

MUSIC LEARNING BAND



Music Learning Band Is...

The Music Learning Band Program teaches the fundamentals of music and band to more than 1400 students in over thirty Dallas and Ft. Worth area schools.

Children everywhere deserve the opportunity to discover their hidden abilities in music. From smaller schools to larger schools, every area child should have the opportunity to be in a school band. Music Learning Band Programs is here to provide such a program to your school.

What's Inside:

Starting a Band is Easy	2
Mission & Goals	3
Music Learning Is	4
More Than Just a Class	5 - 6
Band Is and Why	7
Music Learning in Pictures	8 - 9
Why Band	10
Participating Schools	11
Take It From All of Us	12 - 13
Famous Musicians in...	14
Principal FAQ	15



Being a member of the Music Learning Band Program allows students to experience learning the instrument of their choice in a fun, unique, and inviting environment.



Music Learning Band has a place for students of all skill levels. Most students are in band to learn an instrument and have fun with friends. Some students work towards a career in music.



Nothing adds more pep to your pep rally than your school's band performing live right along with the cheerleaders, athletes, and other organizations. Let's Go Band!

Starting a School Band is Easy!



Class Structure

Classes are typically 45 to 50 minutes long and meet two or four days a week according to your school's schedule. The scheduling of the band class is a very important part of a band's success. Band classes should be scheduled during the school day as a class for the band members. This schedule enforces the educational value of the band class while also allowing band members to continue their participation in scouts, sports, and extra-curricular activities.

In most cases, when a school first joins the Music Learning Band Program, they will only need a beginner band class. The following year we will teach a new beginner band class and a continuing intermediate/advanced class.

Students with previous musical training may quickly advance to the next band based on their level of musicianship. We encourage each student to push himself to his limits and we are constantly challenging every student.

Why Music Education

- ♪ Children raised in cultures rich with music develop learning and communication skills more quickly than those without.
- ♪ Music experiences instill positive attitudes, a positive self-image, a desire to achieve excellence, and the ability to set and achieve goals.
- ♪ Students participating in music outperform non-music students on achievement tests in the areas of math, reading, and comprehension. These differences become greater the longer the student participates in music. Students participating in music also have consistently higher grade point averages and score higher on SAT and ACT tests.
- ♪ Music teaches children the value of teamwork and community, thus moving away from egocentrism and toward self-giving.
- ♪ Music helps to develop better listening and concentration skills, as well as fine motor coordination.
- ♪ Music students have a greater opportunity to learn, in a more constructive environment, attributes such as perseverance, self-determination, creativity, integrity, and hard work.
- ♪ Playing a band instrument develops useful character & leadership skills.

Starting a School Band is Easy

Music Learning offers a complete turn-key band program. From recruiting to recognition, Music Learning will handle it all.

1. Contact Music Learning

Talk to a member of the Music Learning Staff to discuss what will help your band be most successful.

2. Schedule a Time for Band Class

Next to quality instruction, scheduling is one of the most important factors in growing your school's band. A good band time meets during the school day with few conflicts for band members.

3. In School Band Demonstration

Music Learning will recruit students for your school band. Our directors will present "The First Day of Band" demonstrating each instrument for the kids, playing a few songs, and finally allowing some students the chance to play an instrument for the first time.

4. Parent Night Meeting

We will present a brief program to interested parents about the band. At this meeting, students will also be able to register for band and rent their own instrument to use for band.

5. Band Class Begins

Your band is ready to start rehearsing!

Music is Core Curriculum!

"The arts are recognized as a core subject in the Goals 2000: Educate America Act approved by both houses of Congress in 1994."
- National Education Goals Panel

Band Leads to College!



"Students with band experience attend college at a rate twice the national average."
-Bands Across the USA

Music Works!

One in three of today's school-aged children will hold an arts-related job at some time in his or her career.

- Education Commission on the States

Music Learning Band's Mission & Goals



Americans who believe music is a key component to a well rounded education:

95%

Americans who believe music education should be mandatory:

75%

Households with at least one musician:

54%

The mission of the Music Learning Band Programs has as it's primary goal the continuous musical development of each student. It aims to develop the student's technical and musical proficiency of a band instrument within a fun, enthusiastic environment. Music Learning Band Programs aims to teach each student self-esteem, respect, discipline, creative problem solving, and an appreciation of the arts through music education.

Short Term Goals

The formation of a beginning band program for all eligible students.

The formation of an intermediate and advanced band program for students with more than one year experience in band.

Prepare for your school's first band concert in mid-December.

Foster an exciting way to enjoy music!

Long Term Goals

Recruitment of new band students each year.

Preparation for additional school concerts, Pep Rally Performances, Regional Band Tours, and events.

Continuing education and improvement to join the Honor Bands.

Advanced school performing ensembles.

Music Learning Is...

The Beginner Bands



The Beginner Band focuses on the basics of instrumental music. By December each beginner band student has progressed enough to play their first big concert. At the Christmas & Holiday Concert, band members perform arrangements such as "Jingle

Bells", "We Wish You A Merry Christmas", "Excerpts from Beethoven's Ninth Symphony", "My Dreydl", and "The Little Drummer Boy". In March, the Beginning Band goes on a Spring Tour. By the end of May, students have progressed enough to play full length concerts featuring all types of musical styles including rock and swing. All students will participate in two recording sessions throughout the year.

The Concert Bands

Once the basics of playing a musical instrument are mastered, students are promoted to the Intermediate Band. This second year of instruction focuses more on theory and quality of playing an instrument. As members of the Intermediate/Advanced Band, students are able to play popular songs such as "Crazy Train", and "Pirates of the Caribbean". We also create our own arrangements of popular songs in order to focus on specific musical skills. The Concert Band students also perform a Christmas & Holiday Concert, Spring Tour, and Spring Finale Concerts.



The Honor Bands

Once a student has been in the band for at least one year, he is eligible to join the Honor Bands. Most advanced Band members play in either the Jazz Ensemble and/or Wind Ensemble (Studio Band). The honor bands are designed to give every student a musical challenge. There are several concert and jazz honor bands that any student may join. Being a member of an honor band requires additional practice time and effort, but the rewards are well worth it. These bands rehearse one night a week and perform many concerts throughout the year. From Classical to Jazz from Rock and Roll to Big Band, the honor bands offer a fun learning experience for all young musicians. The honor bands are consistently invited to perform at many area and regional events. They have been invited to play in Las Vegas, NV, Keystone, CO, and Orlando, FL.

The Music Learning Staff

Jerry C. Bishop co-founded Music Learning in 1984. He attended the University of North Texas where he played with the renowned One O'clock Lab Band. Jerry Bishop is a percussion specialist.

Joshua Chiuminatto is yet another Music Learning Alumnus who joined the Music Learning Staff in 2013. Josh attended the University of Arkansas at Monticello earning a degree in music. Josh is a saxophone and all woodwind specialist.

Katrina Chiuminatto is another Music Learning Alumnus who joined the Music Learning Staff in 2007. She attended the University of North Texas where she performed in the flute choir, summer lab band, and symphonic band. Mrs. Chiuminatto is a flute specialist.

Chris Cullen is also a Music Learning Alumnus who joined the staff in 2012. Chris studied music at the University of Texas at Arlington after graduating high school. Chris continues to perform locally. He is an all brass specialist.

Shelby Denton is an exciting addition to the Music Learning Staff. Shelby attended the University of Texas at Arlington earning a degree in music education. Shelby is a clarinet and woodwind specialist.

Christian Dorn is also a Music Learning Alumnus who joined the Music Learning Staff in 2014. Christian attended the University of North Texas, studying music business and performance. Christian is a drum and percussion specialist.

Tom Faver joined the Music Learning Staff in 1985. He attended the University of North Texas and the University of Texas at Arlington. Tom is a trumpet and bass specialist.

Christine Ladner joined the Music Learning Staff in 2017. Christine attended SLU performing in band, choir, and several opera productions. She remains an active professional vocalist. Christine is a vocal and General Music specialist.

Shannon Lotti joined the Music Learning Staff in 2018. She is also a alumnus of the program. Shannon attended UT Arlington where she earned a degree in Music Performance. Shannon is a flute and woodwind specialist.

Chris Milyo joined the Music Learning Staff in the spring of 2015. Chris is an active musician across the Dallas / Ft. Worth Metroplex. He is currently completing his Masters in Jazz Studies at UTA. Chris is a saxophone specialist.

Myles Tate joined the Music Learning Staff in 2012. While at Roosevelt University, Myles performed with many professional bands and performers in the Chicago area. He continues to perform in the DFW area. Myles is a keyboard, bass, and brass specialist.

Ken Utz, Jr. is the first Music Learning Alumnus to join the Music Learning Staff. He joined the staff in 1999. While at the University of North Texas, Ken was a member of the Concert Band and many Lab Bands. Ken is a brass specialist.

Music Learning Band is More Than Just a Band Class at School...

Annual Spring Tour

One of the most exciting experiences of being in a band is going on tour! Each year Music Learning musicians perform a concert tour outside the metroplex. Parents and family members are encouraged to attend the annual tour with their young musicians. Our past destinations have included Memphis, TN, Houston, TX, Winter Park, CO, Galveston, TX, and San Antonio, TX. We have performed at Graceland Mansion, the Memphis Zoo, the Bill Clinton Presidential Library, NASA Space Center Houston, Moody Gardens, The Alamo, Natural Bridge Caverns, Sea World, and more! In 2016, the band performed in Keystone, CO for a Spring Concert Tour and Ski Trip! The bands performed at the base of the mountain as the ski lifts closed in the afternoon. The rest of the week, band members and their families spent hours skiing and snowboarding across the entire Keystone Resort. Many students bring their whole family with them on the annual Spring Concert Tour. The March 2018 Spring Tour returns to Crested Butte, CO.

Unique Performances

Music Learning musicians are able to perform in a wide range of venues. All band members are eligible to perform in a wide range of professional venues. Our ensembles have performed at the American Airlines Center, Hard Rock Café, Six Flags Over Texas Main Stage, even on boats floating down the historic San Antonio, TX riverwalk!

Honor Band Concerts

Students with at least one year experience in band are eligible to join the Music Learning Honor Bands. These bands feature the area's best and most dedicated musicians performing advanced music. Their skill and advanced musicianship allows them to perform in premium venues. This year, in fact, the Honor Bands will perform at series of concerts at the historic Hard Rock Cafe, in downtown Dallas! Additionally, the honor band musicians serve as leaders in their own school bands. At Music Learning, we teach our advanced students to serve as role models and mentors for their fellow musicians. It is a big deal for a fourth or fifth grade band member to hear "Way to Go!" from an eighth grade band member on their same instrument.

While the honor band offers its members a challenging musical outlet, it also teaches those students to be ambassadors of music for the rest of the band members.



Richardson Christmas & Holiday Parade/Concert

Every year, the young musicians who make up Music Learning Band participate in the Richardson Christmas Parade. Last year over 630 young musicians performed in the parade, leading more than 80 different parade entries. This unique opportunity to play for a huge audience, including TV cameras, newspaper photographers, and other local media, gives the musicians a chance to really shine. In addition, it is a very enjoyable time for the kids, from the first year beginners performing their first big concert to the band veterans performing in the parade for their third or fourth time!



Music Learning Band is So Much More Than Just a Band Class at School...

School Concerts

Members of your school's band will be able to perform at school events from the Open House to Fine Arts night. Throughout the year, your band will also perform for the student body at an annual Christmas & Holiday concert and an end of the year concert. Your school's band director and Principal will work together to schedule these concerts. Many individual students will also be able to perform solos at various school events such as talent shows and chapel or liturgical services. The possibilities are endless!

Annual Summer Band Camp

Another band highlight is going to Band Camp at Lake Murray. This week-long camp is full of great music, fun activities, and many new friends. The camp is held at beautiful Lake Murray Resort and Lodge. Campers stay in air-conditioned hotel rooms and rehearse at the hotel. All instruction, meals, and lodging is included.

Musicians at camp can play in:

3 Concert Bands

4 Jazz Bands

Instrument Master Classes

Music Theory Class

New Instrument Class

Jazz Improv Class

Jazz Small Groups

Quartets

Rhythm Master Skills Class

Music Technology Class (GarageBand & Finale)

And More!

Camp is full of other Recreational Activities too. Campers can:

Swim in the Lake or Pool

Take a Scenic Boat Ride

Go Canoeing or Kayaking

Play Mini-Golf

Go Horseback Riding

Sing at Karaoke Night

Go on a Hay Ride

Cookout at the Lake

Earn the Boy Scout Merit Badge

And Still More!

Continued Teacher Training and Research

Music Learning Band directors are constantly preparing their students for the next level, but they also take time to refine teaching strategies for each school ensemble and individual students. Through revision of our own teaching materials, research in music education for students with learning differences, and collaboration with other area musical and education experts, the Music Learning staff continues to update our curriculum with the child's best interests at its core.



ABOUT US



Band Directors:

11 Band Directors

Schools:

40 and growing

Students:

Over 1400

Experience:

For 30 years, Music Learning has taught thousands of young musicians in the Dallas/Ft. Worth Metroplex. From beginning elementary school students to high school students preparing for a music career, we foster a positive learning environment for every member of the band.

Method:

Bands rehearse as an ensemble, where all instruments learn together. We create our own class materials including theory studies, rhythm studies, technical studies, and song arrangements. Classes are performance based with each band ready to perform early in the school year.

Concerts:

As many as you want! At a minimum, each band will perform twice at school each semester.

Band Is...

Musicians enjoy a common but unattainable goal of perfection. There are always wrong notes to correct, phrases to be shaped, greater dynamics to achieve, and an ongoing list of improvements to develop a better language of personal expression. In the midst of all these busy activities, we must find time to inform students about the reasons we have band in the first place. It is more than just an entertainment group which shows up at various athletic events, marches in the local parade, and plays select concerts during the year on appropriate holidays. As a music educator, I must make it my responsibility to inform others that band is an art form. By doing so, there will be clearer understanding of the benefits of band membership.

The following condensed outline has helped me in this important communication, and I offer a copy for your reference.

Band is intrinsic. As with all art, it is about expressing oneself by way of a different and unique language. Much of academia is impressionistic, which requires a definitive skill of following instructions. Band adds to that requirement the option of self-expression.

Band is group effort. Members are required to shift from an I/Me reasoning to a We/ Us concept. This means extending oneself beyond the normal considerations of much of our day-to-day living. Instead of the logic being, what's in it for me, it becomes, what's in it for us? The values of cooperation, communication, concentration, correlation, and completion come into play each rehearsal and performance.

Band is building a positive self-worth. Although we share many similarities with our athletic counterparts, BAND is a place for everyone. Rarely is a person serving as an alternate or substitute. Everyone in the band plays a starting role.

Band is preparation for life. Through the discipline of MUSIC, we are developing a consistent understanding between the intellectual (cognitive) and emotional (affective) thought processes. Band allows the person to create formulas and not just solutions that are directly transferable to other facets of life.

Although these four points may seem lofty in character, they make up the fundamental framework of our band program. As a parent, you are faced with many questions concerning the various aspects of your child's education. Hopefully, this brief overview will give you a first hand look at the foundation that supports our musical education program.

Take It From Me...

"I wanted to tell you how fabulous the band presentation was in September. We had the 4th and 5th graders attend, and they were in awe. The teachers who normally don't want to give up any of their class time, were dancing in the aisles and asked when we were going to do it again. We can't wait for you to inspire our students again next year!

- Sheila Kelly, Former Vie Scolaire, Dallas International School

Higher test scores for students who used keyboard training and newly designed math software than students who used software only:

27%

Higher SAT scores for students in music appreciation classes than students with no arts participation:

63%
(Verbal)

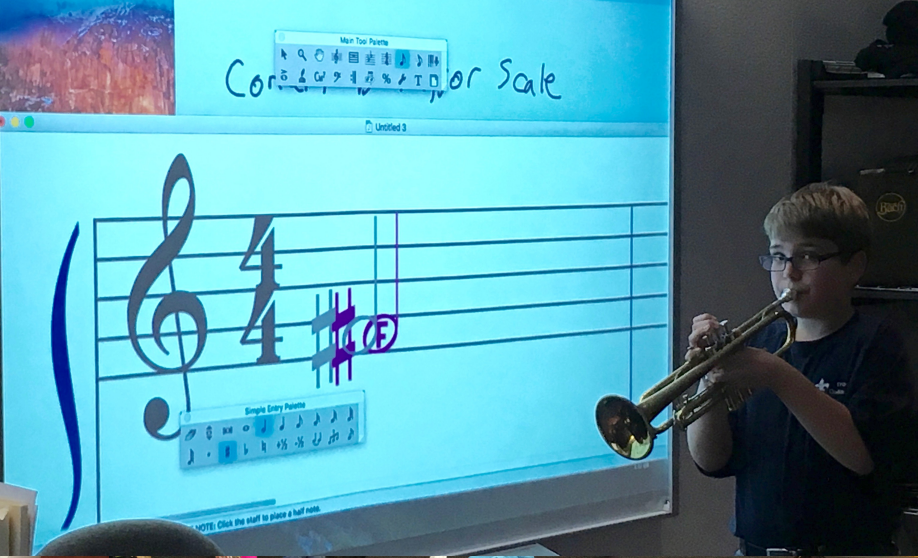
44%
(Math)

Americans who believe participation in music helps teach students discipline:

88%

Americans who said making music makes you smarter:

80%





Why Band?

Although many see band as a class for learning to play an instrument, it is much more than that. It is the development of a family of friends that lasts a lifetime. It is also the establishment of some rather profound environmental influences which will determine much of your child's success in all aspects of education, not just band.

The answer to the question WHY BAND? has some lifelong implications. MUSIC offers every individual the chance to experience the pleasure of self-expression at a new level. It is intrinsic; the process itself provides the reward. Music is music for its own sake. It is beauty within itself and offers the performer new realms of self-satisfaction. The mental stimulation of wonder and imagination is a highly intellectual activity and brings about a unique personal joy that can only be felt through personal accomplishment. It stretches one's understanding, and this growth can be transferred to every facet of learning. Many feel this expansion of comprehension and awareness mixed with the development of positive self-discipline habits is the reason those who study MUSIC perform at a higher level in other academic classes. Exhaustive research confirms this.

We know that band students represent the top of the academic scale in our schools. We know they are averaging 62 points higher on SAT tests, which would indicate they are stronger in verbal and math scores than other members of the student body. We also know band students are the ones who enjoy a successful high school career, go on to college, and become the leaders in our society. There is a definite link between the top achiever academically and the band student. They are one and the same.

One of the most positive impressions you can offer your child is the chance to learn self-discipline at the highest level via participation in band. Their social skills, communication skills, self-concepts, cooperative talents and creative mind will all be nurtured through their study of music. These life-skills will serve as an important foundation as they take on various responsibilities in their future. Can you afford NOT to have them enjoy this opportunity?

In many respects, band is a microcosm of our society. It demands high levels of responsibility, social skills, ongoing communication, analytical talents, and the important ability to work with others. Simply put, learning a musical instrument and continuing to explore the limitless possibilities of music provide an excellent preparation for life.



Take It From Me...

In academic situations, students in music programs are less likely to draw unfounded conclusions.

- Champions of Change, Federal study, 1999.

What Does Band Do?

- Builds Confidence
- Teaches Personal Responsibility
- Allows for Self Expression
- Helps Make New Friends
- Improves Concentration
- Relies on Teamwork

Take It From Us:

"Music Learning bridges the social, cultural, and spiritual dimensions creating a harmonious whole."

- Ms. Rosemary Seltzer, Principal
Christ the King Catholic School
1995 - 2012

"I cannot begin to tell you what the program has done for my son. In just two years I have watched him grow from a quiet and shy child who would not speak in front of a group to a young man with the confidence to perform a solo in front of his peers."

- Susan Black, Band Parent

"Being in the band is something I refuse to give up. I can't think of a day where I did not experience music in some form."

- Ken Utz, Music Learning
Alumnus and Band Director

Schools Participating in Music Learning Band

Music Learning currently provides band programs at the following schools:

The Fairhill School
First Baptist Academy
Harmony School of Innovation
Harmony Science Academy
Harmony School of Nature
The Highlands School
Holy Trinity (Grapevine)
Oak Hill Academy
Salve Regina Home School Co-op
The Shelton School
St. Andrew
The St. Anthony School
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (Keller)
St. John (North Richland Hills)
St. Joseph (Arlington)
St. Maria Goretti (Arlington)
St. Rita (Ft. Worth)
Tyler Street Christian Academy
Vanguard Academy

Please note that due to contract obligations and privacy restrictions, not all schools are listed above. In addition to these schools, Music Learning currently provides band programs to a number of additional private & parochial schools in the Dallas area.



Students from the following schools participate in Studio & Jazz Honor Band

Dallas Learning Center
Flower Mound High School
Frankford Middle School
Grace Preparatory Academy
Indian Hills Middle School
Jesuit College Prep.
John Paul II High School
Keller High School
Maranatha Academy
Newman Smith High School
Nolan Catholic High School
Parish Episcopal School
Richardson High School
Rice Middle School
Richland College
MIS (Highland Park ISD)
University of Texas at Arlington
Uplift Education
Ursuline Academy
Wylie High School



Guess What Happened in Band Today!

Music Learning Band Programs brings much more to your school than simply a time to practice band at school. In addition to weekly band class at school, Music Learning students are encouraged to participate in as many activities as they can. At a minimum, band members should attend their regular school classes and practice a little at home. Some band members participate in every activity.

Being in the band gives you access to all this and more!

Band Rehearsals
In-School Concerts
Pep Rally Concerts
Richardson Christmas Parade
Six Flags Concert
Group Lessons
Honor Bands

Sectional Rehearsals
Saturday Enrichment Classes
Spring Break Tours
Band Contests
Recording Sessions
Award Ceremonies
Recreational Events

Band Camp @ Lake Murray
Team-Building
Cooperation
Discipline
A Ton of Fun
A Life-long Skill
And more!

Take It From All of Us:

Jenny Luke

March 17 '06

Dear Mr. Bishop,

I wanted to write to thank you for a great weekend on the band trip. Once again I was very impressed by the organization and the dedication of the band directors. Please pass on my thanks to Mr. Ken Utz, Jr. and Mr. Lockhart. They were both very attentive and disciplined.

My children very much enjoy being part of the band. I hope we will be able to go on many more band trips!

yours sincerely,
Jenny Luke.



Dear Mr. Bishop
Thank you for
teaching me
to play the

Clarinet
From
Allie



Daniel

The thing that struck me at Jazz I today was that they were so good at playing it sounded like they had been practicing for months. They were so organized that you never heard anything that might have been messed up. As I listened I felt like a part of me just left and joined the music. Someday in High School I hope to play as well as some of the sax players in Jazz I.

Take It From All of Us:

Below are a few letters from band parents and students:

THE MUSIC LEARNING BAND PROGRAM EXPERIENCE

To Whom It May Concern:

Please allow us to share with you our experience and involvement with the Music Learning Band Program. Our family has been involved with the program and its director, Jerry Bishop, for the last 10 years. The Music Learning Program has been an invaluable experience for our son, Chris, and for every family whose life has been touched by this program, its devoted director, and assistant directors.

Our son became involved with the Music Learning Band Program when he was in the fourth grade. He had never played a musical instrument but was very enthusiastic about joining his many school-mates in the program. The students were allowed to pick the instrument they wished to learn to play and in four months, at their Christmas concert, they were reading music and playing Christmas carols. We'll never forget how impressed we were at that first concert to see several hundred children from the many schools in the program all tapping their little toes in proud unison as they made their debut in front of family and friends. Our son stayed involved with the Music Learning program all the way through high school during which time he learned to play various instruments, enjoyed the camaraderie of his fellow students, gained self-confidence during public performances, experienced new adventures on the wonderful band trips, and became the Drum Corp captain at Bishop Lynch High School. Today he is a college freshman and he still has a passion for the drums.

We have been so grateful for Jerry Bishop and his program. Jerry is extremely devoted to his students and Music Learning as are all of his assistant directors. They have a true love of music of all types and are all very skilled musicians in their own rights in addition to being excellent teachers and having a wonderful rapport with their young students. Jerry has worked very long and hard to make this a program of excellence with with great appeal for young people. His students develop an appreciation for many types of music and musical skills that will last them a lifetime. The program is a wonderful venue to develop a young person's self-motivation, self-discipline, and self-esteem while having a great time. The Music Learning program provides a positive and productive environment for nurturing young minds.

Jerry Bishop has had a very supportive, encouraging, and maturing influence on our son for which we will always be grateful. We feel that being part of the Music Learning family has been an experience from which we have all benefited. We are so appreciative of his efforts to bring so many talents and friendships to fruition for so many families. We wish Jerry and the Music Learning Program much continued success.

Most respectfully,

Jill and David Castloo

Dear Mr. Bishop and all of
the Music Learning Staff,

Thank you so much for
making it possible for
Amanda to attend the Spring
trip. She had a wonderful time,
as always. You are all a very
important part of her life.
We are so glad that she is
still making music with
you!

Thank you again for your
generosity and dedication.

...for a whole lot of thoughtfulness!

Andrew + Richard
Ramirez

Paula Hughes

Dear Mr. Bishop and All Teachers
at the Music Learning Center

Thank you for inspiring our kids
and Hannah in their love of music.
We appreciate all you do through-
out the year. Blessings -
Paula & Ken Hughes

DRS. HENDLER, PIZETTE, COMESS, HILLERT, FITZHARRIS & HADDOX, P.A.
DIPLOMATES AMERICAN BOARD OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

ALBERT F. HENDLER, M.D., F.A.C.P.
MURRAY PIZETTE, M.D., F.A.C.P.
LEONARD J. COMESS, M.D., F.A.C.P.
BOB HILLERT, M.D., F.A.C.P., F.A.C.C.

THOMAS FITZHARRIS, Ph.D., M.D.
ROBERT HADDOX, M.D.
CARLOS ARAUZ-PACHECO, M.D.
ANGIE N. LE, M.D.

To School Officials, Teachers, Parents, and Students interested in music;

I would like to introduce you to the Music Learning Band program of music education. I am a father of 4 children and a musician. I studied violin and piano at Indiana University School of Music prior to pursuing a career in medicine. Over the last several years I have had the pleasure of watching my children learn music with the staff of the Music Learning Band program. The Music Learning Band program consists of instruction in the school band, as well as participation in city-wide Saturday band classes and honor bands. I have sat through rehearsals and even had the chance to "sit in" and play with the school and honor bands. This has allowed me to witness how Mr. Jerry Bishop and his staff work with the kids, and I have been tremendously impressed. The instructors are first excellent musicians in their own right. Many are members of the Dallas Jazz Orchestra and all are proficient in several instruments. Secondly, they are all enthusiastic teachers, and are able to impart the joy of making music with the students. And most importantly, they are able to push the students past simply playing notes to get to the point where they are playing music.

The real testimony to the effectiveness of the teachers of the Music Learning Band program can be seen every Tuesday night or Saturday morning, when the honor bands and city-wide bands get together. Here you can find a large number of students giving up their free time to come together to play music, and they look forward to every minute of it. You also find several High School students who are past "graduates" of the Music Learning Band program coming back to get a chance to play with the Studio and Jazz Honor Bands, and the teachers also love the chance to "sit in" with the students and play. My own children tell me that band is their favorite after school activity, and they can hardly wait to get to Studio and Jazz Band practice. They even practice WITHOUT BEING TOLD!!! And the quality of music being produced by these bands is truly amazing. This year the Studio Band has played music by Steely Dan, and music from the movies Fantasia and The Perfect Storm. The Jazz Band has played music from the Count Basie Band, the Stan Kenton Orchestra, and Cannonball Adderly to just name a few. Lastly, the bands know how to have fun. The Spring Break Band trips are well attended and a blast for the kids, as well as Band Camp during the summer. I had the chance to be a chaperone on the last Spring Break Band trip to San Antonio (my last band trip was nearly 30 years ago!) and I can tell you it was a blast!

As a musician I can attest to the first-rate musicianship of the instructors of the Music Learning Band Program. But, more importantly, as a father I can attest to the effectiveness of these musicians as teachers of children interested in music. I have watched as my own children have grown from beginners just happy to play their first note to young musicians excited at making music. I highly recommend Music Learning Band to your school and children.

Thomas J. Fitzharris, Ph.D., M.D.



Famous Musicians in Politics, Football, Basketball, Literature, Television, Film, News, Music, the Monarchy, and more...

Flute

Alanis Morissette (singer)
Halle Berry (actress)
Celine Dion (singer)
Calista Flockhart ("Ally McBeal")
Alyssa Milano (actress)
Noah Webster (Webster's Dictionary)
Gwen Stefani (singer from No Doubt)
Jennifer Garner (actress from "Alias")

Clarinet

Rainn Wilson (actor from "The Office")
Julia Roberts (actress)
Woody Allen (actor/director)
Gloria Estefan (singer)
Tony Shaloub ("Monk")
Eva Longoria ("Desperate Housewives")
Jimmy Kimmel (comedian/talk show host)
Allan Greenspan
(former Chairman of the Federal Reserve)
Steven Spielberg (movie director)

Bass Clarinet

Zakk Wylde (Guitarist for Ozzy Osbourne)

Saxophone

Jennifer Garner ("Alias")
Bill Clinton (former U.S. President)
Trent Reznor (lead singer for Nine Inch Nails)
Roy Williams (NFL Dallas Cowboys)
Vince Carter (NBA Star)
David Robinson (Retired NBA Star)
Tedi Bruschi (NFL New England Patriots)
Bob Hope (late comedian/actor)
Lionel Richie (singer, father of Nicole Richie)
Tom Selleck (actor from "Magnum PI")

Trombone

Bill Engvall (Blue Collar Comedy Tour)
Nelly Furtado (singer)
Tony Stewart (NASCAR Driver)

Trumpet

James Woods (actor)
John Glenn (Astronaut and U.S. Senator)
Michael Anthony (Bass player for Van Halen)
Drew Carey (actor/comedian)
Stephen Tyler (lead singer for Aerosmith)
Prince Charles (future King of England)
Montel Williams (talk show host)
Richard Gere (actor)
Shania Twain (singer)
Flea (Red Hot Chili Peppers)
Jackie Gleason (actor)
Samuel L. Jackson
(Mace Windu from Star Wars I, II, III)

French Horn

Ewan McGregor
(Obi Wan Kanobi from Star Wars I, II, III)
Vanessa Williams (Singer/Actress)
Otto Graham (NFL Hall of Fame quarterback)

Baritone

Neil Armstrong (Astronaut - first man on the moon)

Tuba

Andy Griffith (actor)
Harry Smith (CBS's "The Early Show")
Dan Aykroyd (actor)
Aretha Franklin ("Queen of Soul", singer)

Percussion

Mike Anderson (NFL)
Eddie George (retired NFL)
Trent Reznor (Nine Inch Nails)
Dana Carvey (actor/comedian)
Vinnie Paul (Pantera)
Walter Payton (NFL Hall of Fame running back)
Johnny Carson (TV Host)
Mike Piazza (former MLB catcher)

What Do I Do Next?



Bringing the Music Learning Band Program to your school is extremely easy. Just follow the steps to the right and you'll have a band before you can count to four!

1. Contact the Music Learning office to schedule an informal meeting with Jerry Bishop, the director of our program. During this meeting we can discuss in greater detail the program we offer and how we can best support your students and your school.
2. Following this meeting, it is time to spread the good news to your students and parents. Music Learning helps you communicate with custom designed full color letter, brochures, e-mail messages, and web content.
3. Schedule your band recruitment and parent meetings. These typically take place during the first weeks of school. Music Learning will recruit band members for your school and inform the parents about our program.
4. Band Begins!

School Principal F. A. Q.

Q. This seems too easy. Is this really all it takes to start a band?

A. Music Learning's experience and dedication to your school and students does make it this easy. We have been providing band programs to schools like yours for nearly 30 years. Yes!

Q. What if we don't have enough students join?

A. You don't need to worry about initial numbers. Music Learning has never had too little interest to start a band program once we have recruited students at a school. After the students see and hear our presentation and the parents learn about what we offer, most schools have much higher enrollment numbers than they originally expected.

Q. Our school has strict safety requirements for all our teachers. Do you?

A. Yes. Teaching music is our number one goal, but student safety is our number one priority. All of our teachers and staff undergo independent nationwide background checks at least two times annually. We also have a third-party safety management firm review our practices, policies, and procedures annually. We conduct annual training for our own Safe Environment and Youth Protection Program. All of teachers are cleared through both the Dallas and Ft. Worth Catholic Diocese Safe Environment Programs. If you would like for your band director to participate in your own training program, he or she will be happy to attend.

Q. How do I schedule that meeting so we can move forward?

A. Please contact our office at 972-499-0831 or e-mail us at ask@musiclearningband.com. We can't wait to get started.

Music Learning Band

"Excellence is Music Since 1984"

3021 RIDGE ROAD Ste A176
ROCKWALL, TX 75032

www.musiclearningband.com
Office: (972) 499-0831
Fax: (972) 499-0832

Jerry Bishop
Founder & Director
of Music Learning

Katrina Chiuminatto
Band Director
Woodwind
Specialist

Josh Chiuminatto
Band Director
Woodwind
Specialist

Ken Utz
V.P. of Operations &
Band Director

Myles Tate
Band Director
Keyboard & Brass
Specialist

Chris Milyo
Band Director
Woodwind
Specialist

Tom Faver
Band Director
Brass & Bass
Specialist

Chris Cullen
Band Director
Brass Specialist

Shelby Denton
Band Director
Woodwind
Specialist

Christian Dorn
Band Director
Percussion Specialist

Shannon Lotti
Band Director
Flute Specialist

Christine Ladner
Vocal & General
Music Specialist

Why Learn Band in School?

- ✓ **Band develops** skills needed by the 21st century workforce: critical thinking, creative problem solving, effective communication, team work, and more.
- ✓ **Band keeps** students engaged in school and less likely to drop out or become disinterested.
- ✓ **Band improves** the atmosphere for learning
- ✓ **Band helps** students achieve in other academic subjects such as math, science, and reading.
- ✓ **Band is** a disciplined human endeavor with intrinsic value to society.
- ✓ **Band strengthens** a weakness in American education according to the nation's top business executives.
- ✓ **Band encourages** students across socioeconomic levels to cooperate, become self-confident, and express their ideas in ways that students without arts education cannot achieve.
- ✓ **Band energizes** schools like yours by creating a fun, active, and community based performance ensemble ready to play at Pep Rallies, Concerts, Carnivals, and more!
- ✓ **Students at your school want to enjoy the fun and exciting experiences that come from being in the band!**

