



Course Catalogue – Spring 2012

MUSIC FOR KIDS

Music for Babies

Taught by Sharon Novak

Ages: Birth – 18 Months

Time: Thursdays from 9:30 – 10:00 AM

Cost: Free

Babies from birth through eighteen months of age play interactive games involving familiar songs, rhymes, and rhythms. Activities are designed to stimulate babies' cognitive development.

Music for Toddlers

Taught by Sharon Novak

Ages: 18 months – 3 years

Time: Thursdays from 10:15 – 11:00 AM

Cost: \$144 per 18 week session

Children and their caregivers dance, play rhythm instruments, sing, and play games using familiar songs. This class stimulates musical and cognitive development. Song sheets are available so that you can bring the songs home to enjoy all week.

Pre-School Music

Taught by Sharon Novak

Ages: 3-5 years

Time: Mondays from 10:00 – 10:45 AM

Cost: \$144 per 18 week session

Children use familiar folk songs to learn principles of rhythm and pitch. Through singing, dancing, and the playing of rhythm instruments, children lay a foundation for further music study. Pre-reading skills are incorporated in drawing and coloring activities.

Music One

Taught by Ellen Schwindt

Ages: 5-8 years

Time: Tuesdays from 4:45 – 5:30 PM

Cost: \$144 per 18 week session

Designed for students in grades K-3, students will learn about music by playing it together. Students sing songs, create and perform dances, learn to play rhythm instruments, and learn to read music notation. Students already studying an instrument are able to incorporate its use into this class.

Group Guitar

Taught by Sharon Novak

Ages: 6-9 years

Time: Mondays from 4:00 – 4:45 PM

Cost: \$216 per 18 week session

This group-lesson experience allows students to learn basic guitar technique and play songs together. They learn to read music notation and lay the foundation for further music study. No prior musical experience is necessary. Guitar rentals are available.

Keyboard Kids

Taught by Sharon Novak

Ages: 5-7 years

Time: Mondays from 4:45 – 5:30 PM

Cost: \$216 per 18 week session

Students learn to read music notation, use right and left hands to play familiar songs, and play in ensemble and alone. This experience allows students to experience the keyboard in a friendly and encouraging setting. No prior musical experience is necessary.

Strings After School

Taught by Ellen Schwindt

Ages: 7-10

Time: Mondays from 4:30 – 5:15 PM

Cost: \$375 for the school year

Students have the opportunity to try cello, violin, and viola, and then choose one instrument to study. Singing and movement are used regularly to relate to instrument playing. Instrument rental of \$125 is included in class fee.



Mountain Top Youth Ensembles

Children's Chorus

Julia Handspicker, conductor

Ellen Schwindt, accompanist

For students entering grades 4-8 in the fall of 2011

Time: Thursdays from 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Cost: \$180 per 18 week session

Join other young people in singing beautiful music! Students will rehearse and prepare several performances each school year. Singing in a chorus is a very effective way to increase one's musicianship—even for students also involved in instrumental study. A singing interview will be scheduled with all participants prior to their participation in rehearsals.

Youth Orchestra Program -

Join other young musicians in creating beautiful music together!

The *new* Youth Orchestra program has two levels—

Level I:

“Kearsarge Orchestra”

Ellen Schwindt, conductor

For students ages 8-10 and/or 1-2 years of playing experience

Time: Thursdays from 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Cost: \$180 per 18 week session

Level II

“Chocorua Orchestra”

Ellen Schwindt, conductor

For students ages 11-14 and/or 3+ years of playing experience

Time: Thursdays from 4:30 – 5:30 PM

Cost: \$180 per 18 week session

These groups will play as a large group and as smaller orchestras as well. Ensembles will prepare several concerts during the school year in conjunction with the Mountain Top Children's Chorus. Wind players in level II will participate in sectionals led by Julia Handspicker. All instruments are welcome. A playing interview will be scheduled with all participants prior to their participation in rehearsals.

NEW THIS YEAR – School age students enrolled in the MTMC Private Lesson Program may enroll in Youth Ensembles, Jam Bands, and Community Ensembles FREE OF CHARGE!

COMMUNITY MUSIC ENSEMBLES

COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA *Chris Nourse, conductor*

Ages: Adults and Teens

Time: Wednesdays from 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Location: Kennett Middle School

Cost: FREE

MTMC's Community Orchestra explores a wide variety of orchestral repertoire, in addition to performing new compositions and arrangements. The ensemble performs throughout the Mount Washington Valley.

BEGINNING ORCHESTRA *Chris Nourse, conductor/teacher*

Ages: Adults

Time: Mondays from 7:00 – 8:00 PM

Cost: \$180 per 18 week session

Players of stringed instruments and winds learn to play in a small orchestra setting coached by Chris Nourse. Repertoire is selected with the players' experience level in mind.

CHAMBER ENSEMBLES *Chris Nourse, coordinator/coach*

Ages: High School and Adult

Time: Mondays from 7:00 – 9:00 PM, or by appointment with group

Cost: \$180 per 18 week session

This enjoyable playing experience allows students to hone their skills playing in a chamber ensemble. Each chamber ensemble will receive regular coaching from MTMC faculty members whose skills and experience are appropriately matched to the instruments of the ensemble.

FOLK BAND FOR BEGINNERS *Taught by Seth Austen*

Ages: 9 and up

Time: Wednesdays from 5:30 – 6:15 PM

Cost: \$243 per 18 week session -or- "Drop in" for \$15

Learn to play traditional American folk songs and fiddle tunes on fiddle, mandolin, banjo, acoustic guitar, dulcimer, or autoharp. We'll explore various topics including how to hear chords in a song, how to learn tunes by ear, adding harmonies, and creating arrangements. Tunes are taught by ear, but written music can be provided. For beginners! Attendees should have basic playing skills on their instruments. Class not limited to stringed instruments.

COMMUNITY STRING BAND *Seth Austen, leader*

Ages: Adults

Time: Wednesdays 6:30 – 7:45 PM

Cost: \$243 per 18 week session -or- "Drop in" for \$15

Learn to play traditional New England, Appalachian, and Celtic music. Repertoire includes reels, jigs, hornpipes, hoedowns, rags, marches, and waltzes. We'll explore the roles of different instruments in a string band and how to create harmonies, accompaniments, and arrangements. Tunes are taught by ear, but written music can be provided. Attendees should have basic playing skills on their instruments. Class not limited to stringed instruments. This course is on-going throughout the year. Players may drop-in any time to join.

MONDAY MORNING BLUES

Chad Cummings, leader

Age: Adult

Time: Mondays from 10:00 – 11:00 AM

Cost: \$216 per 18 week session

Like the former Tuesday Morning Blues, but earlier in the week... This group playing experience will teach players to improvise over blues forms, in a jazz style. Blues tunes will be taught by ear, and all music theory will be taught by ear as well. Some basic music notation will be used in teaching blues forms. Attendees should have basic playing skills on their instruments, and players of all types of instruments are welcome.

INTRODUCTION TO JAM BAND

Chad Cummings, leader

Age: Teens and Adults

Time: Mondays 5:30 – 6:30

Cost: \$180 per 18 week session

Intro to Jam Band is designed for musicians who wish to begin improvising and playing music in a band setting. MTMC will provide bass, guitar, and percussion for those who do not have their own instruments. The Jam Band explores rock, jazz, pop, and other forms of improvisational music. Attendees should have basic playing skills on their instruments.

JAM BAND

Age: Teens and Adults

Time: Thursdays 7:00 – 8:00 PM

Cost: \$180 per 18 week session

MTMC's Jam Band provides the opportunity for musicians to improvise and play music in a band setting. MTMC will provide bass, guitar, and percussion for those who do not have their own instruments. The Jam Band explores rock, jazz, pop, and other forms of improvisational music. Attendees should have proficient playing skills on their instruments.

COVER BAND

Age 10 - adult

Time: Thursdays 4:00 – 5:00 PM

Cost: \$180 per 18 week session

"Cover Band" is designed for musicians who wish to add an element of singing to their ensemble playing in the rock, jazz, and pop styles. Attendees should have a strong musical foundation on their instrument.

ADULT SINGERS

Taught by Lillian Lee-Morse

Ages: High School and Adult

Time: Tuesdays from 6:30 – 8:00 PM

Cost: \$216 per 18 week session

Lillian Lee-Morse leads this group through exercises designed to promote good vocal technique without intimidating singers. She chooses repertoire for singers, and sometimes singers bring their own requests, and she works to polish songs. Most of all, the group has a great time singing together!

Community Music Classes

Beginning Harmonica

Taught by Seth Austen

Ages: 10 years +

Time: Wednesdays from 5:00 – 5:30 PM

Cost: \$216 per 18 week session

The harmonica is an important part of American musical history, found in many styles including folk, country, blues and rock. It is a simple instrument for beginners to learn, yet expressive and powerful in the hands of the masters. This class will get you started playing melodies and chords in first position (straight harp), and you'll also learn the basics of second position (cross harp) for blues. You'll be playing songs from the very first day! Students provide their own instrument; we will use diatonic harmonicas in the key of C. No previous musical experience required.

Beginning Ukulele

Taught by Seth Austen

Ages: 10 years +

Time: Wednesdays from 4:00 – 4:45 PM

Cost: \$216 per 18 week session

The uke is a simple instrument for beginners to learn, yet also expressive in the hands of the masters. This class will get you started playing chords and melodies. You'll be playing songs from the very first day! No previous musical experience required.

Song Writing Class

with International/Platinum selling song writer Chad Cummings

Ages: High School and Adult

Time: Tuesdays from 7:30 – 8:15 PM

Cost: \$216 per 18 week session

This class is designed to explore and develop ideas, learn about basic lyrical and chordal forms, learn how to create changes and discover how to get the most impact out of what you are trying to convey. "A fun time for all in a constructive/supportive environment."

Topics in Music Appreciation

MTMC faculty

Ages: High School and Adult

Time: 5:30 – 6:30 PM – Third Wednesday of each month

Cost: \$10 per class

This course, taught by various faculty members, provides knowledge and experiences that lead participants to a deeper level of music listening and appreciation. By using specific pieces of music as "case studies", the class learns about the various genres, traditions, styles, composers, and personalities that make up the traditions in western art music and jazz.

***NEW - Music Therapy Group**

Chad Cummings, instructor

For Adults of all physical and mental abilities

Time: Mondays 11:15 – 12:00

Cost: \$72 for six week session (3 sessions per 18 week semester)

This class is an opportunity to participate in a variety of musical activities that will engage the mind and body through the power of music, in a friendly and supportive environment. Please call for more information, or to decide if this class is appropriate for you or a loved one.

Private Lesson Program

What we teach...

Mountain Top Music Center offers private instruction for all band and orchestra instruments, as well as piano, bass, acoustic and electric guitar, and drum set. Additionally, private lessons for banjo, mandolin, dulcimer, harmonica, and ukulele are available with local folk musician Seth Austen.

Who we teach...

Private lessons are appropriate for students of all ages and abilities, and are an extremely effective way to improve a musician's solo and ensemble playing. Students enrolled in the private lesson program have the opportunity to perform in recitals and informal gatherings throughout the year.

Who we are...

Mountain Top Music Center's private lesson faculty is comprised of outstanding teachers and performers from the Mount Washington Valley and surrounding communities. The faculty at MTMC shares the philosophy that great teaching and learning takes place in a constructive and supportive environment. Lessons are tailored to the age and level of each student.

Private Lesson Try-Out Program

Potential new students may take one lesson for free! This allows students to experience a particular faculty member's teaching style and see if private lessons are a good fit.

Performance Experiences

Students in the private lesson program have the opportunity to perform in community recitals, Mountain Top's unique "Performance Potlucks", and other performance events throughout the year. More advanced students might even wish to schedule a solo recital, or share a recital program with a friend.

Cost:

30 minute weekly lesson (\$26) : \$468 per 18 week session

45 minute weekly lesson (\$35) : \$630 per 18 week session

60 minute weekly lesson (\$46) : \$828 per 18 week session



enriching lives through music

Mountain Top  Music Center

Our **mission** is to enrich lives and build community by providing inspiring music education and by offering performance and listening opportunities throughout the area.