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Amabile School of Music hopes to hit a high note in Moraga

By Vera Kochan



Amabile School of Music owner, Teresa Yu Photo Vera Kochan

Amabile is an Italian musical term for a directive to a musician to perform the indicated passage of a composition in a charming, gracious or amiable manner. Whether she knew it or not, owner Teresa Yu chose a name that perfectly describes her.

Yu plays piano and has a master's degree in piano performance from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Having successfully opened her flagship business in San Francisco during 2008, Yu, a native of Taiwan, and her family moved to Orinda two years ago. She describes herself as "a local mom with two kids," while stating with pride, "The school in San Francisco has over 300 students and 25 teachers." Opening a second music school, on Jan. 11 in Moraga at 920 Country Club Dr., Suite 1B, comes with big plans for continued success.

"My own children will be taking piano lessons here," Yu said.

Amabile offers lessons to children as young as 4 years old, adults and seniors. Her roster of instructors all have college music degrees and experience working with students of all ages. Lessons in piano, guitar, violin, ukelele, cello, drums, trumpet and bass guitar are offered along with voice lessons. Yu assures neighbors that sound checks were done in order to be acoustically compliant regarding noise levels.

Private lessons are available for anyone 5 years and older. Yu believes in a reward system and gives her students colored wrist bands for every level of achievement much like a karate belt. Certificates and personalized trophies are awarded as well.

In order to assure that students are comfortable with their choice, Amabile offers an initial free-trial lesson. In addition, any student who gives a new client referral gets a free 30-minute lesson. Also, multiple family members can have lessons scheduled during the same time period.

"Once the school becomes established, we will give classical performances of interest to various age group audiences," Yu said. "We will also do local outreach by having six recitals a year and send students to senior centers for performances."

For more information regarding hours of operation and rates visit: www.amabilemusic.org or call (925) 376-6328.

Reach the reporter at: vera@lamorindaweekly.com

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