

Competition

The Annual Christchurch Instrumental Competition is going to be in 2 weeks' time. This competition has been around for over 100 years. Beside music instrumental competition, there are also Irish, Speech & Drama, Vocal, Ballet/Modern Jazz, Highland and Tap Dancing. The aim of the Competition Society (<http://www.chchcomps.org.nz/>) is to promote the arts amongst young people providing a public platform to give them an opportunity to perform and compete. I just became one of the committee of this society and found that most committee members had been in here for more than 20 years, voluntarily!! They started helping in the competition while their children were competing in different art forms. Now their children had grown up but they stayed on to keep this competition tradition going. This is how the Christchurch Competition Society works, passing on from one generation to the next in these 100 years plus by voluntary parents, providing a healthy environment for children around Christchurch to perform and compete. There must be a lot of love and caring among this group of voluntary parents which made me respect them even more.

Lots of students are scared of competing. There are also lots of parents worry that failure may have negative effect on the kids, therefore refuse to let their children compete in competition. If we are so protective of our children, I do not think this attitude will help them grow up to be a young person who can adapt to this society. There are winners and losers in all competitions, there are also failures and successes in our lives. Therefore the most important thing when competing is to have an accurate attitude towards competition.

There are a lot of little musicians from our music studio competing in this competition every year. This year we have 20 brave musicians from different age groups entering. I like to share some words of wisdom from one of the adjudicator Dr John Wells when he adjudicated in Christchurch 2 years ago.

Dr Wells said, when we enter ourselves in any competition, we gained TICKS!

1st TICK: We should be very proud of ourselves that we walked across that invisible comfort zone and get on the stage to perform. It takes so much courage to do that. Therefore, one TICK.

2nd TICK: We can learn so much from other competitors. The good things they did and the bad things they did. We learn from good players and we also learn from not too confident players. So, another TICK!

3rd TICK: We get the professional comments on paper from a professional adjudicator (like Dr Wells) that will benefit us for a very long time. The comments are always encouraging but also straight to the point. We enjoy the wisdom of these adjudicators just by playing our music! Therefore, one more TICK!!

4th TICK: If we are so fortunate to get a prize, that is another TICK!

I am very blessed to have a group of Dorayme students enthusiastically enter the competition, sitting together, supporting and cheering for each other when their friends are performing! If someone wins a prize, they are happy for each other. If no one wins anything, it's still ok, because they all knew that they already earned 3 ticks by participating in the competition!

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Parents' Corner

We post essays for parents on how to help their children in music learning.
Here is one of them.

If you like to see more, please visit our website:

<http://www.dorayme.co.nz/parent-s-corner>