

Leopold School Newsletter

Reopening Updates, New Class Offerings, and School Calendar

Dear Parents and Students,

We hope that this message finds you well, and that you have been staying safe during this unpredictable time. Our studio has been closely following and researching the safety recommendations for singing and music lessons, especially in small enclosed spaces like our studio building. Our school year is scheduled to begin the week of August 17th, just four short weeks away. We know the county is hard at work creating a plan to safely bring children back to school, and many of you have been given several options on how to proceed with this year. We too have been working to create a safe plan for this school year that also meets the various needs of our students.

Given the exceedingly high number of COVID-19 cases we are experiencing in our county and state, we have decided that the safest option for teachers and students is to continue virtual lessons for the first 6 weeks of school. At that point we will reevaluate the situation for all and continue to monitor and make adjustments as necessary- this may mean a return to in-person lessons or this might mean more virtual. Overall students did extremely well in virtual lessons, many teachers reported that students progressed just as well as (and in some cases more than) they did with in-person lessons. We will continue to offer virtual lessons beyond this initial 6 weeks for any students that need them- whether they are out of town, don't have a ride, or have been sick or exposed to the sick, this is an effective option to make sure they don't miss a week of training. Our goal is absolutely to return to in-person lessons, but we want to be mindful of the limited space of our building and the safety of our teachers and students in order to accomplish that.

Although the majority of our students did well with virtual lessons, we did notice that virtual was not as effective for students between ages 5-8. That said, we do have two teachers that will be available for in-person lessons at the outset of this year for those students that absolutely cannot do online lessons. Our safety regulations for these in-person lessons will be quite strict and every student participating will be required to sign a waiver. More details on our safety protocols and procedures will be sent out in a follow-up email. We highly encourage virtual lessons at this time, but if you feel that you or your child can only benefit from in-person lessons we do have teachers to accommodate this need. With only two teachers operating in person we will be able to stagger lesson times and limit capacity within the studio.



Musicianship

Visit page 3 to learn about our new Musicianship Class



Songwriting

Now offering a 6 week songwriting course!



Studio Class

New performance opportunities to come! Read more on Page 3

1

LINK TO ONLINE INTENT FORM:

<https://forms.gle/uoRwSEjMteBXwXKC7>

2

REGISTRATION FORM

All registration forms will be sent out via email- please be on the look out for yours!

3

PAYMENT

First tuition installment is due by your first class, lessons begin the week of August 17th

In these uncertain times, we are fully committed to supporting our students and parents in whatever way we can. Should a transfer to in-person lessons be more convenient for your needs and an instructor change is necessary, please know that all of us at the Leopold School fully support your choices in this regard. We want you to do whatever is best for you and your family. Below is the link to our Leopold School - Intent Form 2020-2021 with the options explained in this email. Please select one for this school year. You are always welcome to change your plan, but your quick response will assist us in creating a new schedule. Please let us know what is best for you as soon as possible. **We ask that all responses be submitted by Monday, August 3rd.**

In-Person/Online:

Angela Tompkins (Piano and Voice) :Wednesdays-Fridays (In-Person/Online)
 Cody Austin (Voice): Wednesdays 10:00 am-3:00 pm, Thursdays, Fridays (In-Person/Online),
 Mondays and Tuesdays available online only

Online- Only (At least first 6 weeks of school):

Will Thomas Scecina
 Amanda Enriquez
 Tania Navarro
 Colleen Schmitt

Online Indefinitely:

Blake Leopold
 Esther Leopold

We thank you for your patience and understanding. Please stay happy and healthy!

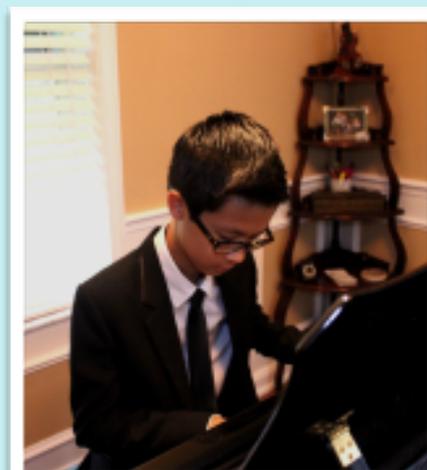
Warmly,
 Amanda Enriquez

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2020-2021	
2020-2021 School year begins (36 total lessons)	Monday, August 17th, 2020
Labor Day, <u>No Lessons</u>	September 7th, 2020
Thanksgiving Break, <u>No Lessons</u> (Please note, there ARE lessons on Monday, November 23rd)	Tuesday, November 24th- November 27th, 2020
Lessons Resume	November 30th, 2020
Winter Break, <u>No Lessons</u>	December 21st-January 8th, 2021
Lessons Resume (19 lessons remaining)	January 11th, 2021
Spring Break, <u>No Lessons</u>	March 15th- 19th, 2021
Spring Recital 2021	TBA
Pre- Registration for 2021-2022 Begins	May 10th, 2021
School Year Ends	May 28th, 2021

Lesson Confirmation emails will be sent out no later than August 10th

NEW COURSE OFFERINGS 2020-2021

This year we are so excited to offer four new educational opportunities for our students! As a team we have been brainstorming ways to fill the gaps that we have observed in our students' overall musical education. The deficits that often came up were performance opportunities, keeping up with music theory, sight-singing, and ear-training within the context of a lesson, and many student's desire to write their own music. To fill this gap, we have four new courses that will be offered this school year, three group opportunities and one new private offering: Musicianship for High School, Musicianship for Middle School, a Quarterly Studio Class, and Intro to Songwriting. Below are the descriptions and pricing for these courses.



Musicianship

High School, Mondays 7:00-7:45 PM

This course is an online group course offered to current Leopold students who wish to expand their music theory and ear-training skills. This course will foster overall musicianship for piano, voice, and guitar students alike. *This is an excellent choice for students who wish to improve their sight-reading and sight-singing skills, for those that need to prepare for musical study at the collegiate level, or for those students that struggle with rhythmic and aural skills.* This is considered an add-on class to the student's private lesson- at just \$10 per week, \$360 total tuition for the whole school year for weekly 45 minute classes. With no more than 5 students per class, students will enjoy the interactive and social nature of this class while also enriching their musical literacy.

Middle School, Mondays 6:00- 6:45 PM

This course is an online group course offered to current Leopold students who wish to expand their music theory and ear-training skills. This course is used to help foster overall musicianship for both piano, voice, and guitar students. *This is an excellent choice for students who wish to improve their sight-reading and sight-singing skills, for those that struggle with rhythm or pitch, or students that wish to create a musical foundation beyond just the technical skills required to become a fine singer or instrumentalist.* This is considered an add-on class to the student's private lesson- at just \$10 per week, \$360 total tuition for the whole school year for weekly 45 minute classes. With no more than 5 students per class, students will enjoy the interactive and social nature of this class while also enriching their musical literacy.

Intro to Songwriting

with Will Thomas Scecina

In this course students will learn the basics of songwriting and each student will walk away with an original song written in conjunction with their teacher. Different techniques will be taught to activate each

individual's unique skill set and kickstart the creative process. This course is 60 minutes per session and runs for 6 weeks- it can also be taken continuously or intermittently throughout the year for ongoing instruction and guidance.

6 Week Course Tuition: \$390.00*

*For an additional \$150, each student will have the opportunity to produce a demo recording of their newly written song with Mr. Scecina.

Classes are first come first serve- email us to enroll:
theleopoldschool@theleopoldschool.com

Virtual Studio Class

Quarterly- November/ February/May

We are so excited to announce our newest performance opportunity for Leopold students - a quarterly studio class! It is common at the collegiate level for students under the same teacher to gather together to perform for one another and receive instructor feedback. We will now offer this masterclass every three months for each individual teacher's studio. Students sign up to perform for the scheduled date and time (TBD) and fellow students and teachers will act as their audience. All students will be encouraged to perform, but it is not mandatory. All are invited to attend, support, and learn from their peers. Unlike a recital, students will receive immediate feedback from instructors and get another chance to perform with that given feedback in mind. This is a great opportunity to perform in a supportive, low-pressure environment. Whether you are preparing for an audition or just seek to build performance confidence, we hope this will be an excellent opportunity for our students to learn and grow. Once we are able to safely gather in groups in the future, we hope to move this studio class to an in-person performance setting as a supplement to our annual recitals. *\$10 to perform and receive feedback, free to observe*

