

Sylvia Woods Harp Center Summer Practice Challenge

June 17 - September 1, 2007

To play like an angel, you have to work like the devil. - Carlos Salzedo

This summer, the Sylvia Woods Harp Center would like to invite you to take our third annual **Summer Practice Challenge!** Our goal in holding the Practice Challenge is to inspire the learning of new repertoire, the development of focused and consistent practice, enjoyment in playing for others, and a deepened or renewed love of the harp! (Not to mention some competition and great prizes!)

This year, our Challenge runs from June 17 to September 1. The sooner you sign up, the sooner you can begin to earn prizes! Harp students of any age in the Los Angeles area may sign up to enter. Applicants must be taking regular lessons with a professional harp teacher. Every participant who turns in his or her Practice Log at the end of the Challenge will receive an official "Certificate of Participation." For even greater recognition, students may earn the "Challenge Champion" award, receive a Sylvia Woods Harp Center gift certificate, and be featured in our e-mail newsletter! *Let's get started!*

Step #1. The first step is for the teacher, student, and parent (if under 18 years of age) to agree upon the amount of time the student is expected to practice each day. For example, if the student is a beginner, his or her teacher may recommend 30 minutes of practice per day. If the student is more advanced, one or two hours might be more appropriate. Remember, this is called the Summer Practice **Challenge**. Challenge yourself!

Step #2. Fill out the Summer Practice Challenge 2007 Entry Form. Have it signed by the teacher, student, and parent. Mail it, or bring it to the Harp Center. Remember, if you come in person, you can use your 10% off coupon located on the bottom half of the entry form! You may register at any time between now and September 1. We understand that getting your teacher's signature right away may be difficult, so any days you have practiced during the same week you register will be counted.

Step #3. Practice! Practice!! And Practice some more!!! Beginning June 17th, fill in your practice log every day that you practice for the amount of time agreed upon by you, your teacher, and parent (if applicable). If you practice the entire pre-determined amount of time for 5 days during one week you will be awarded one point. If you are *really ambitious* and practice all 7 days in one week, following the same guidelines, you will be awarded an additional point! So, every week you have the opportunity to earn either one or two points which can be redeemed for great prizes. It is all up to you!!! Remember, your teacher and/or parent should initial the Log every week. Partial practice time will not be counted.

Step #4. Want some extra points? Who doesn't?! Earn extra points by playing your harp for others or attending a harp concert. (See "Extra Points" on the next page.)

Step #5. Bring your Practice Log into the Harp Center any time to redeem the points you have earned. You must come into the Harp Center to receive your prize(s). No prizes will be shipped.

Step #6. On or after the end of the Challenge (September 1) bring in or mail your completed Practice Log to the Harp Center. To be eligible to be one of our "Challenge Champions" you must return your Practice Log no later than September 22nd.

Prizes

You must bring your Practice Log with you when you come in to claim your prizes. What kind of prizes can you earn? Harp greeting cards, rubber stamps, cassettes, music, gift items, Irish coins with a harp on one side, and more! You can even accumulate points for bigger prizes such as a "Harp Buddy" stuffed animal or a harp CD! Points may be redeemed in person up until September 22, 2007. No prizes will be shipped. All participants who turn in their Practice Log at the end of the Challenge will receive a "Certificate of Participation."

"Challenge Champion"

Want to "Go for the Gold" (so to speak...)? Be one of our "Challenge Champions"!!! In addition to the other prizes, the "Challenge Champion" award will be given to participants who practice 5 or 7 days every week from June 17 to September 1, 2007. Along with the prestigious title and personal satisfaction, our "Challenge Champions" will each receive a Sylvia Woods Harp Center gift certificate and be featured in our e-mail newsletter! You can do it!!!

Extra Points

- 1 point (max 1) = Perform with your harp at a retirement center, hospital, church, or public event.
- 1 point (max 1) = Attend a harp concert or a concert that includes harp. Be prepared to name the harpist!
- 1 point (max 3) = Perform a harp piece for a Sylvia Woods Harp Center employee. This point also requires the student to clearly announce their name and the name of their piece and its composer prior to the performance. Although the piece does not need to be memorized (we can provide a music stand for your music), it **MUST** be polished. We definitely understand performance jitters, but want each student to get the most out of this opportunity to play for others. Please be as prepared as possible - we want you to have a great experience! You may play 1 song and receive 1 point each time you come into the store (max 3). You must play a different piece for each point; no duplicates are allowed.

Tips For Parents

- Sign your child up for the Summer Practice Challenge. Show the initiative if they do not. Get excited about harp playing this summer!
- Sit down with your child to practice. Share your time with them doing something that they love, and that you love to hear! Take advantage of small increments of down-time at your home to head over to the harp for practice. Frequency and consistency allow for refreshing, focused practice. Ask your teacher about ways you can help direct and support their practice time.
- Help them find repertoire they enjoy learning and playing. Speak with the harp teacher about what new pieces would be "do-able" for summer that they would enjoy.
- Listen to harp music whenever you can! Try to find recordings of the pieces they are learning. Find recordings of more advanced pieces they enjoy and may want to learn in the future. Listen to them in the car, before bed, or during meals.
- Find ways to reward them for their hard work. Invite friends and family over for a recital during the summer. Find ways to get out of the house to perform at your church, a friend's party, a nursing home, or their grandparents' house. Make a recording of the songs they have learned to give to their loved ones.