



THE FANTASTIC FLUTER

DIAZFLUTE STUDIO MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Not So Classical

Flutists that break out of the classical music mold



Flutronix is a flute duo of Nathalie Joachim and Allison Loggins-Hull. Their music is a blend of classical music, hip-hop, electronic programming, and soulful vocals. These boundary breaking flutists are international performers and grammy nominees. Listen to their music on [Spotify!](#)

WHAT'S INSIDE

Monthly Mantra
Flute Tip
Welcome New Students
Make up Dates

FEBRUARY MUSIC MANTRA

I am
Creative

Our monthly mantra will be our theme for the month. A mantra is a word or phrase that is repeated to help guide your thoughts and mindset. A mantra, really, can be anything positive that you want. In order for mantras to work, we have to repeatedly tell ourselves this statement. So, at the beginning of each practice session this month, I want you to say (either out loud or in your head) "I am creative." It might seem silly, but what we tell our mind is so powerful. If we start telling ourself that we are creative, we will not only start believing that we are creative but we will start actually being more creative.

When we are learning an instrument, we tend to fall into a habit of playing a certain way to only appease our teachers. I've certainly fallen victim to this. But music is so much more than playing to make one person happy. I want you to have the freedom to experiment with all the ways to create sound and music on the flute. Your creativity will only make you a better flutist and musician.

So how can you bring this mantra into your flute playing? Besides reciting it at the beginning of each practicing session, try playing your scales or a method book exercise in a completely different way. Try improvising in a certain key. Make up a tune based on the fundamentals you're practicing. Or make up a story about the piece you're working on. Being creative in music isn't about being perfect or even sounding good...it's about having fun and being free!

Flute Tip: Warming Up with AT&T

It's important that we warm up before we start playing for the day. Just like with practicing, we should have a *plan* when we warm up. A simple way to break down your warm up is following AT&T: Air, Tone, and Technique.

Air: The most important aspect of playing the flute. *Harmonics* are a great way to practice using your air.

Tone: Your musical voice. Long tones are the key to improving your sound. Play a scale in whole notes and intensely focus on your sound. Experiment making micro adjustments with your embouchure to change the sound until you are happy with your tone.

Technique: Master your scales! Start with playing your scales at a tempo that is just above comfortable and slur up and down. Listen for any finger blips. If a blip occurs, break that section down until you've evened out your fingers.

Watch the February Flute Tip video on Youtube:

<https://youtu.be/u4jSQQJp7qY>

Welcome New Students!

We are excited to welcome two new students to our studio this month, Rohit and Colene!



Rohit joined our studio in January. Here are some of his favorite things:

- Food: Buffalo Chicken Pizza
- Color: Red
- Season: Winter
- Animal: Dolphin
- Music: The Weekend, Calvin Harris, and Post Malone



Colene joined our studio in February. Here are some of her favorite things:

- Food: Greek Cuisine
- Color: Lavendar
- Season: Fall
- Animal: All animals but her dog Floyd is at the top
- Music: Indie Folk

We are so excited to have Rohit and Colene in the studio!
Both are excellent players and wonderful people!

Make Up Lesson Dates:

For missed lessons between 1/4 and 2/26

- Monday, 2/22, 4:30pm-6:30pm
- Wednesday, 2/24, 4:30pm-6:30pm
- Friday, 2/26, 4:30pm-6:30pm
- Saturday, 2/27, 12:00pm-2:00pm

