

## Private Lessons - Here's What's in Store

### Off to a Great Start

We know there are plenty of new things to navigate as your child's new musical journey begins. For this reason, we recommend a parent/guardian sit in on the first 4 lessons so you can learn about the practice expectations, the type of equipment and practice environment you should have at home and how to support your child's musical journey with optimum success in mind. You are your child's 1st (and best) teacher after all! They look to you for encouragement and support and learn best with the presence of their most trusted adult! You are welcome to attend these first 4 lessons (and beyond) in entirety or wean down your attendance as the weeks progress. You will know when it's time to step back, and if you're not sure - just check in with your child and the instructor! You are always welcome to pop in for the last few minutes of a lesson at ANY time in your child's musical journey. We've also built in two Connection Weeks a year for just that purpose (more info below).

### How to Succeed with Musical Study

Being able to play an instrument and/or sing is an incredible joy! That being said, the actual process of learning music can bring emotions that range from exhilaration to defeat. Preparing mentally for study and knowing what to expect makes all the difference. Here's our best advice for you as you form new musical habits:

- Make a commitment to yourself and your musical goals
- Set short and long term goals with your teacher
- Complete your goals to earn ballots in our monthly draws
- Believe in yourself
- Stay positive, patient and encouraging
- Communicate your struggles and lean on us for support
- Find inspiration by listening to all kinds of music and seeing live concerts
- Use our Ignite the Spark contest to get creative and unleash your musical passion
- Participate in our performance opportunities
- Embrace your mistakes - they are the key to learning
- Don't give up, you can do it!

## How to Practice

- Try to find time to practice every day. Start with 10 minutes, 4 times a week for beginners.
- Log your practice so you can keep track.
- Find a quiet place to practice so you can focus and concentrate.
- Don't try to practice too much all at once - break big ideas into smaller ones for the best success!
- Practice slowly and repeat small chunks until you have mastered them.
- Practice with friends! Connect in person or over online video chat.
- Don't forget to have fun! Be sure to practice some music you enjoy in addition to the hard stuff!

## Monthly Draws

Each month, September through June, Sing Music Studio holds a monthly draw with a new exciting prize. By setting and completing goals with your instructor, there are no limits to the amount of ballots you can earn to win. Goals can include completing a weekly practice log, learning a new song on your own, performing for someone new, mastering something challenging, memorizing a song and much much more. Be sure to connect with your instructor about your goals each week so they can provide you with ballots to place in the prize drum. Good luck!



Every year in February, the Ignite the Spark contest takes the place of the monthly draw. At the beginning of the month, you will receive access to a bingo-style card and instructions on how to play. Fabulous small, medium, large and grand prizes contributed by local businesses are to be won by completing musical tasks that are sure to ignite your spark!

## Performances

Sing Music Studio is proud to host an end of year live performance, holiday video performance week, in-studio showcases and community performance opportunities every school year. We love seeing students of all ages and abilities participate! It's a wonderful way to build confidence and a passion for performance.

We also provide lots of opportunities in-studio for students to perform in front of each other as we lead up to the recitals to build those performance skills. If you aren't feeling ready to perform, that's ok, we encourage you to join us as a spectator to see what's in store. Performers and spectators alike always walk away feeling warm and fuzzy and, most importantly, inspired!

Performances include the Holiday Recital, typically held on the last Sunday before the 2 week holiday break, and the Spring Recital, typically held on the second last Sunday before the end of the Peel school year.

If you haven't visited the calendar page found at <https://www.singmusicstudio.com/current-calendar/> yet, be sure to do so for the specific dates and mark your calendars!

## Connection Weeks

Twice a year, we invite parents/guardians to join students during their weekly lessons and sit in on a portion of the group classes. We know that YOU are your child's most important teacher. We want to do everything in our power to help you support your child in their musical development and journey. These connection weeks are an opportunity for you to see what happens in a lesson, discuss achievements and goals together with your child and their instructor and learn about what new opportunities may lie ahead. Be sure to mark your calendars for our Connection Weeks as noted in our calendar here <https://www.singmusicstudio.com/current-calendar/>.

## Absence

While we know that you know how important consistent attendance is in your child's music education, we also know that kids get sick, things happen and once in a while a lesson has to be missed. When these rare occurrences do happen, be sure to send a message to the Harmony Team ([harmony@singmusicstudio.com](mailto:harmony@singmusicstudio.com)) before 3pm for a weekday lesson or 9am for a Saturday morning lesson and we will have your instructor prepare a video lesson and notes during your usual lesson time to keep your momentum going and your practice consistent.

On the even rarer occasion of your instructor being absent, a substitute instructor, virtual lesson or video lesson will be provided based on the circumstances.

