

A Parent's Guide to Music Lessons



Our Mission: To Nurture a lifetime of Musical Enjoyment for Students of All Ages

Quality: Insist on a Professional Teacher & Teaching Environment

Working with our talented, enthusiastic Staff, Students are exposed to a variety of musical instruments, styles & technologies, observe peers at different skill levels and have opportunities to make music with their friends. At Academy of Music & Dance all our Teaching Staff are University-Trained Professionals. In addition to teaching, many perform in local venues. Lessons are not just a hobby for our Teachers but a responsibility that's taken very seriously. Learning music is not just a matter of having a qualified teacher. You also need an environment that's focused on Music Education. At our Studio, students will not be distracted by TV, pets, ringing phones, siblings or anything else. With only 30 – 60 minutes of lesson time each week, you want Quality Music Instruction to be the sole focus.

Choices: Many Instruments, Teachers, & Styles to choose from

Academy of Music & Dance offers a full range of musical options for students of every age. In **Kindermusik**, young musicians can experience the magic of music without the pressure to perform—just the encouragement and guidance to stretch their boundaries with creativity and fun! **ABC Academy Preschool** (a performing arts preschool experience for 3-5 year olds) incorporates traditional academic concepts with music, art, dance, and theatre arts. Students (1st grade & up) can study **Instrument & Voice Lessons** in Classical, Jazz, Rock & Worship Styles with a choice of Teachers to fit your learning style. We offer Private Lessons & Group Classes for Beginners.

Newborn - Kindergarten: • Kindermusik® (newborns—age 7) • ABC Academy Preschool

Our Kindermusik classes are full of music, dancing, imagination, energy, and playful delight. Graduates leave the program reading notes and rhythm, playing their melodies on the glockenspiel, dulcimer and recorder, knowing all the instruments of the orchestra and which instrument they would like to play. They jump into our Instrument/Voice studies full of enthusiasm and an ability to feel and express the music with their whole being.

1st Grade - Adult:

- Voice
- Ukulele
- Violin
- Piano
- Guitar
- Cello
- All Band Instruments



Recitals!

Music is for sharing!! Our Students can choose to share their music in our **Winter** and/or **Year End** Recitals.

Convenience: Schedule 2 or more Children at the Same Time

Academy of Music & Dance saves you time by scheduling all of your children's music lessons and dance classes together! Your children can study Piano, Guitar, Kindermusik & Dance all at the same time with different teachers. Kindermusik families can have preschoolers in one class, while taking a class with baby in the next room. What will you do with a moment for yourself? (It might even be your turn to play the instrument you've always dreamed of...)

What About Practice?

There's just no way around it. It takes practice to get good at a new task. To make practice rewarding, don't set a specific amount of time, rather think of it as practicing until you have completed your assignment. For example, "Practice the Rhythm of this piece 3 times perfect" or "Listen for the Louds and Quiets on this song 3 times perfect". Students lose track of the time they are practicing and learn to listen and work effectively. 10 minutes of focused practice will accomplish so much more than an hour watching the clock hands tick by.

Tips for Parents & Students:

- 1. Set the *same practice time every day* so it becomes part of a routine or habit. Some people find it helpful to link practicing to something they already remember to do, like eating. We recommend 5 practice sessions each week.**
- 2. Being *an enthusiastic audience* for the music your child is working on is a great way to encourage practicing.**
- 3. Listen to music of many different styles and encourage your child to play music that your family enjoys. If your child is trying out a new style of unfamiliar music—*listen to a recording of the piece*.**
- 4. Help your student select at least 2 ways each year *to share their music*. Remember, sharing music can actually be fun and stress free!**
- 5. Music is something that you can enjoy for a lifetime. So, *try not to put unrealistic expectations on yourself or your children* to learn too quickly. Everyone learns at a different pace and the key is to be able to enjoy the journey.**