



Take Note

A Publication of the Rockland Conservatory of Music

October 2014

OVERTURES CONCERT SEASON BEGINS

This month marks the start of our 2014-2015 Overtures Concert Season, "Coming Home" featuring professional musicians for whom RCM holds a special place in their lives and in their hearts.

On Saturday, October 18th at 7:00 pm, we welcome home acclaimed jazz pianist and vocalist Lisa Sokolov, and her son, the award-winning cellist, Jake Sokolov-Gonzalez.

Tickets are now on sale at www.rocklandconservatory.org/tickets. *Lisa Sokolov was gracious enough to share her insights and inspiration with us here.*



Jake Sokolov-Gonzalez



Lisa Sokolov

Q. Why does RCM feel like "home" to you?

A. My children both studied at RCM when they were young. Jake's exposure to Music Theory there really woke up the musician that he would become. Music Theory is now a lifetime passion for him and I credit RCM for that.

Q. What is your first or most profound memory of RCM?

A. The memory that comes up first is Saturday morning sitting in the waiting room with other moms and kids. Remembering younger students who now have continued to pursue their musical life. The kids kept meeting up again over the years in high school ensembles, at all-state and all-county. It became a community. This was very sweet. This was a serious education and opportunity for these kids that I am very grateful for. Of course, I also remember so many beautiful concerts. The opportunity for the students to hear their teachers perform was a powerful incentive and an opportunity to hear very high level music making within a familiar and friendly context. Somehow this showed the students that being a fine musician was not something that was intangibly out of their reach.

Q. Why is it important to have a community music school in our midst?

A. If music is important to you, then having the opportunity of having a high level conservatory training near you for your children is crucial. The beginning years of training make a profound imprint on your child's trajectory over the years. These opportunities open their hearts and their ears. I am very grateful.

Q. When did you know "music is it" for you?

A. I was a musician from early on. I played flute and violin as a very young child. I sang in choruses throughout my youth, studied classically from my teen years through college and played classical piano from a very young age through my college degree. At one point I needed to choose between art and music but it was always pretty clear that music was my language and my path.

Q. What words of inspiration would you like to share with our students and their families as they embark on their own musical journeys? What do you wish someone might have said to you when you were just beginning your professional career, or when you were a student?

A. Believe in yourself. Make a commitment to your practice. Make music from your heart and soul. Do not give up. Whether you pursue music as a career or not, studying music enhances your very being, your brain, your heart and your soul. The time that you put in now will reward you throughout your lifetime. Music will be a resource that feeds your humanity for years to come. Sitting down and playing Bach will always soothe your soul.

Q. Is there someone who inspired you to become the musician that you are today?

A. Well clearly, the answer is my teachers. I have had the grace of having so many wonderful teachers. Each of them gave me a gift that became a part of who I am as a musician and as a teacher today. Mr. Fuller, Mr. Tagalino, Marshall Kreisler, Frank Baker, Milford Graves, Bill Dixon, Jimmy Lyons, Amri Galli Campi, Thank you, thank you thank you thank you.

Enroll Now for RCM's **New Workshop Series**

All classes require a minimum of 4 students.

- **Composition Workshop (8 weeks), with *Scott N. Louis***
 Fridays, October 24—December 19 ■ 5:30—6:30 pm (Auditions Friday, October 17)
Fundamentals of composition; students will perform their own songs in class for each other and work together to refine their pieces.
 \$250 per student, \$125 for enrolled RCM students
- **Accompaniment for Advanced Pianists, Part 1 (8 weeks) with *Jan Deats***
 Thursdays, October 23—December 18 ■ 7:30—8:30 pm (Auditions, Thursday, October 16)
Students will learn how to accompany Suzuki violin and guitar students
 \$250 per student, \$125 for enrolled RCM students
- **Accompaniment for Advanced Pianists, Part 2 (2nd semester—12 weeks) with *Jan Deats***
 Thursdays, January 8—April 9 ■ 7:30—8:30 pm
Students will learn how to accompany vocalists, and will be assigned to a voice student leading up to a May concert, and possibly NYSSMA performance if applicable.
 \$375 per student, \$188 for enrolled RCM students
 \$480 for both Parts 1 & 2, \$240 for enrolled RCM students
- **Acting for Singers (6 weeks) with *Julienne Marshall***
 Thursdays, October 16—November 20 ■ 6:30—7:30 pm
Vocalists will learn acting skills to enhance the delivery of a song for performances
 \$200 per student, \$100 for enrolled RCM students
- **Sight-Singing (6 weeks) with *Shirley Crabbe***
 Thursdays, October 16—November 20 ■ 5:45—6:30 pm
Vocalists will focus on sight reading as well as pitch accuracy and rhythmical skills utilizing Oxford's Sight-Singing Series
 \$175 per student, \$75 for enrolled RCM students

Call today to reserve a spot in our newest program for our youngest students and their parents.



With Karin Pollok

FREE DEMO CLASS

**Friday, Oct. 17
10:00 - 10:45 am**

Overtures

The Figueroa Piano Quartet
 Sunday, November 23, 2014
 4:00 pm

They sold-out the last time they were here! Don't miss this world-class performance by members of the Musical Royal Family of Puerto Rico, in advance of their return to the Casals Music Festival in Puerto Rico in 2015.

COMING IN NOVEMBER

