

160 Turnpike Road, Chelmsford MA



# MUSIC ELEMENTS

*December 2024*

# performances

## *Student Performances*

**Greta W.**, one of our vocal students, is entering the Middle School Musical Theater Contest, a singing contest, on December 7th. Best of luck to Greta!



**REGISTRATION CLOSING NOVEMBER 17TH!**

 **METG**

**CONTEST DAY**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024

 HIGH SCHOOL	 MIDDLE SCHOOL	 MUSICAL THEATER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Doug Ingalls Monologue</li><li>• Excellence in Tech</li><li>• Scene Partner</li><li>• Logo Design</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Monologue</li><li>• Excellence in Tech</li><li>• Logo Design</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Middle School</li><li>• High School</li></ul>

NORWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

**VISIT [WWW.METG.ORG](http://WWW.METG.ORG) FOR INFO AND TO REGISTER!**

**160 Turnpike Road, Chelmsford MA**

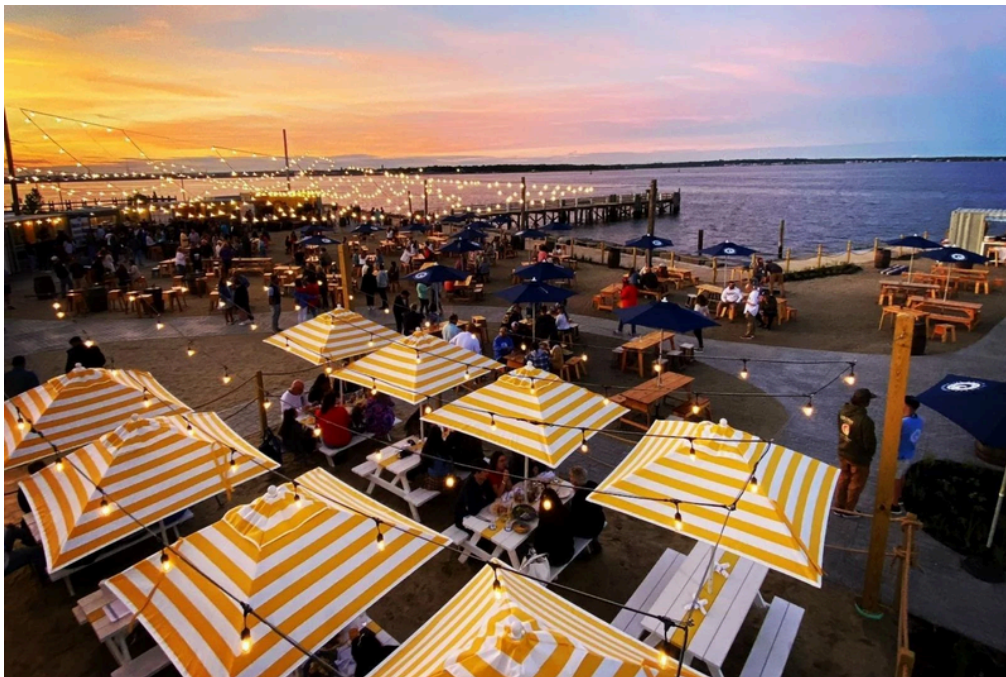


# performances

## *Teacher Performances*

**Dan**, one of our drum instructors, will be playing with the Pourmen band at **Cisco Brewers** in **New Bedford, MA**.

The performance will be taking place on the night of  
**Saturday, December 14th!**



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# performances

## Teacher Performances

**Tinson**, one of our violin instructors, has multiple performances this month:

- **Holiday Pops** by the Firebird Pops Orchestra, The Umbrella Arts Center (Main Stage Theater), Concord, MA (**12/13 at 7:30pm, 12/14 at 3:00pm and 7:30pm, 12/15 at 3:00pm**)
- **Music Elements Holiday Concert**, Music Elements school building, Chelmsford, MA (**12/13 from 7:00pm to 8:30pm**)
- **Christmas at the Castle** by the Firebird Pops Orchestra, Hammond Castle Museum (Great Hall), Gloucester, MA (**12/20 at 7:30pm, 12/21 at 5:00pm and 8:00pm, 12/22 at 5:00pm**)
- **A New Year's Eve Pops Spectacular**, Greater Boston Stage Company, Stoneham, MA (**12/31 at 3:00pm and 7:00pm**)

Visit [tinsontalks.com](http://tinsontalks.com) for more information and to buy tickets!



*Hammond Castle, where the Christmas at the Castle concert will be held!*

**160 Turnpike Road, Chelmsford MA**



*join us for our...*

# annual caroling event!

**December 8th, 4:30-5:30pm**

Please meet us at **Heart Pond** to sing a few holiday songs, then carol along the Rail Trail! We will end at **Kate's Corner**, sing a few more songs, and enjoy hot chocolate.

Let us know if you can make it!  
[anita@music-elements.com](mailto:anita@music-elements.com)

*music elements presents a...*

# **holiday concert!**

**December 14th, 7:00-8:30pm**

Join us for a festive holiday concert and support your local music ensembles! The concert will be featuring:

**Tinson Lam** - Violinist

**The Vibe** - Music Elements' Band

**The Crescendos** - Chelmsford High's Acapella Group

Let us know if you can make it! Tickets are \$20.  
[anita@music-elements.com](mailto:anita@music-elements.com)

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# EVENTS

## ***Happy Birthday!***

Meritt Crouthamel, Dviti Patel, Zack Baguma,

Lucas Doucet, Brynn Kleschinsky, Isabel

O'Connor, Malcolm Robinson, Kathleen O'Neill,

Toby Leabeaux, and Stella Ngo

***Tuesday, December 24th through Wednesday, January 1st*** - Music Elements will be closed through these dates for a winter break. Happy holidays!

***160 Turnpike Road, Chelmsford MA***



# Teacher Shoutout

## *Judie Toti*



This month's teacher shoutout goes to Judie, one of our piano teachers! Judie is a classically trained pianist, with over 30 years of private piano study. Her piano studies started at age seven in New York and continued after moving to Massachusetts. Piano is not her only forte, though-- Judie has also had a successful career as an Engineer and Program Manager in the aerospace and defense industry! She graduated from Middlesex Community College (MCC) with an Associate's in Science, Performing Arts – Music Option. Judie has also continued her Music studies at the University of Massachusetts Boston (UMass Boston) where she graduated with a Bachelor's of Arts in Music. Thank you to Judie for sharing your love of music with us!



# recipe of the month

## *(the best) Chocolate Chip Cookies*

A perfect balance between chewy, crispy, flavorful, and classic, this cookie recipe is the perfect addition to your holiday table. Be careful with how many of these you leave out for Santa, though-- the plate will be wiped clean by the morning! Recipe adapted from Claire Saffitz.



***See next page for directions!***

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# Ingredients:

*Yields approx. 18 large cookies.*

- 2 sticks unsalted butter
- 2 tbsp heavy cream, half-and-half, or whole milk
- 2 cups all purpose flour
- 2 tsp kosher salt
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 3/4 cup packed dark brown sugar
- 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 1 tbsp vanilla extract
- 5 oz dark chocolate disks, half coarsely chopped
- 5 oz milk chocolate disks, half coarsely chopped

# Directions:

1. In a small saucepan, cook 1 stick of the butter over medium-low heat, frequently stirring until the butter starts to bubble. Continue to cook, scraping the bottom and sides of the pan constantly with a heat-proof spatula, until the butter browns. Make sure to take the pan off the heat as soon as the butter turns amber-colored-- it burns easily!
2. Add the browned butter to the bowl with the other (cold) stick of butter, making sure you scrape in all of the browned bits, then add the heavy cream (no need to stir). Set aside to cool.
3. In a medium bowl, whisk together the flour, salt, and baking soda. Set aside.
4. Add the brown and granulated sugars to the butter bowl-- it can be slightly warm, just not hot-- and whisk vigorously until the mixture is smooth and thick, about 45 seconds. Add the eggs and vanilla and whisk until the mixture is satiny, about 45 seconds.
5. Add the flour mixture and whisk until the batter is sooth and well combined. It will look a little loose-- this is normal. Switch to a flexible spatula to scrape down the bowl, folding to ensure everything is incorporated.
6. Add all of the chocolates and mix to combine. Cover the batter tightly with plastic wrap and refrigerate for 12-48 hours.
7. When you're ready to bake, preheat the oven to 350 degrees and line two rimmed baking sheets with parchment paper. Place 6, 1/4-cup sized cookie dough balls on each sheet, ensuring that they are at least 3 inches apart.
8. Bake the cookies (2 sheets at a time, on upper and lower racks) for 18-22 minutes, until they are dark golden brown around the edges. Let cookies rest for 5 minutes on baking sheets after cooking, then transfer to a wire rack to cool. Repeat until all cookies are baked. Enjoy!

## ***Westford Academy Holiday Bazaar***

Shop among a variety of different vendors, including small businesses, WA clubs, and individual crafters (including Madison, the creator of this newsletter, who will be doing palm readings for WA Museum Club)!

- **Saturday, December 7th**, 2024 from **9:00am-3:00pm** at **Westford Academy** (30 Patten Rd, Westford, MA).

## ***Billerica Annual Tree Lighting + Winter Festival***

Bring your family and friends for free games, crafts, activities, and prizes for kids, as well as a visit from Santa around 5:15pm!

- **Saturday, December 7th**, 2024 from **2:00pm-6:00pm** in the **Billerica Town Center** (15 Concord Rd, Billerica, MA).



# local activities + events

160 Turnpike Road, Chelmsford MA



# thanks for reading!

**Best wishes from our teachers and staff:** Aleah, Anita, Bill, Dan, Elizabeth, John, Joseph, Judie, Justin, Madison, Melissa, Navarre, Nicoletta, Norm, Peter, Regina, Samantha, Tinson, and Tyler!

Want to be featured in the newsletter? Email [madison@music-elements.com](mailto:madison@music-elements.com) or fill out the form in the waiting room!

**“If you learn music, you’ll learn history. If you learn music, you’ll learn mathematics. If you learn music, you’ll learn most all there is to learn.”**

*Edgar Cayce reading 3053-3*



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