

Garten's Music

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www.wichitamusicacademy.com



July 2015



Red, white and blue

Organ Club members at Garten's enjoyed a patriotic theme for their last meeting before the Fourth of July, including festive music and hats.



Music at the market

Garten's had a booth at the Farmer's Market in Wichita, collecting nearly \$100 for the L.I.F.E. in Kansas Music-Makers charity, Wounded Warriors.

Keep children engaged in music

► Educational, therapeutic benefits last a lifetime

The guiding principal at the Wichita Music Academy is that learning to make music should be fun. And it is.

Except when it's not. Learning anything new requires patience and the persistence to overcome challenges. Sometimes it takes awhile to establish a practice routine, and if a student is learning to play guitar, practice time results in

sore fingers early on until calluses are formed.

Still, learning to make music is a worthwhile endeavor. Numerous studies have established the educational benefits of musicianship, and it's a hobby that can be enjoyed for a lifetime – long after sports stop being a viable option. Music also offers therapeutic advantages such as relaxation and stress relief. One Wichita Music Academy teacher wrote songs when he was young to help him

cope with his parents' divorce.

However, some struggle to reach their early musical goals. Richard Kubow – a musician, teacher and owner of Richard's Music in Mississippi – urges parents not to let their children give up too quickly. He points out that children who lack interest in books or math are not allowed to stop reading or cease adding and subtracting. He said it's common for students to enjoy music lessons at first and

►Continued inside.



Aarav R.



Catrina O.

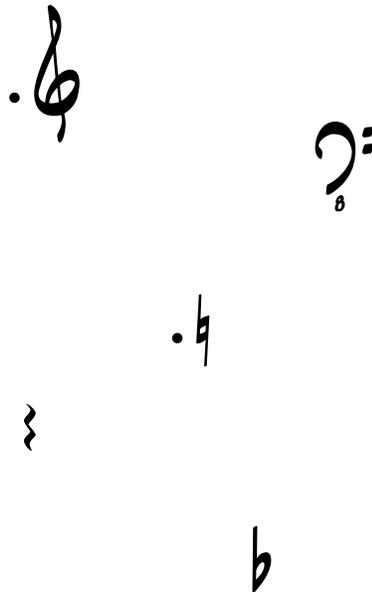
Students shine at showcase

The Wichita Music Academy held its student showcases in May.

Thanks to our teachers - Adam Willingham, Su Kheng Kang, Thor Bonner, Matt Kuzma and Robby Avila - for helping them prepare. We couldn't be more proud of our students, and their performances may be viewed on our YouTube channel: [tinyurl.com/gartensmusic!](https://tinyurl.com/gartensmusic)



Alex G.



Natalie B.



Izabelle R.

View all the photos
online at [tinyurl.com/
WMAspringshowcase](http://tinyurl.com/WMAspringshowcase)

Our next student
showcase is set for
December. Additional
details will be avail-
able this fall!



Elena A.



Mark R.



Zoe D.



Tiffany W.

**The Wichita Music
Academy offers piano,
keyboard, guitar, bass,
voice, ukulele, dobro,
mandolin, banjo, fiddle,
saxophone, tuba, trombone,
trumpet, cello, clarinet,
flute, violin, viola and
baritone/euphonium
lessons! Call today!**

►Continued from front page.

then lose interest, but he added that children are not mature enough to know which activities will enrich their lives.

“I have to admit that I was uninterested in music lessons as a child and often wanted to quit,” he wrote. “Thank goodness my parents encouraged me to continue for six years of lessons. Little did I know as an 8-year-old that, by age 15, I would begin composing my own music, that I would play professionally at age 21 and direct a choir by age 29. I had no idea that what started out as a chore would become my hobby and, later, my livelihood.”

“We often hear from adults that they wish their parents hadn’t let them quit taking music lessons,” said Cindy Houston, president of Garten’s Music. “We never hear an adult say, ‘I’m so glad my parents let me quit.’”

Some argue that allowing kids to quit when an activity becomes difficult communicates that parents have no faith in them to persevere and succeed. Experts estimate that it takes three to six months to get settled into lessons and develop

the habit of practicing. While 30 minutes of practice time daily is often recommended, even five or 10 minutes a day will help instill the basics of music knowledge.

“Playing daily keeps what you are learning fresh in your mind,” Houston said. “It’s just as effective to play three times a day for 10 minutes as it is to play for 30 minutes in one sitting.”

It’s important for parents to be encouraging, complimenting their children’s progress or work ethic. Criticizing mistakes or allowing the children to believe they can’t learn something is detrimental in the long run.

Sometimes the placement of an instrument makes a difference. Students of all ages are more likely to practice on a piano or guitar, for example, if it’s located in a living room or family room – instead of being hidden away in a spare bedroom or dark basement.

“I encourage my students to replace the word ‘practice’ with the word ‘play’ in their minds and vocabulary,” Houston said. “‘Practice’ has the connotation of a chore, but we all love to play. It’s a subtle but surprisingly effective

change in a student’s mindset.”

Sometimes games or prizes help encourage kids to play or look forward to lessons. And once they have tackled the basics, make sure they learn music that appeals to them. Young people at the Wichita Music Academy have expressed interest in a variety of styles – Johnny Cash, Elvis Presley, AC/DC, Metallica, Taylor Swift, Katy Perry, the “Frozen” movie soundtrack and more.

If children are feeling discouraged or losing interest in music lessons, it’s helpful when parents inform the teacher. Instructors may try different techniques or introduce new songs for a fresh approach.

Childhood is a great time to explore different styles of music, determine what you like and why, and develop a greater appreciation for the professionals who have spent years honing their craft. And, in some cases, early involvement in music ignites a passion that leads to a college scholarship or lifelong career. Just ask our teachers here at the Wichita Music Academy! They can also help with tips to keep your child engaged and entertained by the learning process.

What Wichita Music Academy students are saying

“Now when I don’t have anything to do, I go practice.” – Bryce J., age 10, guitar student

“I love singing. Whenever I’m bored or something, I just sing.” – Caitlyn J., age 16, vocal student

“I like that I get to learn new techniques on how to sing better, and it’s very entertaining and relaxing. It helps me grow as a person because it opens my eyes to new things and to see things in a different way.” – Kaliegh G., age 17, vocal student

Mark your calendars!

Upcoming classes and gatherings at Garten's Music:

July - Help Session month

FREE for all Lowrey owners & Goofin' class students. Call to schedule!

L.I.F.E. in Kansas MusicMakers

Join the club and enjoy making music with us!

– 2 p.m. Friday, July 10

Organ Club

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

– 2 p.m. Friday, July 17
(Theme: Latin)

PlayTime

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

– 2 p.m. Friday, July 31

Congratulations to Lorene Conklin, who won our monthly drawing in May! She received a music bag, piano mug and music clip.

Save the Date!

Concert with Lowrey's
Rosemary Bailey
– 7 p.m. Thursday, July 23,
at Venue 3130
(3130 W. Central, Wichita)

Rosemary has performed with Victor Borge, Peter Nero and the Duke Ellington Orchestra, and she was a featured soloist with the Chicago Symphony.

Workshops with Rosemary
– Friday, July 24,
at Garten's Music

10 a.m.: Tips for beginners



Rosemary Bailey

(Also learn more about your Lowrey instrument)

1 p.m.: EZ2-EZ10 and their "ancestor" models

2 p.m.: EZ10 Plus, Fan-fare and retired "ancestor" models

3 p.m.: Inspire and Deluxe models



Congratulations to our graduates of the Goofin' Around Keyboard Class (Virtual Orchestra Songbook)! Front row, from left: Phyllis Carr, Connie Gonzalez, Virginia Hosey. Back row, from left: Nancy Wiard, Roberta Stafford, Vesta Campbell, Bill Hall.