



Garten's Music

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www.wichitamusicacademy.com



February 2016



Stephanie and Bernie Hentzen

Hentzens make music together

When Stephanie Hentzen called her husband, Bernie, at work one afternoon a couple of months ago and asked if he would like to have an “educational opportunity” that evening, he didn’t hesitate to say yes.

The Hentzens have a 40-year history of doing almost everything together – from working in the family business to the more whimsical things like the educational opportunity of the Garten’s Music Goofin’ Around Keyboard Class. When they were getting ready to come to the first Goofin’ Around class, Bernie’s biggest concern was how he was dressed,

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Father, son learn guitar, piano

For Patrick and Rylan Patin, taking music lessons is a family affair.

Patrick and his wife, Rita, discovered the Wichita Music Academy during the Asian Festival when they visited the Garten’s Music booth. Their son, Rylan, enrolled in piano lessons in November 2014.

“He’s getting really good,” said Patrick.

Since he often waited for his son, now 7, to finish his lesson, Patrick decided to take up the guitar. Now the father and son sometimes

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Patrick and Rylan Patin

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Congratulations to our graduates of the Goofin' Around Keyboard Class (Christmas Class)! Back, from left: John Bignell, Vesta Campbell, Sue Maurer, Brent Kleeman, Bill Hall, Priscilla Liddeke, Wanda Shaw. Front, from left: Bobbi Bruce, Dee Cheatham, Connie Profaizer, Joyce O'Dell, Evelyn Whitmer, Connie Gonzalez. Not pictured: LE Anderson.

Welcome to new & returning students who signed up for lessons & classes!



Congratulations to our graduates of the Goofin' Around Keyboard Class (Christmas Class)! Standing, from left: Linda Beauchamp, Eva Buehler, Lynette Hasz, Kerrie Platt. Seated, from left: Farol McMillan, Clara DeHaven. Not pictured: Maxine Mikesell.

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|-------------|--------------|
| Diamond B. | Priscilla C. |
| Courtney C. | Bradley D. |
| Kylie G. | Derek G. |
| Collin S. | Kaleb G. |
| Jennifer H. | Kayleen J. |
| Noah M. | Elizabeth M. |
| Isabella M. | Debra M. |
| Derek R. | Mike V. |
| Colt W. | Lily C. |
| Dorothy H. | Chris M. |
| Mary M. | Maddie W. |
| Kathy H. | Carolyn F. |
| Verlene K. | Jim B. |
| Janet D. | Nanda J. |
| Karen C. | Annie J. |
| Kaila T. | Lily A. |
| Max H. | Santana M. |
| Joe P. | Erica R. |

Mark your calendars!

Upcoming classes and gatherings at Garten's Music:

L.I.F.E. in Kansas MusicMakers

Join the club and enjoy making music with us!

– 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5

Organ Club

includes a Name That Tune game, playing tips, new songbooks and great music!

– 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 12

(Theme: Songs with the word “Love” or “Heart” in the title)

PlayTime

is an opportunity for current and former Lowrey students to enjoy listening to and playing for your friends!

– 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19

See our booth at the Women's Fair

located at Century II!

– Friday, Feb. 19,
through Sunday, Feb. 21

Congratulations to our monthly drawing winner for December! Jennifer Curtis received a music-themed travel cup and a guitar calendar.



Congratulations to our graduates of the Goofin' Around Keyboard Class (Red Book 1)! They are (seated, from left) Ann Ocker and Bev Stamper and (standing, from left) James Langford, Gary Miley, Bernie Hentzen and Stephanie Hentzen. Not pictured: Donna Harris.

Congrats to these dedicated kids!

Luke and Molly Pullman reached their one-year anniversaries at the Wichita Music Academy!



Molly Pullman, vocalist



Luke Pullman, pianist

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play together, including a song from “Pirates of the Caribbean.”

“He loved that,” Patrick said. “If I could play with him every single song, he would never stop playing.”

Patrick wanted to learn guitar when he was in high school but didn’t think he had time. He bought a guitar when he was in his 30s, but it was left in storage when he moved to Belgium.

“I always kind of kicked myself for not learning,” Patrick said.

When he worked in Belgium, he joined colleagues who liked to jam together, but Patrick said the group was more advanced than he was. After his family moved back to the United States and Rylan started learning piano, Patrick decided to pursue his dream.

“Since I’m here anyway, why not sign up for my own lessons?” Patrick said. “From there I’ve really enjoyed it.”

Patrick practices for 30 minutes a day at home, and he studies with instructor Les Clark to further develop his talent. Clark advises him if a particular string isn’t ringing out or if he’s holding his hand incorrectly.

“I come here and it reinforces my good behavior, and Les lets me know if I’m behaving poorly,” Patrick said. “Not only does he teach me how to play the song but how to embellish it – add my own flair to it.”

Patrick admitted that Rylan sometimes prefers to skip piano practice, but Patrick insists

that his son persevere. Rylan can improvise and has begun to make up his own music. He was especially excited to learn music from a “Pirates of the Caribbean” book. Patrick said his son even draws pirate ships in his spare time.

“If he could watch that movie all the time, he would,” Patrick added.

Rylan has enjoyed learning a new skill.

“I can play any song,” he said, although he admitted it sometimes takes practice.

Rylan overcame his nervousness and played in the Student Showcase in December at the Wichita Music Academy, where his father also performed. They plan to play again in the May showcase.

Patrick said the most important advice he could offer potential musicians was to practice on their own instead of playing solely during lesson time.

“Definitely keep it up,” he said. “You may not feel like you’ve made much progress, but for most of us, it doesn’t happen overnight. It takes time.”

Patrick thought he was too busy for music lessons in high school, but now that he has the packed schedule – and the perspective – of an adult, he makes music a priority.

“It’s never too busy,” he said. “It’s healthy for your brain, too. There’s an article recently talking about learning an instrument and how it can prevent Alzheimer’s.” ❤️



Check out our talented students!

Videos of performances from our December Student Showcase are on our YouTube channel, and we couldn't be more proud of our students! Visit tinyurl.com/gartensmusic

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since he didn't know what they'd be doing.

"I didn't know if we were going to a cooking class or a dance class or what," he said.

The Hentzens are in the first weeks of their second round – Book 2 – of the Goofin' Around classes and they couldn't be happier. Stephanie's father played trumpet his entire life, so she was raised with music. She likes the books used in the class because they have music she recognizes. For Bernie, who had some piano lessons as a child, the best thing is "you can play at a pace that helps it come more naturally."

The couple agreed that the Lowrey EZ Play is the "key"(board) to success.

"When I took lessons as a kid, I had no rhythm," Bernie said, adding that the teacher "threatened" to lend him a metronome.

"The Lowreys are great for keeping time," Stephanie said. Additionally, the EZ play method allows the user to play a whole chord with one finger. "You can go a long way real fast," she said.

The Hentzens have three children and eight grandchildren. There is a true family affair – two of their children work with Bernie at the family contracting business. Stephanie helps out with the grandchildren, as well as some of the paperwork for the business.

"Our children were surprised that we were taking keyboard classes and thought it would be something we did for a month and then quit," Stephanie said.

But now in their Book 2 class, they plan to keep going.

"The Goofin' Around class is our date night. After we leave class, we go out to eat then go home and race to the keyboards. I usually win," Stephanie said with a chuckle.

The Hentzens described the staff at Garten's Music as friendly and accommodating.

"When I came in to sign up for classes, Vesta (Campbell, Garten's staff member) showed me what she was learning in the class," Stephanie said. "It was very helpful. All the staff is very encouraging." ❤️

*Need a great
Valentine's Day idea?*

*Try a gift certificate,
fun music-themed
items or instrument
at Garten's!*

*Or sign up for lessons & learn
to serenade your sweetheart!*

**The Wichita Music Academy
offers piano, keyboard,
guitar, bass, voice, ukulele,
tuba, saxophone, trombone,
trumpet, clarinet, flute, violin,
viola and baritone/euphonium
lessons!**

**Call or stop by today & begin
your musical journey!**

Goofin' Around Keyboard Class

for adult beginners teaches students to have a blast goofin' around at the keyboard! The 10-week class affords students the chance to learn to play in a fun, no-stress (and no recital) environment. We'll even loan you an instrument!

FREE introductory classes:

- 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 1
- 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 2
- 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 9



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