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Hello and welcome to Busy Kids Love Music, a podcast for kids and families to learn the story behind classical music. I'm Carly Seifert, the creator of Busy Kids Do Piano, and I'm so glad you're joining me for a very special episode today — our final podcast of 2025!

As we wrap up another wonderful year of learning, listening, and exploring music together, I want to take a moment to say thank you. Whether you listened to one episode this year or all of them, I'm so grateful that your family makes this podcast part of your musical life.

One of the things I love most about creating Busy Kids Love Music is that I'm learning right alongside you. I've discovered so many incredible stories through the composers and musicians we explore together. This year, one of the stories that really stayed with me was the life of Blind Tom Wiggins — a musician with extraordinary talent and a story that is both inspiring and important to share.

And of course, I also love sharing some of my own musical passions with you — like my love of Broadway musicals! My enthusiasm for Wicked definitely found its way into this year's episodes, and I know some of you had a blast with our Wicked-themed listening activities. Music is always more fun when we can connect it to something we truly love.

Today's episode is a little different — think of it like a cozy year-end celebration. I've put together something fun for your family to enjoy over winter break: The Great Re-Listen Challenge!

Here's how it works:

I've picked five episodes from 2025 that are perfect to revisit this time of year — each one is paired with a theme like “Road Trip Listen” or “Bedtime Listen.” Your mission is to choose one, two, or try all five over your holiday break!

To make it even more fun, I've created a simple Re-Listen Challenge

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Checklist you can download from the show notes at [busykidsdopiano.com/podcast/166](https://busykidsdopiano.com/podcast/166). After you listen to an episode, check it off! And if you complete all five, I'd love for you to send me a message and tell me your favorite. You can also find QR codes to each episode in the show notes, and links to each episode mentioned in today's podcast in the show notes. So all that is at [busykidsdopiano.com/podcast/166](https://busykidsdopiano.com/podcast/166).

Ready to hear the five selections? Let's jump in!

If you're traveling to visit family or friends this holiday season episode 140 is a great episode to listen to in the car. In Episode 140, we explore the exciting music of New Year's Day parades — the big sounds, marching bands, and festive feeling that kicks off a brand-new year. It's upbeat, energizing, and a fun way to get ready for 2026!

Planning some craft time over break? Maybe some drawing, painting, or creating with recycled materials? Episode 148 pairs perfectly with hands-on creativity. In this episode, we explored music inspired by our planet Earth. The sounds and themes are imaginative and might just inspire some Earth-themed masterpieces at your kitchen table.

When you're ready to wind down after a busy day, Episode 161 is a beautiful choice. We explored *Fall of the Leaf* by composer Imogen Holst — a peaceful and reflective cello piece that feels like autumn leaves floating to the ground. This calming music makes a wonderful bedtime listen, especially with a cozy blanket and dim lights.

Need to get some wiggles out indoors? Turn up Episode 154 for an instant living-room dance party! We explored folk music of Colombia, and the rhythms are full of movement, joy, and energy. It's a wonderful way to travel to a new place through music — without leaving your house — and a fun chance to dance together as a family.

Finally, if your family loves learning fascinating musical stories, Episode 144 is a must-listen — or re-listen. Blind Tom Wiggins was an African-

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American musician with an extraordinary gift for the piano. His story is inspiring and eye-opening, and it's one of my personal favorites from the entire year. If you haven't heard this one yet, winter break is the perfect time.

So there you have it — your five episode picks for the Great Re-Listen Challenge! You can listen to one, or try all five.

To make it fun, download the Re-Listen Checklist in the show notes at [busykidsdopiano.com/podcast/166](https://busykidsdopiano.com/podcast/166). After listening to an episode, check it off! And if you complete all five, I would absolutely love to hear from you. Send me a message to tell me your favorite re-listen of the year.

Before we close today, I want to say how thankful I am for you — the kids, parents, grandparents, and teachers who listen to this podcast. Sharing music with you brings me so much joy, and I can't wait to continue discovering and celebrating music together in the year ahead.

I have some exciting things planned for 2026 — new composers, new musical adventures, and of course, more opportunities to listen, learn, and love music. We'll also be kicking off our first public enrollment period for my online piano lesson programs — Busy Kids Do Piano and Busy Moms Do Piano — on January 1st, so if you're thinking about starting piano lessons in the new year, be sure to check those out.

Until then, I hope you have a peaceful and joyful holiday season, filled with cozy moments, creativity, laughter, and of course — music.

Thanks for listening to Busy Kids Love Music. I'll see you next year!