

September 2023

Drummer's favorite music: 'loud'

Matteo Gauna has a shirt that aptly describes him. It reads: "Destroyer of silence."

"I like to destroy silence," Matteo, 7, said with a grin.

He has already put that plan into action since he started drum lessons in February at the Wichita Music Academy.

"I like to beat it hard," he said, "and when I get mad, I have something to hit."

Gauna's mother, Abby, said he was always drumming on objects with his hands. His father, Michael, has a music room that includes guitars, amplifiers, an electric drum set and an acoustic drum set. Michael, who was a bass guitarist in a band, plays guitar along with Matteo while he practices drums during the week to help him keep time and rhythm.

Matteo was quick to identify his favorite kind of music – "loud," he said – and his favorite song is "Dance Monkey." His musical journey at the Wichita Music Academy led to the first-ever concert he attended: a live performance by King's Wit. The local band includes Wichita Music Academy instructors Alec Jahnke – Matteo's



teacher - and Luis Gomez.

"It was loud and I liked it," Matteo said.

In his spare time, Matteo loves gardening and watching the baby caterpillars in his yard. He and his family grow various foods such as watermelon, tomatoes, corn, peppers, strawberries, beans and myriad herbs. Matteo especially likes the sunflowers that he and his family grow.

"They're so tall and pretty – bushy

sometimes," he said.

One day Matteo was entertaining himself, so he watched a video about how to pollinate cantaloupe, went outside by himself and did it.

"I want to work at Johnson's Garden Center," he said. "I already know a lot about plants."

As he learns more about gardening and music, Matteo enjoys the Musical Ladder System, which affords

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Matteo Gauna, 7, takes drum lessons at the Wichita Music Academy. That led to the first concert he has attended: a live performance by King's Wit, his Wichita Music Academy teacher's band.

Graduation day!



Congratulations to our graduates of the Goofin' Around Keyboard Class (Rock & Pop Song Classics)! Seated, from left: Lisa Shorter, Judy Fruth. Standing, from left: Linda Overman, Fred Washington, Galen Fruth. Not pictured: Carolyn Johnson.

Congratulations to our graduates of the Goofin' Around Keyboard Class (Blue Book 1)! Seated, from left: Esther Gable, Kaye Stevens. Standing, from left: Nancy Pickler, Diana Friend, Barbara Booher. Not pictured: Sandy Tinsmon, Jennifer Lewis.



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, Sept. 15(Theme: Happy songs)

Save the date!

Wichita Music Academy Student Showcases are set for Saturday, Sept. 30, and Sunday, Oct. 1. They will take place at Westside Baptist Church, 304 S. Seneca, Wichita.



Rent your band & orchestra instruments here!

Garten's Music offers band and orchestra instruments for rent or purchase. The first month's rental rate for orchestra instruments is \$4.99. The subsequent monthly rental is \$17 for violin and viola or \$35 for cello. The first month's rental rate for most band instruments is \$9.99, and the subsequent monthly rental is \$22. Rentals are available on a month-to-month basis! Your rental payments apply toward the purchase price. For more information, call us at 942-1337 or stop by 4235 W. Central, Wichita!



Like us on Facebook! Facebook.com/gartensmusic

Follow us on Instagram! @wichitamusicacademy

Classes starting!

Lowrey Magic theme class (Over the Rainbow, Part 2) – 10:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 29

Lowrey Magic theme class (More of the Best Songs Ever) – 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 12

Lowrey Magic theme class (50 Great Songs) – 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 12

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Wichita Music Academy students the chance to earn wristbands and trophies for achieving musical milestones. Matteo most recently earned his Song Bird trophy and wristband.

"Soon I'll have thousands of wristbands!" he remarked.

Asked what advice he would offer to a friend who was considering music lessons but feeling nervous, Matteo thought for a moment and then replied: "Just be brave."



Please vote for Garten's Music by Friday!

You're invited to vote for us in this year's Best of Wichita contest by The Wichita Eagle! We're asking for your vote as Best Musical Instrument Store! Our amazing music community voted us No. 1 for the past two years, and we'd be so grateful if you would vote for us again this year! Just go to votewichitaks.com, choose "Shopping," choose "Musical Instrument Store" and select "Garten's Music." You can vote every day! Voting ends Friday, Sept. 8. Thanks so much; we so appreciate your support!



Earn a \$1,000 music award!

The Kansas Education Enrichment Program provides up to \$1,000 for qualifying students to receive enrichment and school supplies. That includes musical instruments and lessons! Garten's Music is on the list as a Kansas Qualified Education Service Provider! There are no fees to apply for the program.



Sign up and find details here: www.keep.ks.gov



Our phone number is still 316-942-1337! But **please note** the number for sending us text messages: 316-661-6605