



Garten's Music

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March 2018

Student makes music with 1 hand

The teachers and staff at Garten's Music & the Wichita Music Academy often remind prospective students that it's never too late to learn music. We especially emphasize that point with those interested in the Goofin' Around Keyboard Class for adult beginners.

However, if anyone had a reason to think she had missed her opportunity, it's Lisa Shorter. She suffered a stroke at age 26 and lost the use of her right hand.

Shorter's mother and siblings are musicians, so she was exposed to music as a child.

"I had a music teacher and I hated it," Shorter said.

However, she said she "yearned" to make music later in life. When she signed up for the Goofin' Around Keyboard Class, she learned that the Lowrey



Lisa Shorter

instruments feature one-finger chords. Since new students receive the use of a keyboard at home for the duration of the 10-week class, Shorter became more familiar with the instrument.

"That was new to me because I didn't know what to do with it," she said. "But I've learned."

Shorter, who started lessons one year ago, now owns a Lowrey Odyssey. She has collected a variety of music books, too.

"I have all the gamut – rock 'n' roll, country – but my favorite is gospel and Christmas," she said.

Shorter admitted that she was nervous at first. After all, she was the only one in her class using just one hand to play the treble and bass clef.

"I have to practice," she said. "I have to do one hand – these people, two hands. I have to concentrate. I have to do that constantly."

Shorter has played in front of her class, which she described as scary. However, she dreams of helping her church by providing music. She often plays for an hour a day at home.

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Watch more of our
interview with Lisa
Shorter online:

<https://goo.gl/BXNHvx>



Garten's Music on the town

Garten's had a booth at the Home Show and the Women's Fair, both in February at Century II. Sean O'Shea, our Kawai factory representative pictured above, even traveled to Kansas and helped us at Home Show! We enjoyed meeting new friends and talking about our instruments, lessons and classes!

Graduation day!



Congratulations to our graduates of the Goofin' Around Keyboard Class (Red Book 1)! From left: Diane Gestenslager, Patti Hewitt, Karen Lundblade. Not pictured: Sue Gardner, Abby Bolmarcich, Sheryl Knott.

Mark your calendars!

Upcoming classes and gatherings at Garten's Music:

Organ Club

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

– 2 p.m. Friday, March 16
(Theme: Love)

Keyboard Klub

is a monthly gathering developed for students from Red Book 1 through Red 4.

In March, Mark & Cindy will provide tips about how to recover from mistakes, how & when to use the Fill and more. Bring a song to share with others or come to listen!

– 3:30 p.m. Tuesday,
March 27

L.I.F.E. in Kansas MusicMakers

Join the club and enjoy making music with us!

– 2 p.m. Friday, April 6

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

Cooper B.	Sheryl K.
Karen L.	LaJuan H.
Diane G.	Joan W.
David H.	Elyse D.
Carmen R.	Citlali M.
Josue M.	Thomas B.
Cruz N.	Emma N.
Linda B.	Margaret T.
Tunie S.	Ann P.
Vinita E.	Larry J.
Rhonda W.	Jane B.
Larry G.	Suzi D.

Classes starting!

Lowrey Magic Red Book 1

– starts at 10 a.m.
Friday, March 9

Lowrey Magic Red Book 1

– starts at 3 p.m.
Wednesday, TBD

Lowrey Magic theme class (Campfire Songs)

– starts at 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday, April 4

Lowrey Magic Blue Book 3

– starts at 2 p.m.
Tuesday, April 10

Lowrey Magic Blue Book 1

– starts at 10:30 a.m.
Thursday, April 19

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“It’s peaceful,” she said. “Play and play and play and play. Sometimes I cry, but it’s peaceful. It’s just perfect.”

Shorter said the most important thing she has learned in the past year is patience. She feels frustrated sometimes, but she relies on inspirational music, espe-

cially “Amazing Grace” and “Silent Night.”

Shorter loves Christmas so much that she took all the Christmas classes offered in the Goofin’ Around program. She is following in the footsteps of her sister, who received her education, and now Shorter is earning her own graduation certifi-

cates in music classes.

“I remember my sister graduated. She’s proud of the work she’s done, and I’m proud of her,” Shorter said. “But I wanted to be like that. It’s like I’ll take every class – I’m there.”

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WMA students earn recognition

Wichita Music Academy students recently received their trophies, wristbands and certificates for achieving musical milestones. We are proud of them! See more photos, Page 5.



Aiden B.



Ty S.



Alexis S.



Cody G.



Ayla I.



Emberly J.



Brooklyn H.



Kyle G.



Orion I.



Cal H.



Reese B.



Harbour R., left, and instructor Toby Lind



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Athena M.



Ian P.



Landen P.



Erin L.



Hayden F.



John P.



Noah B.



Isaac L.



Landon P.



Maddie W.



Laney P.



Grace F.



Happy winner

Audrey Thomas won our Facebook contest and received two tickets to Women's Fair! Congratulations, Audrey!

Congrats to the winner of our monthly drawing for January! Kerrie Platt received a songbook titled "Songs of the '40s."



Trophy time

Wichita Music Academy students have been picking up their trophies for achieving milestones on the Musical Ladder System. We are proud of our students and their dedication!



Spring forward!
Be sure to set your
clocks ahead for
daylight saving time
Sunday, March 11!

The Wichita Music Academy offers instruction in piano, keyboard, guitar, bass, voice, ukulele, flute, tuba, saxophone, trombone, trumpet, clarinet, baritone/euphonium, violin, viola, cello, drums & percussion!

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Now 58, Shorter is making music and having fun. She has developed her confidence and met new friends. She said learning music had made her life “complete.”

“Try it,” she advised. “Just try it and we’ll see because I did it – and one hand!”