



the music education centre

## MAKING MUSIC MAGICAL

**Mastery of an instrument takes time, dedication and hard work. In an age when we all expect instant gratification, it can sometimes be hard to keep children motivated, but there are a few things parents can do to keep the magic alive.**

As parents we all live busy lives, but simply taking a few minutes each day to listen to and praise your child's musical achievements can make a huge difference. Remember that praise needs to be genuine, but for many, it is the fact that a parent is taking an interest that makes it special. When we send our children away to "go and practice" it sends quite a different message. – Try "come and play to me!"

Encourage multimedia use and let your child enjoy taking their music into the electronic world. Think about asking your child to make their own music video. Even if it is just recorded on a cellphone, PC and Mac both have simple editing software that can turn it into something special. Imagine how proud your child would be to give a DVD of their very own performance to friends, family or teachers for Christmas!

A good quality instrument adds a huge amount of value. When the music sounds great, it can be really motivating. If a student though is struggling with an out of tune instrument with a nasty tone, it is easy to lose interest. Remember also that often for kids it comes down to how cool the instrument looks. Many music shops offer guitars, ukuleles, and even wind and brass instruments in bright colours that really catch the eye.

Exposing your child to a wide variety of music is also so important. Furthermore, allowing them to experience music live is essential. Do you remember your excitement the first time you went to a big concert or professional theatre show? Nothing beats the atmosphere of being in an audience and being immersed in a magical musical world.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, allow your child to experiment and explore making music of their own. Yes – of course we want to see students practice for their exams or concerts, but allowing them to expand their own musical horizons really helps keep the magic happening.

Music is a skill for life. And when a child can carry a love for making music into adulthood and then retirement – that is truly magical!



## PERFORMANCE AFTERNOON

Four times a year our students are all given an opportunity to showcase their achievements through our Performance Afternoons. Young or old, beginner or advanced, all the performers enjoy a supportive and encouraging audience, and the chance to be a "STAR" for a few minutes.

Our final performances for 2016 will be held on **SUNDAY 11<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**, and we expect that places will fill up very quickly. When booking lists go up in the centre waiting rooms within the next couple of weeks, please make sure you book your time EARLY so as not to miss out!

WHERE?: Takapuna War Memorial Hall, and Tirimoana School Halls.

WHEN?: 11<sup>th</sup> December – 1pm, (West) 2pm and 3pm (Shore)

COST?: FREE!!!

## HAVE YOUR STATEMENT EMAILED EACH MONTH

Thank you to those students who have requested delivery of their lesson invoice/statement by email. If you would like yours delivered electronically each month, please let us know by emailing [lessons@musiceducation.co.nz](mailto:lessons@musiceducation.co.nz) giving your student name and we will set this up for you. If you prefer to continue receiving your statement by post, you don't need to do anything.

## EXAMINATION RESULTS

November is often a busy month for our students sitting external music exams.

We wish all of our students sitting exams the very best of luck.

In recent weeks we have already received some great results for students that have already sat – including:

**Olivia Brice passed ABRSM Grade 2 piano** (teacher – Janet Tracey)

**Ryan Zou passed with distinction Trinity Grade 1 piano** (teacher – Tammie Fung)

**Evelyn Campbell passed ABRSM Grade 4 piano** (teacher – Raewyn Thomas)

*Cello & Piano*  
Present  
*The Magic Smile* Evening  
works  
composed & arranged  
by  
**Ali Al-Azzawi**  
inspired by oriental music  
Ali Al-Azzawi - Cello  
Mi-Jin Park - Piano  
Sunday, the 11th of December  
2016 7:30pm  
Murrays Bay Intermediate School  
37 Sunrise Ave - Murrays Bay

We are very proud to have a team of expert musicians. One of our teachers – Ali Al-Azzawi is presenting a concert of his own compositions and arrangements on 11<sup>th</sup> December.

This is a fantastic opportunity to see a world-class cello soloist (accompanied by Mi-Jin Park on piano) and enjoy seeing classical-style music played live.

Tickets are just \$20 per adult, \$10 for students.

For questions, please contact Ali at our centre on 4445654.

## INTERESTED IN SHARING YOUR MUSIC WITH THE NEXT GENERATION?

The Music Education Centre prides itself on the way that many of our students have achieved excellent results at an advanced level on their chosen instrument. Indeed, we have been pleased to welcome a number of our most advanced level students back to start teaching themselves. In many cases, these past students prove to be some of the most capable of all of our teachers.

If you would like to take your music to the next level, the Music Education Centre can help. Our organisation can help work alongside you as you start teaching. We can support with both tested systems and years of experience, and of course our intensive teacher training course being held in January.

If you would like more information, or an application pack, please email the centre manager – Lionel Reekie on [l\\_reekie@xtra.co.nz](mailto:l_reekie@xtra.co.nz)



## Lesson Accounts

All of our students are invoiced for lessons in advance, either on a monthly or term by term basis.

Our teachers are only paid for lessons when the money has been received from the students. Therefore, if your account is not paid, your teacher is not getting any money.

With the end of the year fast approaching, our teachers would all appreciate all students ensure their fees are paid up to date, before the Christmas break.

## Want to give the gift of music to someone special?

The Music Education Centre has lessons for all ages, all over Auckland and on a range of instruments.

Gift vouchers are available and can be pre-purchased for any number of lessons.

If you would like more information about lesson vouchers, feel free to contact the centre on 0800 89 39 39.