

Garten's Music

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September 2013

Garten's students discover that music helps ease the transitions in life

The Goofin' Around Keyboard Classes at Garten's Music have brought a spark to Millie Tallman's life.

She enrolled in a beginner class in 2004 and soon purchased an organ.

"Nobody knows what that organ has done for me in my life," she said. "Words can't tell you how I love it."

Tallman may be a senior citizen, but she isn't interested in serene music that blends into the background.

"I don't play the slow songs," she said. "I'm the fast boogie-woogie. I don't like the slow waltzes. They all know that at Organ Club and they tease me. I'm the rock 'n' roll and the country and the foxtrot and the swing. I don't like the other kind. I'm the upbeat gal!"

Tallman's husband, Tom, always supported her hob-

by. Her first Lowrey organ was a Fiesta, but one day a man from Garten's Music arrived and told her he was there to pick up her organ.

"I said, 'You can't have it. It's paid for,'" Tallman recalled. "And I began to have a tear in my eye, and he said, 'Why don't you go out and look in the truck?' And I went out my front door and looked in the truck and there was my Odyssey. Tom had gotten me a step up from my Fiesta. I was really a happy lady that day."

Tallman is involved in Organ Club and L.I.F.E. in Kansas MusicMakers at Garten's. She is notorious for losing track of time when she plays her home organ.

"I lost my husband in March from bone cancer, and he loved to hear me play," she said. "I play every day. I get up in the

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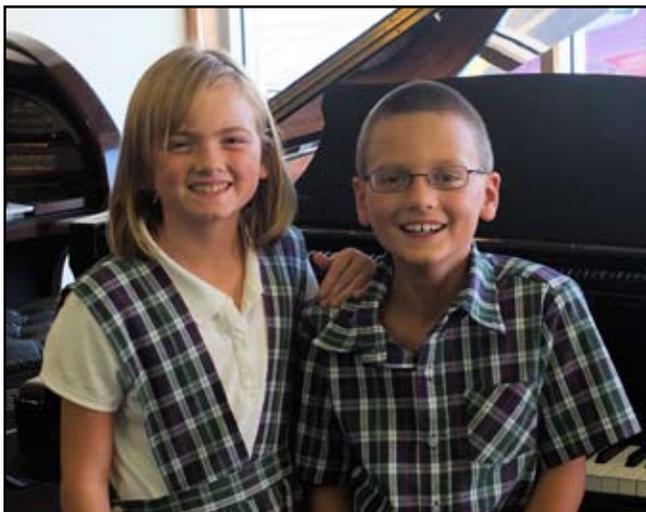
Millie Tallman: She doesn't know what she would do without her Lowrey Odyssey. It has helped her through the grieving process since her husband passed away.

Sign up for our next adult beginner Goofin' Around Keyboard Class and get a \$129.95 registration for **HALF PRICE!**

\$64.95

Expires Oct. 10, 2013

Cannot be combined with any other offer; limit 1 per household.



Musical families

Brianna Cotter, left, and brother Austin take piano lessons through the Wichita Music Academy at Garten’s Music. Our next newsletter will feature multiple family members who are WMA students.

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morning, walk by the organ, go in to eat breakfast and think, ‘Oh, I guess I’ll play awhile.’ It’s 8:30 or 9, and Millie still hasn’t had breakfast!”

Tallman has learned to play the organ and then continued to improve, but that wasn’t the only benefit of her involvement in classes and clubs at Garten’s. She made several new friends who helped her through a tough time in her life.

“Most of them were at my husband’s funeral,” she said. “I’ve made wonderful friends. They’ve been so nice to me when I needed a friend to talk to. They’d call up in the evening and see how my husband was doing and how I was doing. They’re wonderful people.”

When Tallman begins to feel lonely in the evening, she turns to her organ for solace.

“After the evening meal, I sit down and play,” she said. “I don’t know what I would do without it. It’s a godsend. It helps with the loneliness. It’s just wonderful to have it.”

Poor vision doesn’t inhibit music maker

When Joyce O’Dell met Cindy Houston, president of Garten’s Music, O’Dell was a frustrated aspiring musician.

Her vision problems, including macular degeneration, prevented her from reading traditional music. She heard Houston speak at her church’s “Senior Saints” group, and she was immediately intrigued by the Goofin’ Around Keyboard Class.



Joyce O’Dell

“I ran right up to her afterward,” O’Dell recalled.

She was thrilled to discover that she could read the EZ Play music that is used in Goofin’ Around classes.

“I had wanted to play something forever,” she said, “and my husband, Jim, bought me a dulcimer thinking I could play it. And when we got it home, I couldn’t see the strings.”

Joyce started playing in

2009 and is now president of the L.I.F.E. in Kansas MusicMakers.

“It’s real hard for me to do a lot of things because of my vision,” she said. “When I get nervous or bored or just kind of down, I go in and sit down and start playing. Sometimes I’ll tell Jim, ‘Now I’m just going to go play 30 minutes,’ and when I’ll look up or he’ll say something to me, it’s been two or three hours. It’s really my hobby.”

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

John B.
Vicky I.
Shea K.
Paul M.
Stephen N.
Thomas R.

Colin T.
Phyllis C.
Mercedes P.
Dee C.
Betty N.
Vesta C.

Wanda S.
Nancy W.
Evelyn W.
Alice Y.
Bill S.
Red K.



Graduation day!

Congratulations to our Lowrey graduates of the Red Book 3 class – Front row, from left, Larry Mc-Curry, Bill Hall, Priscilla Liddeke, Doris Schwartz, Ruth Faught. Middle row, from left, Beverly Becker, Marvis Lary, Virginia Hosey, Connie Profaizer, Phyllis Carr, Connie Gonzalez. Back row, from left, Loraine Browning, Myron Schwartz, Donna Clasen, Aleta Vogt, Joyce O'Dell.

Mark your calendars!

Upcoming classes and gatherings at Garten's Music:

Goofin' Around Keyboard Class

Introductory Classes for Beginners

Learn more about our 10-week classes. Have fun learning to play, and make new friends!

10:30 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 3

Goofin' Around Keyboard Class – Beginner Book 1

will start soon. You will play a song on the first day!

Space is limited.
Call now for details!

PlayTime

is an opportunity to come enjoy listening to and playing for your friends! Current and former Lowrey students are invited.

– 2 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11

L.I.F.E. in Kansas MusicMakers

Join the club and enjoy making music with us.

– 2 p.m. Friday, Oct. 4

Organ Club

includes a Name That Tune game, playing tips, new song-books and great music!

– 2 p.m. Friday, Oct. 18
(Theme: Songs with one-word titles)

What's better than buying 1 piano? Buying 2!



A family buying a new Kawai piano for their home is not necessarily newsworthy; that's part of what we do here at Garten's. But it's not every day that a family buys TWO new Kawai pianos for their home. Christina Lee (pictured with husband Chris and their children) is a piano teacher. When the Lees moved into their new home, they bought two new Kawais, a vertical and a grand. The vertical is for her teaching studio, and the grand is for their new living room. Congratulations, Christina!