

Students Fill Museum of Southern History with Music

An educational afternoon with a tune



Fifth-grader Meghan Miller plays on the Museum of Southern History's 1842 Hardman piano.



IMTA members are: (l-r) Rick Valentine, Danette Schuh, Susan Hines, Heather Rathnau, Janice Van Derbur and Elise Russell.

The second annual IMTA Student Affiliate Open House was held on Sept. 9 at the beautiful Museum of Southern History in Sugar Land. Students enjoyed food, fun and music while receiving important student affiliate information for the upcoming year.

Student Affiliate Chairman, Danette Warren Schuh of Sugar Land, with the help of IMTA teacher members, prepared a fun-filled, educational afternoon for

students, parents, teachers and the community. While students and parents enjoyed refreshments and listened to live musical performances, they browsed the "exhibits"—poster displays describing local and state music activities and events for the 2006-07 school year.

Raffle tickets were available for purchase to support IMTA fund-raising efforts. Raffle prizes included sheet

music and CDs, gift certificates from Pender's Music of Houston, local restaurants, skate and bowling passes, Theatre Under the Stars tickets and musical gift items. Yamaha Music Corporation donated an electronic keyboard that was auctioned at the event. New this year, the music "garage sale" was very popular. Attendees found great bargains on new or gently-used music, games, flash cards and gift items.

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IMTA students regularly perform at local nursing homes and hospitals during the year.

When one very young student affiliate member was asked, about last year's event, "What did you like best about the open house?" she replied, "The music was the best!" Just hearing that makes it all worthwhile!

Independent Music Teachers Association, led by President Karen Fisher of Sugar Land, is a nonprofit organization of 14 independent and collegiate music teachers, primarily in the Sugar Land area, committed to inspiring excellence in the art of music pedagogy and encouraging students to share their art with the community as a service. IMTA students regularly perform at local nursing homes and hospitals during the year. IMTA is affiliated with Texas Music Teachers Association and Music Teachers National Association. For more information, visit the IMTA Web site at www.independentmta.org.