

A Parent's Guide to Music Lessons

Let's Make
Music  **Dance**
Performing Arts Academy for All Ages

22573 SW Main 710B Foothills Dr.
Sherwood Newberg
(503)625-5343 (503)554-9525

www.LetsMakeMusic.net

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, hear peers at different skill levels and have opportunities to make music with their friends. At Let's Make Music all our Teaching Staff are University-Trained Professionals. In addition to teaching, many perform in local venues around the Portland Metro area. 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. Our Front Desk Staff is available during teaching hours, to ensure that our Teachers can direct their full-attention to your lessons.

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

Let's Make Music offers a full range of musical options for students of every age. In **Kindermusik & Preschool Family Jam**, 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! 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. **Star Performing Teams** (Rock Band, Musical Theater & Piano Team) teach musicians to work & perform together and represent our studio with performances at community events.

Newborn - Kindergarten: • Kindermusik® (newborns—age 7) • Family Jam (w/preschool 3's & 4's)

Our Kindermusik & Family jam 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 the ability to feel and express the music with their whole being.

1st Grade - Adult:

- | | | | |
|---------------|------------|---------------|-------------|
| • Piano | • Clarinet | • Violin | • Trumpet |
| • Guitar/Bass | • Flute | • Viola | • Trombone |
| • Drums | • Oboe | • Cello | • Saxophone |
| • Voice | • Bassoon | • French Horn | • Tuba |

Fun & Motivation: The 3 "R's": Repertoire, Rewards, & Recitals

We all know that we learn more when we're having fun! At Let's Make Music we use the 3 "R's" to keep our students motivated and excited about learning:

Repertoire: Students get to select music they WANT to play. In addition to their method books, students select supplemental pieces in the style they enjoy (classical, rock, jazz, religious, country, movie tunes, etc.)

Rewards: Everyone likes little incentives as we work through a long journey. We reward practicing with Music Tokens to be used in our Music Store for treats, toys, pencils, books, gift cards, tote bags, & more.

Recitals: Music is for sharing!! Private Lesson students have access to 2 recitals a year. Star Performing Team students perform 3 times a year in our recitals and community events representing the studio.

Convenience: Schedule 2 or more Children at the Same Time

Let's Make Music saves you time by scheduling all of your children's lessons together! Your children can study Piano, Guitar, Drums & even 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 Softs 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.

Tip #1 for Parents: *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.*

Tip #2 for Parents: *Being an enthusiastic audience for the music your child is working on is a great way to encourage practicing.*

Tip #3 for Parents: *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.*

Tip #4 for Parents: *Help your student select at least 2 ways each year to share their music. Remember, sharing music can actually be fun and stress free!*

Tip #5 for Parents: *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.*