

# Musikgarten Hawaii Newsletter vol.2

## Music improves kid's Brain Development

Student's Portfolio Vol. 1

**Mika Kameda**

**Keyboard II (Step 1)**



**\*How long have you been in Musikgarten Hawaii?\***

Since 2004 when Mika was a little over 2 years old.

**\*What do you like about Musikgarten Hawaii?\***

To play piano, sing, dance and have fun with her friends in class.

**\*What is your dream?\***

Wants to be an artist who can play piano and violin very well.

**\*From her parents\***

The teachers of Musikgarten Hawaii are great and they make music fun for the children, which is why all the students keep on coming to class every week!

**\*From her teacher\***

Mika is one of the talented students in Keyboard class. She always tries her very best and she is such a great listener. Her excitement and effort to be a better musician amaze me a lot. Musikgarten Hawaii is proud to have Mika as a student.

Researchers at McMaster University in Hamilton used magnetoencephalography(MEG) brain-scanning technology to compare the developmental changes in 12 children aged 4 to 6 over the course of a year.

The study, to be published in the October edition of Oxford University's neurology journal Brain, found that those who took music lessons showed more changes in brain responses.

Even when parents hear only what sounds like random notes or nonsense, it's likely their children are developing their brains in ways that could enhance their overall thinking.

There are really fundamental things going on in the brain as these kids are learning over that first year, so even though they appear on the surface to maybe only play a few pieces, very simple pieces, it's setting up networks in their brain.

Music training could lead to improvements in literacy, verbal memory, visiospatial processing, mathematics and IQ.

The study found particular changes in the attentional systems of children who took music lessons, which affected their ability to pay attention to important things around them.

A child with a superior attentional system will be able to apply that in different domains, so they'll be able to focus in on what's important in a verbal learning task, they'll be able to concentrate when figuring out a mathematical problem.

So, you can see the value of music education and how it would have wide-ranging consequences across many domains.



**Summer Recital '08**

**Sunday, June 8th**

**2:00pm - 4:00pm**

**@ Mililani High School  
Cafeteria**

