



Garten's Music

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May 2022

Tradition: sisters play piano each day

Playing piano has become a tradition for the Russell family.

Siblings Owen and Audrey Russell started lessons at Garten's Music, home of the Wichita Music Academy, in 2018. Their younger sisters, Emma and Amelia Russell, later followed.

"Owen and Audrey were doing it, and it looked cool," said Emma.

The three girls – Audrey, 11; Emma, 9; and Amelia, 6 – are still Wichita Music Academy students. One aspect of the academy that they enjoy is the chance to earn trophies and wristbands through the Musical Ladder System.

"I think it's cool," Emma said. "I'm looking forward to earning the big trophy one day."

"Me, too," Amelia added.

The girls play piano every day. The rule is that homework and piano practice must be done before they get screen time.

"I like playing the songs that I already know," Audrey said.

Her favorite song she has learned to play so far is Katy Perry's



From left, pianists Audrey, Emma and Amelia

"Roar." Emma's and Amelia's favorites are "Sakura" and "Elephant Ride," respectively, which are songs from their books.

Audrey recalled feeling "really nervous" before her first piano lesson, and Amelia described herself as "kind of scared" at first. However, the sisters all said they would encourage a friend who was interested in taking lessons at the Wichita Music Academy but feeling hesitant.

"I would say, 'Don't be nervous' because you won't start with the hard stuff," Emma remarked. "I like looking at the pianos after-

wards. I like playing, too."

"It's fun," Amelia said.

"No one will judge you," Audrey added.

Audrey's teacher asked her about her favorite songs then provided a simpler arrangement of one so she could begin to learn it. Amelia has looked ahead in her music book, and she looks forward to learning the songs "Football Game" and "Bells of Great Britain." Emma's goals include learning the song "Let It Go" from "Frozen" and the Super Smash Bros. theme.

"I would like to do a lot of hard songs," Emma said.

Audrey started playing clarinet in her school band this year, and since her Wichita Music Academy instructor teaches piano and clarinet, she is taking lessons in both instruments. Emma said she hopes to join the band in fifth grade, like her sister, and she might play piano for Mass someday.

Amelia is looking ahead, too: "I want to be a music teacher," she said.

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Graduation day!



Congratulations to our graduates of the Goofin' Around Keyboard Class (Green Book 2)! Front row, from left: Rosie Brumit, Judy Fruth, Linda Overman. Middle row, from left: Casey O'Donnell, Debra Higgs, Carolyn Johnson. Back row, from left: Helon Spencer (on screen), Fred Washington, Galen Fruth. Not pictured: Lisa Shorter, Brenda Banta.

Congratulations to our graduates of the Goofin' Around Keyboard Class (Red Book 1)! From left: Ott Lang, Teresa Detwiler, Bruce Wood. Not pictured: Linda Turner, Beverly O'Connor, Roberta Sanders, Barbara Anderson, LaVonda Cash.



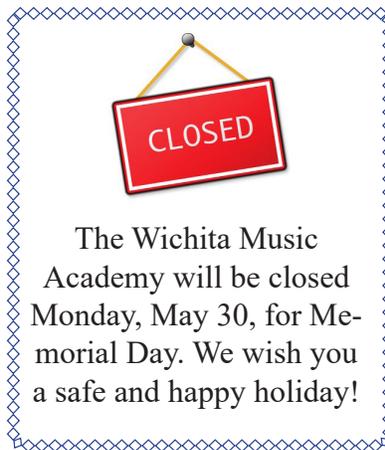
Mark your calendars!

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, May 20
(Theme: Family relationship)

We are so proud of our Wichita Music Academy students who have earned their Musical Ladder awards, and we are now honoring them in a different way! We introduced the Musical Ladder System in 2016, and now we have grown to include more than 300 students! We can't include all their photos in the newsletter when they earn awards, so we are publishing their photos in a full-color handout that is available at the front desk. Just ask our office staff for your copy. We also post their photos on our Facebook page. We love to see our students' smiling faces!



Class starting!

Lowrey Magic Red Book 4

– starts at 10:30 a.m.
Friday, May 20

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

Wayne A.	Hailey P.	Kylie P.
Sandrine L.	Jane B.	Adrian W.
Treasurey T.	Brenda B.	Nancy W.
Brent K.	Marsha H.	Connie P.
Vesta C.	Kerrie P.	Linda O.
Wanda S.	Bill H.	Joan W.
LaJuan H.	Karen A.	Larry J.
Eva O.	Sheryl K.	Liz H.
Bruce W.	Roberta S.	Greer D.
Ott L.	Terry H.	Linda T.
Jennifer L.	Barbara B.	Sandy T.
Diana F.	Kaye S.	Cheryl P.
Barbara M.	Nancy P.	Ryder A.



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We have inventory!

Need a graduation gift or a fun hobby this summer? Stop by and check out our selection of digital pianos, guitars and cool new ukuleles!

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“I want to either teach my children piano or let them go to a place that you learn instruments,” Emma said. “I think they might like it, and I want them to be included.”

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

