

THE CARE & NONFEEDING OF OUR PIANOS

The Music Department, with the generous help of Robert MacCrate and the Cameron Baird Foundation, was the proud purchaser of three new Yamaha upright pianos, the elegant five-legged Steinway in MacCrate, Richard Brodhead's Roadrich upright and the spectacular Bösendorfer which will be a permanent resident of Roberts Hall. All this happened in the space of about a semester but will benefit the department for years to come.

THIS IS THE TIME, while the finish is still unmarked and the keys clean, to take great care of our new instruments. Should you have any doubts as to how to go about this, ponder the following:

1. Pianos are allergic to cigarettes, cigars, pipes and anything that burns. Show some consideration and keep all such items out of the practice room.
2. Pianos are very heavy and need none of the tempting delights of cookies, crackers, ice cream, popsicles, sandwiches or even such dietetic fare as yogurt, fruit or salad. If food enters a practice room, it is certain to get inside the piano. Certain voracious instruments have been found to contain candy wrappers, crumbs, traces of coffee and even seemingly indigestible pencil stubs, buttons, paper clips and thumb tacks. IT IS VERY EASY TO DROP SOMETHING INSIDE THE PIANO. Please don't. Avoid costly accidents by keeping all food and drinks out of the practice room.
3. Pianos are and should be proud of their finishes. By following the above friendly warnings you will be preventing such unsightly and tragic afflictions as the rash of coffee cup rings and outbreaks of cigarette burns which have marked our older pianos.