



Garten's Music

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www.wichitamusicacademy.com



April 2024

“Just go ahead,” Pickler says about classes

Like many people during the COVID epidemic, Nancy Pickler found herself wanting to get back to what brings joy in her life. For Nancy, that's music. She played the flute starting in grade school and even played in the marching band at K-State in college; she also played the ukulele. However, even with her years of playing instruments, she was never able to read music until taking the Goofin' Around classes at Garten's Music.

Nancy decided to return to playing music after she retired from being the Director of Human Resources in multi-state hospitals. Since her two sons were grown, and she had two granddaughters, she was ready to get back into music again. She saw an ad about Garten's Goofin' Around class and thought she would give it a try.

“I've been involved in music most of my life, so I thought, ‘let me give that a shot.’”

After all the years of being in music bands, she finally learned to read music in the Goofin' classes.

“I've always played by ear. From taking these classes, I've learned to read music, so that's cool.”



Nancy Pickler takes the Goofin' Around class at Garten's Music.

Four years later, she still enjoys the Goofin' Around classes. Nancy is also active in MusicMakers, the monthly event for all Goofin' students.

Nancy said she continues to come

“because I keep learning, and I keep getting better. It makes me challenge myself to do something else from what Cindy assigns [in the class] and build on that, and I keep getting better and better.”

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Graduation day!



Congratulations to our graduates of the Goofin' Around Keyboard Class (All-Time Standards)! Seated, from left: Sheryl Knott, Eva Ornelas, Hilde Yops. Standing, from left: Kerrie Platt, Karen Armstrong, LaJuan Hutcherson, Joan Welborn, Fred Washington, Brenda Banta.



Congratulations to our graduates of the Goofin' Around Keyboard Class (Red Book 1)! From left: Linda Holleman, Judy Kelly, Cynthia Martinez. Not pictured: Ray Sprague, Randy Brummett, Sherry Brummett, Reatha Stucky, Benjamin Breese-Isley, Sheila Kershaw, Denise Garrison, Kathy Pewewardy.

Mark your calendars!

Upcoming classes and gatherings at Garten's Music:

MusicMakers, open to our Goofin' Around Keyboard Class students, includes a Name That Tune game, playing tips, new songbooks and great music!

– 2 p.m. Friday, April 19
(Theme: Animal in the title)



Warehouse sale on Lowrey keyboards and organs!

We are overstocked and need to find new homes for classic models. Ask us for a list of these great values!



Need a gift idea for Mother's Day or graduation?

Get them a musical instrument or a gift card for lessons or classes! We carry pianos, keyboards, guitars, ukes, and band & orchestra instruments! We currently have a piano sale going. Ask us for the sale list. We also offer music accessories and fun jewelry, scarves, bags, music books & more!



Classes starting!

Goofin' Around Beginners FREE Introduction:

– 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 23

Lowrey Magic Red Book 3

– starts at 1:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 23

Lowrey Magic Red Book 2

– starts at 1:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 24

Lowrey Magic Red Book 1

– starts at 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 30

Homeschool Families:

We currently have daytime music lessons before 3pm.

We have these lessons available on weekdays: piano, violin, guitar, ukulele, bass guitar, drums, and voice.



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Nancy enjoys when she finally gets that song she’s been learning.

“I end up saying ‘YES!,’ because it just sounds right. Cindy makes it easy. She’s very patient and does one-on-one help sessions. If I get stuck, she’s good about helping me work through that. She’s really good about giving us ideas about where to start.”

Nancy also loves the camaraderie of the students.

“A few of us have been together since my first class, and we’ve become friends. I come back [to Garten’s] for the community as well.”

Now Nancy plays for her granddaughter and makes great memories together with the music she learns in the class.

“My granddaughter loves it when I play. She sings and dances.”

Nancy has some simple advice for those considering the Goofin’ Around classes:

“Just go ahead and do it. It’s kind of a tough decision to make initially, but everyone who comes just loves what they’re doing. It’s just so much fun. You can have fun playing for people or playing for yourself. It’s not like you have to be a performer. It keeps your mind active for those of us getting older. You have to actively keep your mind going.”

Attention KEEP Recipients

The KEEP benefits (Kansas Education Enrichment Program) expire one year from the date the student was approved. These funds can be used for musical instrument purchases, music lessons, songbooks and instruction books, and accessories like bags and tuners, etc. We can help you use all your funding! Stock up on music books or purchase an instrument. Enroll in either an hour-long lesson for the summer or take an extra lesson for a few months. Try a different instrument! Add a voice lesson! Talk to Cindy or staff about the possibilities.



Welcome to new and returning students who signed up for lessons!

The Wichita Music Academy offers instruction in piano, keyboard, guitar, bass, voice, ukulele, violin, viola, cello, harp, brass, woodwinds, drums and percussion!

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| Cambree R. | Olivia C. | Valeria N. |
| Luke G. | Raja R. | Loretta H. |
| Madeleine F.. | Elora R. | Lily P. |
| Heidi B. | Isabella I. | DeMarcus D. |
| Addison S. | Anastasia I. | Alex K. |
| Camden I. | Cayson C. | Mandee S. |
| Emry L. | Robin E. | Julianna W. |
| Arely D. | Yaheem N. | Allegra W. |

Happy Spring!

