



Music Lessons on Piano, Voice & Guitar

January 2025 Newsletter



Alek Wasserman, Founder

 **Triad Music Academy**

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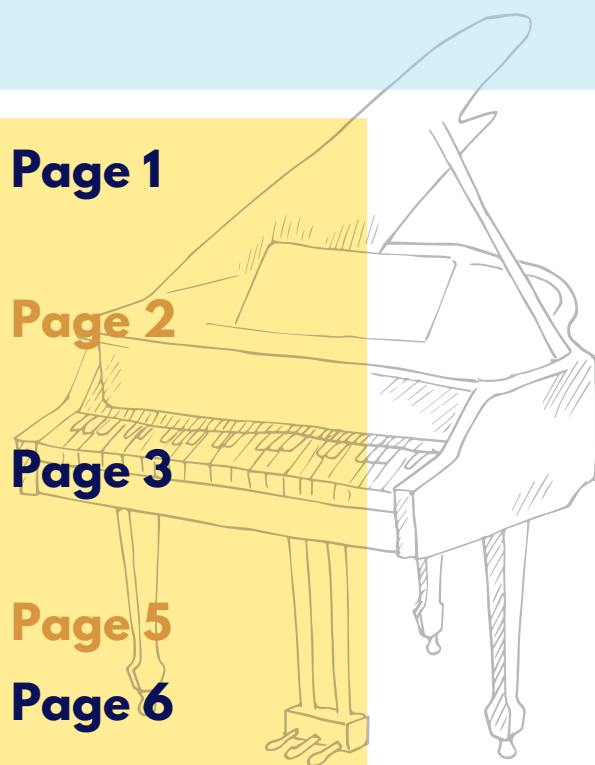
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Student of the Month: Camille R.

Piano Student of PG Hazard & Han Vu



Q: What has been your favorite experience with Triad Music Academy?

A: Recitals!

Q: Which musicians do you look up to or like to listen to?

A: Dolly Parton and Billie Eilish.

Q: What do you like most about piano lessons?

A: Learning piano songs that I can sing along to as I play.

Q: What other activities do you do besides piano?

A: Ballet, theater, and Hebrew School.

Q: Why did you decide to take piano lessons?

A: I find learning how to play instruments and reading music to be fun and good life skills, like patience and challenging your mind.

"Camille is very mature for her age. She behaves and speaks like an adult - it reflects in her work ethic and piano playing. She is responsible while also knowing how to have fun and communicate!" - Han Vu, TMA Piano Instructor



Teacher of the Month: Natalie Barela

TMA Piano Instructor



Q: How did you decide to become a professional pianist? What did the journey look like for you?

A: As the first person in my family to ever take music lessons, it surprisingly wasn't too much of a scary or unsupported choice. I chose to study solo piano as an undergrad because it was exciting. From here is where I began my collaborative journey, and my world is forever changed! This brought me from TX to NC for grad school, and the rest is history!

Q: What is your favorite type of music to listen to? What do you like to perform?

A: Oh, that's an easy one, Hip-Hop! Love me some Missy Elliott and Rihanna! As for performing, that's tougher. For solos, I'd say Rachmaninoff for the win (Gershwin is a close second). Collaboratively, it's a tie between Clara Schumann and Ravel.

Q: Do you have any hobbies or special interests outside of music?

A: I also enjoy cooking, playing air hockey (relatively undefeated champion), and reading mystery thrillers ("a whodunit").

"What has impressed me most about Natalie's teaching is that all of her students seem to love playing the piano. Natalie's studio is consistent and full of joy. She has also done wonderful work as a substitute instructor when called upon. Natalie is a great asset to the TMA Community."

- Alek Wasserman, TMA Founder & Lead Piano Instructor



Piano Instructor: Rebecca Shneiderman



Rebecca Shneiderman

**BS in Biology, Salem College
Advanced Piano Studies, Salem
College & Jerusalem Academy of
Music and Dance**

Triad Music Academy welcomes our newest Piano Instructor, Rebecca Shneiderman!

Rebecca joins TMA after years of public performances throughout the Piedmont Triad, and study with prominent pianists in Tel Aviv, New York City, and locally in Winston-Salem.

In the course of her musical studies, Rebecca performed a senior recital at Salem College, despite having been a biology major. Some of her more notable teachers include Leonidas Lipovetsky and Nancy Wurtele, who were both students of Rosina Lhevinne, perhaps the most famous piano teacher of all time.

Working her way back into teaching after quite some time off, Rebecca has already done some wonderful work with many of our students as a substitute instructor. Her passion for music and for working with students has really shone through in her short time with TMA so far.

While Rebecca chose to go into the sciences for the bulk of her career, she clearly has had a breadth of musical training. I had her play for me during the interview process, and I can say that she understands the advanced concepts necessary to play Bach and other standard piano repertoire stylistically. She also plays with a very similar technique style to my own.

Here is Rebecca's take on joining TMA:

"Music has been the highlight of my life from age 5. Learning to play the piano, the most orchestral instrument, enables us to appreciate music more and communicate directly with the universal language of mind and soul.

"The physical aspect of playing the piano is made easy by using the Piano Safari method, and I have enjoyed becoming familiar with this method book series.

"I have been performing since age 10 and am so excited to help children learn to play and pass on musical ideas to the next generation!"

On another note, Rebecca is fluent in English, Hebrew, and Russian, and she is capable of teaching lessons in all three languages. We are excited to add to our capabilities by having multilingual piano offerings!

Finally, all new TMA instructors must be insured and pass State, Federal, and National Sex Offender Registry background checks in order to be welcomed onto the team. It is my priority to ensure your student's safety and wellbeing as they pursue their musicmaking journey with TMA.

If you are interested in piano lessons with Rebecca, please reach out to me via (336) 497-1136 or alek@triadmusicacademy.com and we'll be more than happy to get you on her schedule!



-Alek Wasserman
Founder & Lead Piano Instructor



Lesson Openings

Teacher	Location	Instrument	Day	Time
<u>Daniel Bukin</u>	Main Studio	Piano	Saturday	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
<u>Mark Fields</u>	Main Studio	Guitar	Wednesday	4:00-4:30 PM & 6:30-7:30 PM
<u>Rebecca Shneiderman</u>	W-S In-Home	Piano	Tuesday	5:15-8:00 PM

Fully Booked Instructors:

Natalie Barela, Austin Caldie,
Laura Carisa Gardea, PG Hazard,
Hayley Mullins, Shannon Lindegren,
Eric Schwartz, Han Vu,
Alek Wasserman & Peyton Wheeler

Upcoming Events!

Thomas Swenson Masterclass
Saturday, April 5th @ 12:00 PM
Triad Music Academy

Dr. Thomas Swenson
Piano Department Chair,
Music Academy of
North Carolina



Select Triad Music Academy students will be chosen to perform. Email alek@triadmusicacademy.com if you would like to watch!

Spring Recitals
Sunday, May 18th, 2025 (times TBD)
[Temple Emanuel Winston-Salem](#)

Recitals open to all Triad Music Academy child students. Email alek@triadmusicacademy.com with any questions!