

**Serena is 15, a freshman, and is finishing 8 years of piano study.** She enjoys upbeat jazz songs with fun pizzazz as well as songs with great jazzy beats. It has been a great year of

music making for her with great achievements along the way! She was nominated for the AIM Honors Recital, being noted as one of the best students of the year! She has been a wonderful team member to many students in our studio again this year. Thank you, Serena, for digging deep with so many ensembles this recital! ✨



## *Marissa Bartels*

**Marissa is 14, in 8th grade, and is finishing 6 years of piano study.** She has completed another year of piano with another fractured bone along the way. She was very

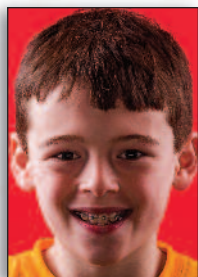
resilient and found ways to practice with her splints. She has enjoyed the challenge of her recital music this spring! Marissa, you have made it through another year and enjoyed lessons and music making! I am so proud of you! Congratulations as you leave middle school and enter the high school world!



## *Annia Blasi*

**Annia is 10, in 4th grade, and is finishing 2 years of piano study.** She has grown this year and was able to memorize music to participate in AIM. She has really blossomed with her

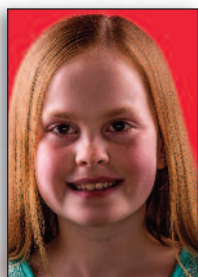
music this year and shown tremendous artistry and movement around the keyboard! Her recital pieces have been particularly fun for her this year. Annia, Congratulations on your second recital and playing such vibrant music for us today!



## *Graham Blasi*

**Graham is 10, in 4th grade, and is finishing his first year of piano study.** He has done a great job learning notes, rhythm, and keyboard playing. We have enjoyed having fun at the

piano and playing music that sounded like the titles. He is a hard worker but is always glad when it is time to relax and there is no more homework! Congratulations on completing your first year of piano Graham!



## *Claire Burgess*

**Claire is 9, in 3rd grade, and is completing her first year of piano study.** We have had a great year learning, working, playing, and completing a first AIM exam! Claire is always

ready for her lesson, and has a colorful scowl for her sister's comments which has been a fun dynamic every Tuesday night! She has done a great job with her duet with Emily this year. Congratulations to you Claire on a very successful first year!



## *Emily Burgess*

**Emily is 11, in 6th grade, and is completing 3 years of piano study.** She shows much perseverance in learning her music and enjoying the challenges. We had a

great time working together for her school's solo and ensemble contest on her clarinet. It has been a pleasure to work with her, watch her grow, and motivate her throughout the year. She has achieved a lot in her recital pieces and ensembles this year. Emily, you are an exciting musician who has brought tremendous achievement to our studio this year. Congratulations!



## *Sammy Dykhuis*

**Sammy is 16, a junior, and is finishing 11 years of piano study.** She loves to play the piano for her own enjoyment, enjoying music that she loves. She is a student who has a love for piano and who

perseveres no matter how busy she is with the other parts of her life. She juggles sports and music, finding a way to fit it all together. Sammy, your artistry and your love for playing the piano is yours forever. Thanks for being such a positive student in all that you do here in the studio!



## *Anna Fortelka*

**Anna is 13, in 7th grade, and is finishing 7 years of piano study.** She has worked very hard this year and has been very excited about her piano accomplishments. She enjoys her piano playing skills and is

always excited about her achievements! She has continually amazed me with her enthusiasm and striving through the challenges. She did an amazing job with her AIM music, playing in the school talent show, and being excited about what is ahead! Anna is confident, caring and a wonderful student in our studio! Keep up the good work!



## *Ella Gsedl*

**Ella is 18, a senior, and has studied piano for 10 years.** She has always enjoyed songs with scales and fun sounds. Her ensemble abilities have grown tremendously and her duet has been a lot of

fun for her this year. She is very responsible and always keeping me on my toes with our piano schedule. Her attention to musical details has grown this year, making her music expressive and lively. Ella is a kind, dedicated piano student who brings an enthusiastic attitude into our studio. Ella, thank you for your sweet spirit and love for piano. I wish you every success in the years ahead in college!



## *Mina Gsedl*

**Mina is 15, a freshman, and has studied piano for 7 years.** She loves upbeat, jazzy songs and especially loves to play duets. Her sense of rhythm is strong and a natural

strength in her. She works hard at her musical accomplishments. Nina has a strong ear for music and can pick up almost any melody with ease. She is a quiet, sensitive artist in her playing and constantly shows me all she is capable of achieving. We have had a great year arranging her recital solo and playing big chords! Her duet with Kyra was a lot of fun for her this year. Nina, your beautiful playing and our duets are a sparkle in my life!



## *Sarah Lydon*

**Sarah is 12, in 6th grade, and has studied piano for 7 years.** She has a deep love for music, and has enjoyed her flute as well as piano. She had an amazing year with choosing very challenging AIM

music that truly inspired her. She has leaped in her keyboard abilities this year! She is a poster child for persevering and achieving the goals set out to accomplish. Sarah, your musical aspirations have taken you far this year and I am so proud of you!



## *Caleb Logan*

**Caleb is 13, in 7th grade, and is finishing 2 years of piano study.** He enjoys playing music that has an easy beat to understand. He also likes to play music that has excitement in it. We have to work

hard together to keep him interested and motivated. He is a scientist and an artist, enjoying something that truly is worthy of his attention. Caleb is unstoppable when engaged and I have enjoyed the challenge of finding those pieces that inspire him. Thanks for a great year Caleb!



## *Priscilla Logan*

**Priscilla is 12, in 6th grade, and is finishing 2 years of piano study.** She has moved at lightning speed in her musical advancement again this year, keeping me running with her. She has had tremendous

motivation which, coupled with her strong musical aptitude, has made for an exciting second year of keyboard accomplishments. She skipped 2 AIM levels and still aced her exam! Priscilla, you have been an awesome student this year. It is an absolute blast moving with you through piano accomplishments!



## *Timothy Logan*

**Timothy is 8, in 3rd grade, and is finishing 2 years of piano study.** He has had some great successes this year, skipping a whole

level of books due to so much practice! He completed his first AIM exam and did awesome memory work. His successes at piano have been very exciting for him this year! His big smiles are my greatest gift by far! Timothy, you have proven yourself to be an exciting piano player. Good job!



## *Gwenneth Mika*

**Gwennie, as we like to call her, is 6 and completing her first year of piano study.** She has been a delightful student and kept me on my toes all year. I am so proud of her for

completing her first AIM exam, memorizing music so successfully. She has enjoyed her recital duet and playing it with her sister Maura. She makes sure that she is doing her very best and telling me where her she can improve. Gwenneth, you have done a great job this year and I am so proud of you!



## *Maura Mika*

**Maura is 12, in 7th grade, and has been studying piano for 6 years.** She loves to play jazzy music and that which challenges her. She enjoys complex music, with passages that

she can show off her super fast fingers. She received a 102% on her AIM exam, receiving every point she could get for an absolutely perfect score. I have enjoyed her smile and her candid way of telling me what she needs to work on every week. Maura, you have had a very successful year in piano. Congratulations!



## *Leah Mika*

**Leah is 10, in 4th grade, and is finishing her 5th year of piano study.** She loves music that has a great beat and is fun to play! She has had a wonderful time with her

recital music and especially playing Main Street Rag with her sister Maura. She is an amazing gymnast and brings a lot of that energy to her music! Leah, you have learned so much this year and really blossomed in your musical understanding and expression! Congratulations on a great year!



## *Kaleigh O'Brien*

**Kaleigh is 13, in 8th grade, and is finishing 7 years of piano study.** Kaleigh loves to be busy and learning new music constantly! She

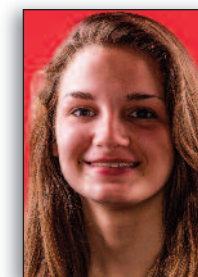
doesn't like to be bored so she practices! She is a member of the 200 practices club, which balances out some of the other years!! J She was a part of Glorious Grands and performed with 24 other piano players on one stage! Kaleigh, you are an inspiration to me and a total joy in our studio. Congratulations on leaving the middle school behind and finally getting to high school!



## *Matthew Rattiff*

**Matthew is 10, in 5th grade, and is completing his 5th year of piano study.** He continues to work at completing his practice each week and is very happy when he has

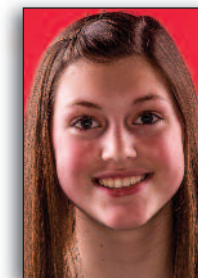
accomplished his music. He did a great job completing his AIM exam this year! He loves to play music he knows and music with a fun beat! He has an ear for beautiful music and always enjoys his accomplishments. Matthew, you have proven over and over this year your piano playing abilities!



## *Anna Reitz*

**Anna is 14, in 8th grade, and is finishing her 6th year of piano study.** She has pushed herself in some truly challenging music this year and has had great success! She is artistic in

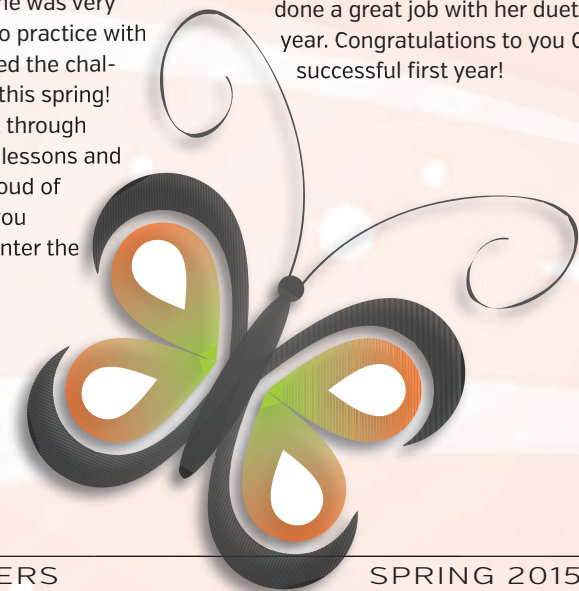
her musical expression and works hard at it. She is steadfast in her practicing and it totally pays off in her accomplishments. She loves playing her recital music and has especially enjoyed her duet with Kaleigh. Anna, you have played some beautiful music this year and had a lot of fun doing it. Congratulations!



## *Elise Ricamato*

**Elise is 13, in 8th grade, and is finishing 7 years of piano study.** She enjoys all kinds of music and has challenged herself tremendously this year! She has grown through some really

advanced music this year. She had a piano playing role in her school play which was awesome! Her musical achievements went far and beyond what she imagined it would be this year. Elise, I am so very proud of your successes this year! Congratulations!





### *Will Ricamato*

**Will is 11 in 5th grade, and is completing his 3rd year of piano study!** He enjoys music that he can easily understand and play. He loves his successes and I

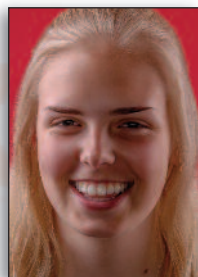
love his confidence! He comes to piano every week ready to take on his music and get ready for new challenges. He completed his second AIM exam this year. He has taken on two duets for the recital and had a lot of fun doing them. Will, you are an amazing student with so much musical ability! Way to go!



### *Tyler Ricamato*

**Tyler is 8, in 2nd grade, and is completing 2 years of piano study.** He is an intensely chatty musician, talking, playing, playing, talking...Tyler is an animated adventure! He

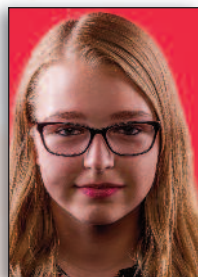
has worked hard at his music and has been very dutiful in completing his tasks. He completed his first AIM exam this year with great memory work! We have worked hard together to overcome performance woes and he has rocked it. Tyler, you have achieved so many successes this year. Congratulations!



### *Barbara Richert*

**Barbara is 16, a junior, and has studied piano for 8 years.** She has had a really busy year with sports and activities, but has still made piano a big part of her life. She loves

to use her strong fingers for the big sounds with deep tones with an ever artistic quality to all her playing. She completed a level 6 AIM exam! I love seeing her drive up in her very own car! J Barb, thanks for all your work, your smile, your perseverance, and for getting to the finish line. Congratulations!



### *Sara Richert*

**Sara is 15, a freshman, and has studied piano for 7 years.** This year has been a real challenge for Sara. She works at many activities while pursuing the highest challenges in

piano. She is artistic, talented and devoted to the music she loves to play. We have found some exciting music to play together which has been very inspiring to her. She completed Level 5 AIM which was a big accomplishment! She is very motivated to play cool piano music and has done a great job learning some hard pieces this year. Congratulations Sara!



### *Kyra Saflarski*

**Kyra is 15, a freshman, and is completing 2 years of piano study in our studio.** She has enjoyed learning piano as music is a big love in her life. She has grown

this year as she has advanced in her keyboard abilities. Playing music that she enjoys has been a big goal for her and she has met that goal this year! She enjoyed playing a duet with Nina this year as well! Kyra, you are a wonderful musician and achieved a lot this year. Congratulations!



### *Lisa Soppi*

**Lisa is 8, in 2nd grade, and is completing her 2nd year of piano study in our studio!** She has had so much fun playing the piano and learning how to move around on the keyboard.

She was excited to play songs that she loves in her school talent show this year. She completed her first AIM exam and did wonderful memory work for it. We have a great duet this year and it has been a blast! Lisa, Congratulations on a great year of piano!



### *Dana Tomasevic*

**Dana is 8, in 3rd grade, and is completing her first year of piano study.** She has worked hard with note reading this year as she has begun to move around on the keyboard. She is playing

a duet for the recital which is a big accomplishment. Her musical expression has grown throughout the year which has been very exciting to experience. Dana, you have worked hard this year and have had many successes. Congratulations!



### *Ema Tomasevic*

**Ema is 10, in 4th grade, and is completing her 2nd year of piano study in our studio.** She completed her first AIM exam this year. She has taken on much more challenging music and has

enjoyed her successes tremendously. She recently auditioned one of her recital pieces for the school talent show and will be performing it on June 2nd! I am so proud of her accomplishments this year. Congratulations, Ema, on a year of piano success!



### *Katelynn Tracey*

**Katelynn is 11, in 5th grade and is completing her 5th year of piano study.** She is creative, artistic, imaginative, and full of musical energy. She loves to explore

learning songs she knows on the keyboard and is always picking out melodies and finding ways to play them. She has done a great job this year in concentrating on her music and reaching new heights of advanced playing. Katelynn, I am so proud of your work in piano this year and how much you have concentrated for music reading success. Good job!



### *Jessica Siletsky*

**As a professional musician and music teacher, being an assistant in mom's studio has been very natural.** When I'm not teaching piano, I work as an early childhood Music

Together teacher at Wee Heart Music, I do digital filmmaking and photography through Living Narratives, and am a mom of a lively, adorable 4 year old. I am blessed to have been part of each of your children's lives and piano study this year. Hopefully, I have been able to make them smile even a fraction of the amount they have made me smile.



### *Kate Vallaro*

**Kate is 9, in 3rd grade, is and is completing her 3rd year of piano study.** She is excited about all that she is learning and the fun of new songs. She

completed her first AIM exam this year and did great memory work. She has worked hard at rhythm and note reading this year as she has progressed in her studies. She has really enjoyed her recital solos and getting good at them. Kate, you have done a great job this year. Congratulations!



### *Debi Inch*

**I have been teaching piano for 28 years, all of which has taken place here in West Chicago.** I have a love for all of my students, young and old, striving to find the music

and styles which will bring excitement to all who are studying piano with me. I find the creativity in music making joyous and fun (!) as well as deeply personal with those God has entrusted me with each year. In all these years, the teaching journey has been a path through the lives and hearts of students and parents that counts for blessing after blessing. Thank you to everyone for such an amazing and exciting opportunity!



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# recital

SPRING 2015

Debi Inch Piano Studio