



Garten's Music

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Music helps student at new school

Donovan Blake comes from a family of horn players, so when it was time to choose a band instrument, the decision was easy.

However, Blake moved to a different school where students had already been taking band, so he needed to catch up as a trumpet player. That's what brought him to the Wichita Music Academy at Garten's Music.

Blake, 11, has studied with academy instructor Robby Avila for six months.

"Donovan has been a fantastic student and has made great strides in his trumpet playing," Avila said. "During his time in the Wichita Music Academy he has pushed himself to be better, and the results show that. He is not only a promising trumpet

►Continued inside.



Donovan Blake

Platt fulfills dream of playing keys



Kerrie Platt

When Kerrie Platt retired, she had a list of hobbies she wanted to pursue. One of them was learning to play the keyboard.

Platt briefly took piano lessons when she was in grade school and then a broken arm thwarted her plans. She said she

"never went back" until she discovered the Goofin' Around Keyboard Class for adult beginners at Garten's Music.

"At the Women's Fair, there you were with that big sign that said 'Goofin' Around,'" Platt re

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called. “I thought, ‘Aha – I bet that’s what I need!’”

She has completed Lowrey Magic Red Book 1 and Red Book 2 classes, and she moved on to the Easy Favorites class. She listens mostly to country music, but she said she had enjoyed all the music in her books.

“It’s probably expanding my interests,” Platt admitted.

Another goal was to play something at home that would engage her granddaughters, ages 2 and 9.

“I like learning something new,” she said. “I like the camaraderie in the classes. They’re just fun. It’s relaxing to play. My granddaughters have fun with me and the organ.”

Platt owns a Lowrey EZ4. She said she didn’t feel nervous about learning to play, but she was surprised at the amount of laughter that takes place in her classes.

“There’s a lot of kidding around and teasing,” she added. “It’s not overkill, but it’s a good place to come and relax and laugh.”

►“Trumpet”

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player but an overall musician.”

Blake’s mom played trumpet when she was a child, and his uncle in Louisiana played saxophone. His uncle’s experience in jazz music sparked Blake’s interest in eventually learning jazz. He hopes to move to Louisiana someday for the music and the food.

“I love seafood,” he said with a smile. “And the culture is just cool.”

Blake and his mother sometimes play trumpet together. He enjoys learning about the instrument.

“When you hit that note you’ve been trying to play, it’s really thrilling and makes you proud,” he said. “I like it because it’s just really cool to play an instrument.”

Blake hopes to earn a music scholarship in college, and that motivates him to study and practice the trumpet.

“Another reason I am here is because I really needed to read music,” Blake said. “I’m good at it now. I’ve learned a lot of new notes.”

Bruno Mars is among his favorite musicians. When Blake is not listening to music or making his own, he likes to play video games and spend time with his dog, a Lhasa Apso.

Music has proven beneficial for Blake, who met his best friend, a drummer, in band at his new school.

Blake advised others considering music lessons to go ahead and enroll.

“Just do it because it’s fun,” he said. “And also it takes your mind off stuff. That’s what took my mind off moving schools and not seeing my friends anymore.”

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

Trevor A.
Heather B.
Dorothy C.
Mickey D.
Coltin C.
Maddux G.
Dahlia G.
Yvonne C.
Eva B.
Becky K.
Esther G.
Lynette H.

Carlita S.
Alexxis S.
Shane H.
Krystal M.
David H.
Payten L.
Brooklyn H.
Farol M.
Kerrie P.
Marion C.
Linda B.



Magic in the air

Lowrey Magic was in the air in August, when Lowrey artist Rosemary Bailey visited west Wichita and performed a concert at Venue 3130.



Lowrey's Bob Ashworth joined Bailey for a day of workshops at Garten's Music. Students enjoyed the pair's music and the tips they received about their instruments!

Below: Cake was served to Garten's students and guests.



Mark your calendars!

Upcoming classes and gatherings at Garten's Music:

L.I.F.E. in Kansas MusicMakers

Join the club and enjoy making music with us!

– 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 4

PlayTime

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

– 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 11

Organ Club

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

– 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 25
(Theme: Seasons)

Garten's Music and the Wichita Music Academy

will be closed
for Labor Day.

– Monday, Sept. 7

Save the Date!

Concert with Lowrey's
Dennis Awe

– 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 18

Bring your friends!



Congratulations to our graduates of the Goofin' Around Keyboard Class (Red Book 2)! From left: Kerrie Platt, Eva Buehler, Yvonne Coon, Becky Klaver, Marion Crouse, Farol McMillan. Not pictured: Peggy Hipp, Linda Beauchamp.

See our booth Thursday, Sept. 24, at Senior Expo.

Botanica, Cowtown, Exploration Place,
Wichita Art Museum – lots of fun!

Goofin'
Around
Keyboard
Class

for adult beginners teaches students to have a blast goofin' around at the keyboard! The 10-week class affords students the chance to learn to play in a fun, no-stress (and no recital) environment. We'll even loan you an instrument!

FREE introductory class:
– 10:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 11

Lowrey Magic
theme classes:

Songs from the Rat Pack

– starts at 3 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 9

8-week class for owners of
Deluxe organ models

Love Songs of The Beatles

– starts at 1 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 23

6-week class for anyone
who has graduated from
Lowrey Magic Red Book 3

Reaching a milestone



Dedicated students

Two boys celebrated their one-year anniversaries at the Wichita Music Academy! Above, Dorian Padilla is a pianist studying with Robby Avila. Below, Khoi Dinh is a pianist studying with Joy Vigilius.



Senior songbird

Kaliegh Galicia, a senior this year, reached her two-year anniversary at the music academy! She studies voice with Adam Willingham.

The Wichita Music Academy offers instruction in piano, keyboard, guitar, bass, voice, ukulele, dobro, mandolin, saxophone, tuba, trombone, trumpet, flute, clarinet, violin, viola and baritone/euphonium!

It's time for back-to-school lessons, so call today to reserve your spot ... before the time and day you want are taken!



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