

# The Suzuki Piano Studio of Nena LaMarre

***“I’ve always had those little goals that I’ve worked toward. They add up.”***

~ Stacy Allison, Mountaineer

## **SAO Annual Conference – Ottawa**

The conference this year marked the end of my time as Chair of the Board of the Suzuki Association of Ontario. Dr. Suzuki’s concept of life-long learning took on new meaning for me as I grew personally and professionally through the work that needed to be done to help support and encourage the members of the SAO. I can look back with pride on the many accomplishments of our Board over the past six years, from an updated logo and website ([www.suzuki.org](http://www.suzuki.org)), active Facebook page (Suzuki MUSIC in/au Canada), to successful annual conferences and a healthy bank balance that enables us to fund training, SAA conference attendance and special student events. I look forward now to one year as Past Chair, supporting out new Chair Carmen Evans as she begins her journey. I was touched by the very thoughtful gift with which I was presented, a photo from last year’s conference in London with an insert of the SAO logo. Here is a photo of Carmen making the presentation.



## **Save the Dates!**

- ✓ Monday, December 12: Carol Party, Guest residence
- ✓ 100-Day Party (Glow-in-the-Dark bowling): Friday, January 6, 2017
- ✓ Make Music with a Friend (Group 3): Monday, February 13, 4:30pm – 6:00pm, Howard residence
- ✓ Bluejean Jamboree: Saturday, June 10, 2017, 3:30pm (to be confirmed)

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### 2017 Mini-journal Cover Contest

How wonderful to see different student's art work featured in the Mini-journal of the SAA over the years. The students enjoy this annual artistic challenge. I have enjoyed having the colourful and varied pictures decorating the studio throughout the fall.

### Holiday Alert and Christmas Carols

The Christmas Break this year will be from December 23 – January 9. Have a great holiday, and play lots of carols. Sing along! Get out the jingle bells! Some lovely traditions are developing around Christmas music in our studio families. If you have not started one yourself, why not give it some thought and start one this year?

### House Cleaning

- Please be sure that the side door is closed behind you and your child. All outdoor clothing and footwear should be left at the side door.
- Please make sure student's nails are trimmed and hands are washed before every lesson. It might be a good idea to wash your hands after the lesson as well.
- Take a moment to turn cell phones off or to vibrate.
- No electronic games should come into the Studio.
- Students are expected to stay to the end of Group.



### Book One Graduate!

Congratulations to Hayley, who celebrated her Book One Graduation with her family recently. Here's a lovely photo commemorating her special day, above.

### Snowflake Serenade

What a wonderful time we had together at our annual recital. So many special performances and a spectacular ending with six hands on one piano! This is something I have never seen before, and doubt that I will see again. That's a pretty special group of teenagers that collaborated on that once-in-a-lifetime performance.

I would like to take a moment to thank all the parents who helped their children in every way; practicing over the days, weeks and months, helping with clothing choices, remembering shoes and music, bringing food to share, and celebrating accomplishments. Special thanks also to the following:

- ❖ Mr. Kim, for the beautiful invitations
- ❖ Mollie for her help before and during the event
- ❖ James and his mom May, for help setting up and cleaning up after
- ❖ Sara Rask for the great photos on the next page

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