

# MEDIA ALERT

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## **Rocky Mountain School for the Gifted and Creative and Allegro Multimedia Host 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Music Wizard Academy for Boulder-area Youth**

*Music Professors Don and Delayna Beattie, Directors of the Music Wizard Academy, will host a week long after-school program to teach children how to play piano and read music. Additionally, music educators from across the country will be on hand to observe and learn the Music Wizard Academy curriculum for introduction into their own schools*

**What:** Music Wizard Academy

**When:** Monday, August 6<sup>th</sup> through Friday, August 10<sup>th</sup>

**Where:** Rocky Mountain School for the Gifted and Creative  
5490 Spine Road  
Boulder, CO 80301  
(303) 545-9230

**Background:** The Rocky Mountain School for the Gifted and Creative is a private, nonprofit school that accepts children ages 4 through 15. The school works individually with gifted students focusing on development, creativity, and enrichment of the whole child (intellectual, physical, social, person, and ethical). To learn more, go to [www.rms.org/aboutourschool.htm](http://www.rms.org/aboutourschool.htm).

Piano Wizard is a computer video game for the PC and Mac that teaches kids how to play piano through a simple, patented, video game method. Piano Wizard is primarily a video game, but when players progress through Piano Wizard's patented 4-step system, the game actually teaches them to read and understand real music notes. After learning of Piano Wizard's success, Southern Illinois University School of Music Professor Don Beattie and his wife, Delayna, launched the first Music Wizard Academy at SIU where college music students teach local youth how to play piano and read music using the Piano Wizard method, culminating in a major concert performance.

Looking to expand the program, Don and Delayna Beattie, Allegro Multimedia CEO Chris Salter, and Rocky Mountain School Executive Director Barbara Mitchell Hutton created a second Piano Wizard Academy here locally at RMS. Now in its second year, The Beattie's have come back to Boulder to set-up the Academy which gives local kids a week-long "boot camp" in learning to play piano using the Piano Wizard method.

The long-term goal of the program is to set-up an on-going Music Wizard Academy after-school program for students and children in the community to help foster music education in the Boulder area.

- Allegro Multimedia/Piano Wizard CEO Chris Salter is from and currently runs the company out of Longmont, CO.

Please contact Piano Wizard PR Representative **Brian Metcalf** at **(305) 576-1171 x11** or [brianmetcalf@maxborgesagency.com](mailto:brianmetcalf@maxborgesagency.com) for additional information.