



# Hands-On Music

## ADULT MUSIC CLASS

**\$275 tuition includes ten weekly classes 1½ hours in length.**

**Three areas we'll be working in – music basics, playing an instrument, playing with others.**

### **Music Basics**

- The two most important elements of music: having fun and listening
- Next important elements:
  - the beat
  - the “one”
  - rhythm (and movement)
  - repetition
  - space
  - the phrase
- Further elements:
  - form and arrangement
  - style and feel
  - phrasing, including articulation and dynamics
  - improvisation (which is central to understanding music)
  - tonality, the subject involving pitch
  - song layers
    - melody
    - bass
    - harmony
    - rhythm only
- Understanding your sound
- Learning how to listen as a musician
- Technique and reading – how important are they?



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## Playing an Instrument

- Your first instrument is within each of us, and there are actually two of them. One is in your head, the other you play using your body – singing, hand clapping, etc.
- If the instrument in you is internal, *external* instruments are the physical instruments out in the world, such as guitar, piano, bass, drums, winds, brass, strings, etc.
- Two important concepts:
  - Playing an instrument is not the same as playing music with understanding.
  - Understanding music is universal to playing all instruments.
- Discussion of your instrument functions within the band (melody, harmony, bass, rhythm only)
- Three parts to learning an instrument:
  - execution skills, the basics of how an instrument is played.
  - learning how to play with expression
  - learning to communicate your musical thoughts through your playing back to yourself.

## Playing with Other People

“Music is one of the few things in life where people ‘speak’ at the same time and it makes sense.”

Chuck Miller

- Moving communication from playing to yourself to include playing to the other players and then the audience
- Playing together. Requires listening to yourself and then to each other. It’s also important (but not essential) to know what you’re going to play ahead of time.
- Personalities and preferences – setting and agreeing on mutual goals, then getting along with each other
- Is there a boss? Does there need to be a boss?
- Judgment, criticism and suggestions, evaluation
- Are we having fun yet?



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## Adult Music Class

Please fill out this registration form. Use the reverse side if you need more room.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your experiences in music. \_\_\_\_\_

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What would you like to accomplish from taking this class? \_\_\_\_\_

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Do you currently, or did you ever sing or play an instrument or instruments? Please describe your experiences?

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Do you listen to music? What are your preferred music styles and influences?

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What and when were the most fun you've had in music? \_\_\_\_\_

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Please add anything else you think is important that we know about you. \_\_\_\_\_

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