



# FLINT SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

*A Program of the Flint Institute of Music*

## **MUSIC MAKERS Parent Information**

Flint Institute of Music.org  
810.238-1350 x 3

### **Music Makers Mission Statement**

We believe that rich musical experiences enhance your child's development. Parent participation is a crucial part of a successful experience for your child's lifelong continuum of learning. We invite you and your child to explore the world of music with us.

### **Benchmarks – Goals and Objectives for Music Makers**

Goal: To create a rich, global, music educational environment that will develop the musicianship of parent and child, and provide for musical exploration in playful and stimulating ways.

Objectives:

- To stimulate the children's listening vocabulary with songs, sounds, and chants that are multi-tonal, multi-modal, multi-rhythmic, and multi-harmonic – some with words and some without words.
- To focus on the basic music elements of vocal exploration, tonality and modality, meter, rhythm and tempo, dynamics, and styles through a wide variety of music and movement experiences.
- To provide a model of music play, creativity, and improvisation to encourage child-initiated music and movement.
- To guide children's development as they internalize, understand, and share musical experiences over time.

Students receive a participation certificate and an observation form providing non-judgmental feedback (responding to the objectives above) at the end of Terms 2 and 4.

## **Policies and Procedures**

Music Makers is a cooperative experience. Parent education is an integral part of the success of your child's music education. Therefore, we provide:

- an informal parent orientation the first day of class of Terms 1 and 3.
- an informal conference opportunity the last day of class of Terms 1 and 3.
- For the remainder of each term, verbal communication is minimal in order to create a rich music environment.

Classroom Management; in order to create a productive learning environment:

- Please restrict conversations to before and after class.
- Turn all cell phones and pagers to a silent mode before entering the classroom. If you need to use your phone, please step outside the room.
- Leave food and toys at home.
- Coats and bags may be hung on the hooks located in the Music Makers room.
- Feel free to leave the room for diaper changes, excessive crying or fussing, etc. or when behavior interferes with another's learning.
- Restrooms are located in the hallway just west of our room and are equipped with baby changing stations.

Policies:

- Only registered children may attend classes. If you intend to bring siblings, they must be registered. Please register at the FSPA office prior to attending.
- One-time guest attendance is \$12; please check with your instructor for permission.
- If you have more than one child, we encourage you to enroll them in separate classes as children enjoy their special time with their parents or caregivers.
- If you plan on registering more than one child in the same class, it is best to enroll them in the older child's age group after receiving permission from the teacher with whom you intend to enroll.
- Feel free to record the class on the first and last day of each term. Due to copyright laws, all recordings are limited to home use only.

### **School Closing/Make-up Classes:**

- See full policy in FSPA catalog.
- If FSPA is in session and an instructor is absent, a substitute instructor or make-up class will be scheduled.
- There are no make-ups for classes *unattended* by the student, unless permission is given by an instructor to attend another class meeting that week.
- Classes will not be made up for inclement weather, until 2 cancellations have occurred for the year. Make-ups will be scheduled for each class cancelled above 2 cancellations.
- If a decision is made in the morning to cancel classes due to inclement weather, morning Music Makers parents will be called. Cancellation of evening classes or classes scheduled for the next day will be posted with the media and on the FIM website

([www.theflintinstituteofmusic.org](http://www.theflintinstituteofmusic.org) ). Parents are always advised to use their discretion regarding weather conditions in their area.

### **Did You Know?**

- Every child is born with music aptitude, that is, the potential to learn music.
- Your child's music aptitude is greatly influenced by their experience and exposure to a musical environment. Music provided and created at home is vital to your child's music potential. The best time for your child's exposure to music is from birth to nine years old. After age nine, a child's music aptitude stabilizes.
- Learning music is much like learning language. As infants, children hear language being spoken to them. After they've acquired the physical readiness to articulate, they begin to imitate real words. They soon learn to create their own phrases and sentences. Later they learn to read and write. We learn music in much the same way. Children listen to music, recall music they've heard, perform music by singing or chanting, and create or improvise music. Later they learn to read and write musical notation. The more children hear and move to music, the more their music vocabulary and music understanding is enhanced.
- The goal of the Music Makers curriculum is to assist children in developing their innate musical aptitude by providing a rich music and movement environment along with individualized instruction.
- There are no wrong answers. A child's musical development is not immediate. Music development is a process, not a product.

### **Classes Offered at FSPA for birth – 5 years**

We hope your child enjoys Music Makers and will want to continue music study at the Flint School of Performing Arts.

Here are classes and summer camps the FSPA offers for children birth through 5 years old:

Music Makers	birth – 5 years
Little Mozarts	3 – 5 years
Creative Dance I & II	4 – 5 years
Dancin' Fun Camp	4 – 7 years
Exploratory Percussion	5 – 6 years
Young Singers	4 – 7 years
Young Musicians	3 – 7 years
Beginning Strings	5 – 6 years
Show Choir Prep Class	5 – 6 years
Show Choir Camp	5 – 7 years