



# SIMUSIQUE STUDIO

## *Let there be* **MUSIC**



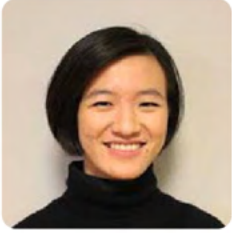
### Year End Newsletter 2023





# DEAR SIMUSIQUE STUDENTS & FAMILIES,

Welcome to our 2023 annual year end concert "Let There Be Music." We hope in today's marked celebration of your child's progress, that this journey of creating and learning music has been rewarding and fulfilling.



The 2022 - 2023 school year has seen major developments as we grew to almost 350 students, and welcomed multiple new staff members. We hosted a Halloween celebration and a mini Christmas recital, which not only provided many students with their very first performance experience, but also supported our community through SHARE Society - thanks to your generous food bank donations! In the summer, we are continuing with our Mini groups for kids ages 4 - 6, plus our Pop & Artistry Camp for kids ages 7 - 12. We also launched an innovative Artistry program taught by seasoned songwriters and performers, to provide a new creative and flexible avenue into music education.



After over a decade of running a music school, I am always surprised and amazed by the dedication, resilience, and spirit demonstrated by the families of Simusique. Investing in music education for young students is not easy, but is always highly rewarded! Thank you to those who have spent countless hours bringing their children to classes, and encouraging them to work hard and stay positive. Myself and the staff love nothing more than to see our students flourish and become skilled musicians.



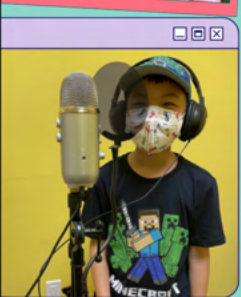
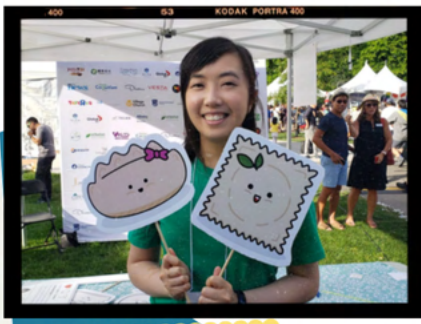
As we look back on all that we accomplished, we are reminded that anything is possible with passion, hard work, and a willingness to embrace new challenges. With each passing day, we are building a brighter future for ourselves and for the next generation of musicians, one note at a time :)



Sincerely, *Adrienne Sim*

Studio Director @ Simusique Studio









Emiri Lee  
Level 2 Piano



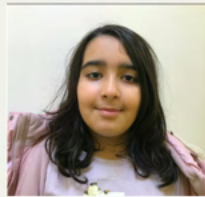
Sevda Makouei  
Level 6 Piano



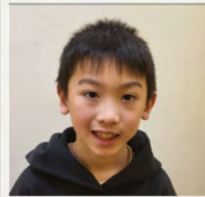
Avery Johnson  
Level 10 Piano



Avery Duong  
Level 2 Piano



Bahar Moallem  
Level 2 Voice



Brandon Cheng  
Level 2 Piano



Mekhela Huang  
Level 2 Piano



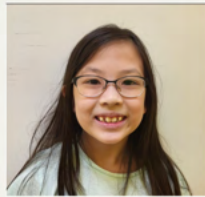
Caleb Petria  
Level 6 Piano



Cayden Chen  
Level 6 Piano



Chenelle Wong  
Level 4 Piano



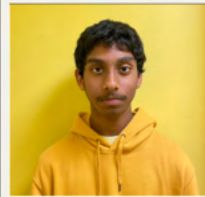
Corinna Tang  
Level 2 Piano



Elia Duong  
Level 6 Piano



Elise Huang  
Level 4 Piano



Ashan De Zoysa  
Level 2 Piano



Emma Robinson  
Level 2 Piano



Evan Leung  
Level 4 Piano



Grace Ye  
Level 2 Piano



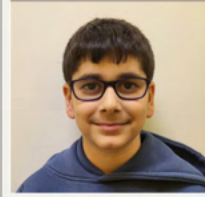
Isaac Lee  
Level 4 Piano



Isaak Wong  
Level 6 Piano



Jasmine Leung  
Level 6 Piano



Ryan Jahingiri  
Level 4 Piano



Jaydon Lim  
Level 2 Piano



Jenna Mendoza  
Level 4 Piano



Jewelle Calibuso  
Level 2 Voice



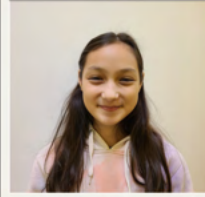
Joseph Park  
Level 8 Piano



Karissa Wong  
Level 9 Piano



Kyle Chen  
Level 2 Piano



Leah Buchanan  
Level 4 Piano



Linden Wu  
Level 4 Piano



Makayla Fan  
Level 2 Piano



Max Mucha  
Level 2 Piano



Mikayla Lim  
Level 2 Piano



Natalie Teng  
Level 2 Piano



Nolyn Chen  
Level 4 Piano



Olivia Vasquez  
Level 6 Piano



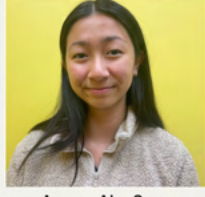
Owen Hon  
Level 2 Piano



Vicky Yin  
Level 4 Piano



Yilin Ma  
Level 2 Piano



Anne Ah-Sue  
Level 6 Piano



Alyssa Yiu  
Level 2  
Piano



Sam  
Satayesh  
Level 2  
Piano



Olivia  
Vasquez  
Level 8  
Theory



Markos  
Michael  
Level 6  
Theory



Jasmine  
Leung  
Level 8  
Theory



Judy Liu  
Level 8  
Theory



Sevda  
Makouei  
Level 6  
Theory



Annabelle  
Chan  
Level 8  
Piano

Congratulations to all our  
RCM students!  
Get your medal from your  
teacher  
**July 2022 - June 2023**



**The Royal Conservatory™**  
The finest instrument is the mind.

# STUDENT INTERVIEWS

## Avery Johnson

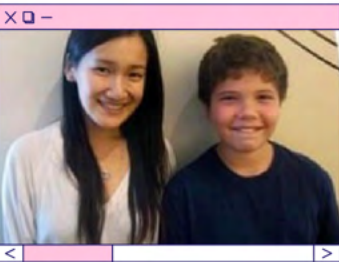
Diploma in Performing Arts (Music) at Douglas College  
Starting September 2023

### What made you want to study music in college?

"My time volunteering at Simusique summer camp made me realize how much I love working with students. I decided to study music at Douglas to improve my skills on piano and hopefully teach music some day."

### What is your favourite part about being a musician?

"My favourite part of being a musician is discovering pieces of music that connect with me. If I'm able to interpret the emotions of a piece, playing it is a very rewarding experience."



### What are some of your favourite pieces to play?

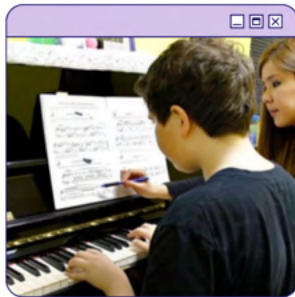
"Chopin's nocturnes are my absolute favourite. Once you master the technical side, there's so much room to express yourself. Debussy is another composer who I can really connect with, with pieces like his 'Arabesque' or 'Clair de Lune'."

### What do you hope to accomplish in your music career in the future?

"I hope to build on my skills as a pianist and gain confidence in my performing. I would love to perform on stage and at festivals, and afterwards use what I learn to teach."

### What advice do you have for fellow musicians?

"I would advise future musicians to incorporate their emotions into their playing. Once you fully understand a piece, use it to express yourself any way you'd like. That's what I love most about listening to others play."



2nd year VOX student

## Theodore Lee

### What is your favourite part about VOX?

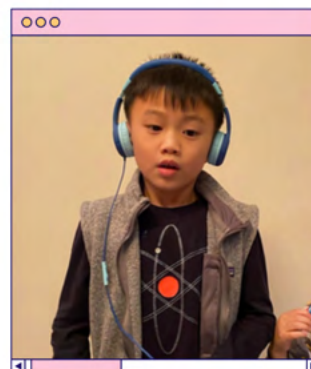
"Learning new songs."

### What is your favourite song that you learned in VOX?

"I have two - 'See You Again' by Charlie Puth and Wiz Kalifa, and 'Believer' by Imagine Dragons."

### What are you planning to do with your singing and performance skills in the future?

"I want to enter a singing competition or start a band!"



# summer programs 2023 POP & ARTISTRY CAMP

## DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A RECORDING ARTIST-IN TRAINING?

- **Time:** 10:00am - 2:30pm
- **For Ages:** 7 - 12
- **Spots:** 12 students max
- **Theme:** Summer Pop Music!
- **Fee:** Week 1 (July 4 - 7) \$300, Week 2 (July 10 - 14) \$350
  - Please note, the final music production will be presented on July 14. Registration of week 1 only will not include music video production.
- **What will we be doing?** This camp will be filled with learning to sing (as a group and soloist), learning ukulele accompaniment, arts and crafts, games, photoshoots, recording + producing a music video, and dance choreography to one of the songs we will be learning!



## MINI GROUPS (AGES 4 - 6)

**Mini Violinists with Ms. Haley - July 5 to 26**

Wednesdays 5:30 - 6:00 pm. Fee = \$134

**Mini Singers with Ms. Adrienne - July 5 to August 2**

Wednesdays 6:00 - 6:30 pm. Fee = \$140

**Mini Pianists with Ms. Adrienne - July 5 to August 2**

Wednesdays 6:30 - 7:00 pm. Fee = \$167



**SIGN UP AND REGISTER NOW**  
**WWW.SIMUSIQUE.CA**

# Artistry Program

Discover your talent  
Ages 11+  
recommended



Ready to try something new? Looking for a flexible non-RCM based curriculum ?

What you can do in this program:

- Learn pieces of your choice (non-RCM)
- Write and compose original songs
- Record a performance video
- Build a portfolio of assets to use for professional development
- Find out what it's like to be a recording artists!

## Featured instructors



Ms. MJ



Mr. Bosco

Mr. Bosco and Ms. MJ are trained in music production and audio engineering, in addition to being songwriters, vocalists, and instrumentalists.

**Simusique Studio's Artistry Program is a specialized curriculum focused on completion of musical projects including original songwriting and composition, audio and video recording, and performance.**

Are you currently on an RCM curriculum and looking for a change? Want to know what it takes to be a recording artist? Contact us to inquire about the Artistry Program!





# Welcome new teachers!



**Ms. Carolyne**  
Piano

**Ms. Carolyne is from Malaysia and has been playing the piano since she was 7 years old. She holds an ABRSM Diploma in Performance, and a Bachelor of Arts in Piano Performance.**



**Mr. Sung Shin**  
Guitar/Ukulele/Bass

**Mr. Sung Shin is from South Korea and has been playing guitar for 15 years. He is trilingual and can speak English, Mandarin and Korean! Mr. Sung Shin has a Bachelor of Music in Performance from the Musicians Institute in Los Angeles and a Master of Music in Improvisation from the University of Michigan.**



**Ms. Olivia**  
Piano and Voice



**Ms. Olivia was born in Oakville, Ontario and has been singing and playing piano for more than 15 years. She is currently finishing her Bachelors of Music from UBC, majoring in Opera Performance, and has her Level 10 RCM Certification. She sings professionally throughout Ontario and BC as a classical and jazz singer.**



**Ms. Doris**  
Piano (Mobile)

**Ms. Doris was born in Hong Kong and has been playing the piano since she was 5 years old. She has her RCM Level 10 certification in piano and theory. She has performed in music competitions with her students, and has experience teaching young children and adults.**

**Ms. Lily is a vocalist and flutist from Hubei, China. She holds a Bachelor of Music from Kwantlen Polytechnic University. She is well-versed in classical and contemporary music, and in musical theatre.**



**Ms. Jessica**  
Violin



**Ms. Jessica was born in Busan, South Korea, and has been playing the violin, viola, and piano since she was a child. She is currently studying music at Trinity Western University and is the principal violinist of the university orchestra. She is also part of a small chamber music group called "Quintessence."**



**Ms. Lily**  
Voice and Piano

# IMPORTANT DATES 2023

**JUN  
29**

**LAST DAY OF CLASS**

**FIRST DAY OF  
SUMMER CLASS**

**JUL  
3**

**JUL  
4-14**

**POP & ARTISTRY  
CAMP**

**MINI SINGERS,  
VIOLINISTS AND  
PIANISTS**

**JUL -  
AUG**





**SEPT 1 -  
SEPT 4**

**STUDIO CLOSED**

**FIRST DAY OF FALL  
SEMESTER**

**SEPT  
5**

*follow us*

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# Farewell

As we bid farewell to some of our talented staff members, we want to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude for their outstanding contributions to our music school. We feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to work alongside such gifted educators and musicians, who have left an indelible mark on our school and our students. Their passion for music and dedication to teaching have been an inspiration to us all, and we will miss them dearly. While we are sad to see them go, we are also excited for the opportunities that await them in their next ventures. We are confident that they will continue to make a positive impact in the world of music, and we wish them all the best as they embark on new adventures.



**Ms. Katie**  
Staff since 2021

## What is your best memory at Simusique Studio?

"My favourite memory at Simusique is all of the student recitals! I love seeing all of the progress students have made and watching them perform for their families and friends! The atmosphere of performance days is one of my favourite things about the music community in general! "

## What will you miss the most?

"Everything! But I will especially miss seeing all of you! Making connections and friendships with all of the students is what fuels my love of teaching!"

## Where will you be in September 2023?

"I recently got a job in opera here in Vancouver! I'll be singing and working with both Vancouver Opera and UBC Opera full time in the Fall! "



## A tip for all the students?

"Don't forget, if you really need to memorize your music quickly make sure to put it under your pillow at night, it will magically soak into your brain!"





**Ms. Michelle**  
Staff since 2019

### What is your best memory at Simusique Studio?

"My best memory is the 2022 Year End Concert. This was our first big in-person event after the COVID-19 pandemic. It was so special to share that time and space together listening to the wonderful music of our students. I even got to see some students in person again after teaching them online for over 2 years!"

### What will you miss the most?

"I will miss all the students and families that have been with me the last 4 years. It has been such a privilege to build these relationships, and to watch my students grow in music and as people."

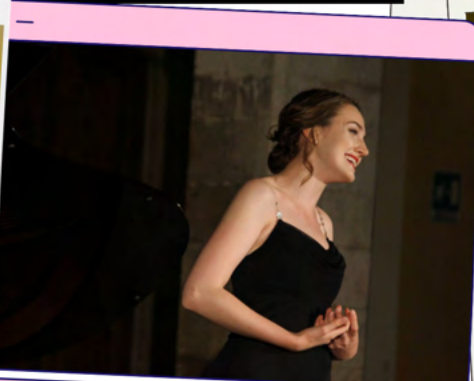
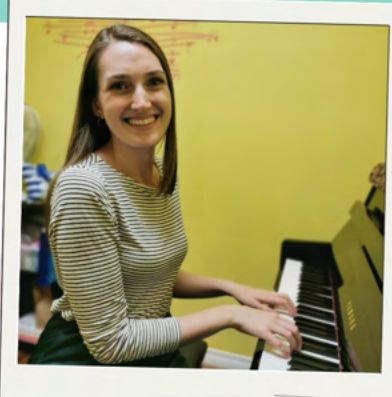
### Where will you be in September 2023?

"This summer I am moving to Nova Scotia to be closer to my family and to get married! In September, I will be on my honeymoon in Spain."



### A tip for all the students?

"Be who you are, play the music you like, but ALWAYS LOOK AT YOUR KEY SIGNATURE before reading by sight!"



## What is your best memory at Simusique Studio?

"My best memory is watching students grow and develop over the years!"

## What will you miss the most?

"The big guitar room!"

## Where will you be in September 2023?

"I will be moving to Hong Kong."

## A tip for all the students?

"Be confident on stage. Be humble off stage."



**Mr. Riv**  
Staff since 2020



**Ms. Jessica**  
Staff since 2015

## What is your best memory at Simusique Studio?

"The best memory is going with the students to see Yiruma perform live."

## What will you miss the most?

"I'll miss all the lovely students and teachers at the studio."

## Where will you be in September 2023?

"I'll be travelling the world and experiencing different cultures. I am excited to continue my love of travelling!"

## A tip for all the students?

"Never give up your dreams because with hard work and a positive attitude, you can do it!"



## What is your best memory at Simusique Studio?

"My best memory at Simusique Studio is getting to know all of the other teachers and building relationships with my students."

## What will you miss the most?

"The thing I will miss most at Simusique Studio is of course all of my students! I love being able to watch my students grow in their musical ability and I have so much fun teaching each and every one of them."

## Where will you be in September 2023?

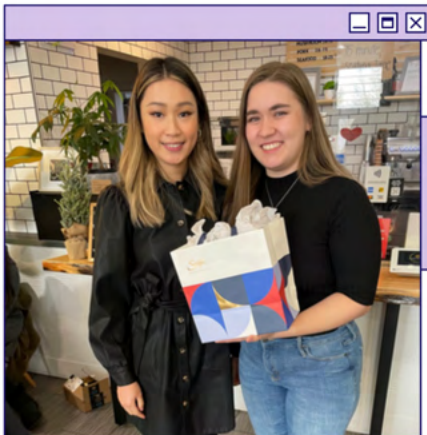
"I've almost completed my Bachelor of Education at UBC which means in September I will begin my journey teaching in elementary and high schools as a Teacher on Call. I'm very excited for this next chapter in my teaching career and you may even see me teaching at some schools in Coquitlam!"

## A tip for all the students?

"My tip for all the students at Simusique Studio is to play music with other people. One of my favourite things about music is that you can experience it with so many people of different backgrounds. If you have a friend, parent, or sibling that plays an instrument, try learning a song to play together!"



**Ms. Hayley**  
Staff since 2019





**Ms. Candice**  
Staff since 2022

### What is your best memory at Simusique Studio?

"My best memories at Simusique have been being able to see my students progress! It's so rewarding to see all their hard work pay off, and achieve things they didn't know they could do."

### What will you miss the most?

"I will miss all my students and coworkers! Even though it has only been a year, everyone gave me such a warm welcome, and I will truly miss this group of people so much!"



### Where will you be in September 2023?

"In September I will be in London, England! I was lucky enough to be accepted into the International College of Musical Theatre, and will be studying and auditioning for musical theatre over there."

### A tip for all the students?

"Listen to the mustn'ts, child. Listen to the don'ts. Listen to the shouldn'ts, the impossibles, the won'ts. Listen to the never haves, then listen close to me... Anything can happen, child. Anything can be."

- Shel Silverstein



### A message to our departing staff:

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to our school and our students. Your talent, expertise, and passion for music have made a lasting impact that will be felt for years to come. We will miss you, but we know that you will always be a part of our music school family.

# Vancouver Kiwanis

## MUSIC FESTIVAL 2023

28 ENTRIES 17 STUDENTS

Nolyn Chen  
Wing Yan Chan  
Linden Wu  
Dylan Di  
Cayden Chen  
Kyler Chen  
Brandon Cheng  
Max Mucha  
Yi Lin Ma  
Corinna Tang  
Mykhailo Kyslovskiy  
Elise Huang  
Vicky Yin  
Ryan Jahangiri  
Samman Ahani  
Sean Wu  
Avery Johnson



Special congratulations to  
Nolyn Chen for receiving the  
Tom Lee Music Award for  
Most Outstanding Performance  
Junior Piano





# CONGRATS TO NOLYN & CAYDEN CHEN

## LITTLE MOZART INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION 2023 AT CARNEGIE HALL IN NEW YORK



### We asked them all about it and here's what they had to say!

**How old are you boys?**

Nolyn: *I am 6 years old.*

Cayden: *I'm 9 years old.*

**What did you play at the competition?**

Nolyn: *I played Sonatina in Bb Major (Level 4).*

Cayden: *I played Sonatina in A Minor (Level 6).*

**How long have you been preparing for the competition?**

Nolyn & Cayden: *We prepared for a total of 9 months!  
(September 2022 – May 2023)*

**Whose idea was this to join the competition?**

**What inspired you to try competing?**

Nolyn & Cayden: *Our fabulous mom!*

**What was it like playing in the famous Carnegie Hall?**

Nolyn: *I felt very very excited the whole time!*

Cayden: *It felt unreal. I was very surprised that I was able to play in the Carnegie Hall.*

**Did you feel nervous at all?**

Nolyn: *Not at all! I had already played a lot during Kiwanis.*

Cayden: *No, because I have performed on a stage before. I was excited, rather!*

**What was your favourite part of New York?**

Nolyn: *Performing in the Carnegie Hall and getting 1st place, because it's very hard to perform there, and I did it! I also enjoyed going to the gift shops a lot.*

Cayden: *The Carnegie Hall recital, because that was the whole reason why we were there. My 2nd favourite part was enjoying the trip itself, knowing that I earned it.*

**How did you celebrate after both getting first place?**

Nolyn & Cayden: *We celebrated by going to Ichiran Ramen! We had it for a total of 3 times while we were in New York!*



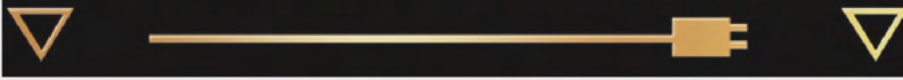
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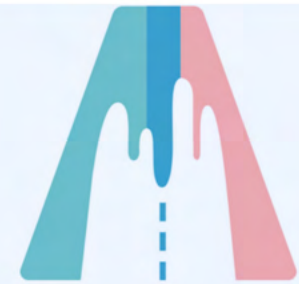


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Email: [info@artivityfinder.com](mailto:info@artivityfinder.com)

**Wendy Huang**  
Art Therapist/Counsellor  
MC, DVATI, RCC

Phone: 604-710-8616  
Address: 205-2550 Shaughnessy st.  
Port Coquitlam, BC V3C 3G2

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Lash Lift & Tint (from France)

SMP- Scalp Micropigmentation  
Hair density, hairline restoration

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(around the corner of Simusique Studio!)

**SIMUSIQUE STUDIO**

*Let there be*

**MUSIC**

[www.simusique.ca](http://www.simusique.ca)

