Music Camps
Rock the House!

Rock and roll, parents. It’s time to register kids for summer music camps at CMS-Detroit!

A full house is expected for Rock Camp (June 17-21) and the Aspiring Musicians Camp (June 24-28).

Rock camp is for middle and high school students, ages 12-18, who have experience on guitar, bass, drums, keyboard, brass instruments or vocals. The camp coaches young musicians in instrumental technique, songwriting and performing, as well as how to create and promote their own rock bands.

Rock camp concludes with the kids performing a rockin’ gig on the big stage at Detroit River Days!

AMP Camp is for band, piano and guitar students with one or more years’ experience. The kids work with CMS-D faculty and MSU college music student mentors while getting to have fun at camp!

The Creative Economy

Creativity is the capital of the 21st Century. The Creative Economy is rewarding innovation and placing a high value on those who can think outside traditional boundaries.

So what do today’s young people need in order to learn to be creative thinkers?

Music.

Music is unique in its ability to develop an innovative mind. A child in music class is not sitting passively. He or she is actively engaged in a complex group dynamic that involves a high level of concentration, advanced abstract reasoning skills and individual expression.

Those skills translate wonderfully to tasks that demand the mind to work in abstract ways. As a development tool, music boosts language and math abilities. It also teaches professionalism and presentational skills.

By learning to tap into their personal creativity, kids are also learning self-reliance and self-government. And they’re better prepared to serve their communities.

As an investment in the Creative Economy, music lessons will pay dividends for a lifetime.

Come Play with Us!

Forget about auditioning to be in a band -- how about auditioning a band that YOU might want to join?

New Horizons Bands at CMS-D are open to anyone who has ever played an instrument, as well as those who want to learn to play for the very first time!

CMS-D’s combined New Horizons Bands will perform “Our Community in Concert” at the Detroit School of Arts (DSA) Ford Theater on Wednesday, May 8 at 7 p.m. This annual event is FREE and open to the public.

Led by award-winning Director Ed Quick, the concert will feature a collaboration with the DSA school band and orchestra program. Making a special appearance is Joseph Luloff, MSU College of Music Professor of Saxophone.

Don’t miss this inspiring evening of super community music-making!

Register for Summer Programs!
www.cms.msu.edu/detroit / (313) 578-9716
From the Executive Director
Rhonda Buckley

We are now in our third year of offering music learning and music therapy at CMS-Detroit. Our program continues to swell through word-of-mouth about our small classes, amazing faculty and supportive family culture.

Affordability is also a major factor in our growth. Tuition assistance for all ages, as well as the opportunity to borrow an instrument at no cost, removes major barriers to participation.

Music lessons should not be considered a luxury item for families -- they are a solid investment in our children and in the intellectual and artistic life of our community.

We are deeply indebted to the foundations, corporations and individuals in our region for supporting our school. Learning music is a transformational experience, and the feedback from our students bears that out.

Our mission is to get more children, and people of all ages, enrolled in music as a proven path to achievement.

If you would like to support our spring giving campaign, please call (517) 353-9872. Thank you!

New Horizons Bands for Everyone

Detroit’s New Horizons Bands (NHB) continue to share their love of music-making with others in the community through free performances that showcase innovative repertoire.

Led by Director Ed Quick, the band celebrated the legacy of Martin Luther King on January 30 with a “Salute To The King.”

The 37-member band was joined for this special collaborative concert by “Vision,” a male vocal group from the Detroit School of Arts (DSA) and the Omowale African Percussion Ensemble, led by DSA grad, Sowande Keita (a former student of Quick).

"Vision sang with great style, blend and wonderful musicality," said Mr. Quick of the high school students.

"From the spiritual 'Ride on King Jesus' to the old-school hit by the Persuasions, 'People Get Ready,' their standing ovation was spontaneous and so well deserved."

Audiences were on their feet several more times during a powerful presentation by Keita who creatively combined a talk on Dr. King with the traditions of African drumming.

This multi-generational concert was representative of the "side-by-side" culture of Detroit’s NHB players, who members range in age from 18 to 80.

Omawale joined in one last time for the "Kenyan Noel," a joyous, loud wall-of-sound piece that provided the perfect ending to an evening of musical exploration.

The beginning and intermediate adult bands at CMS-D are open to anyone, no auditions are required!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

APRIL
24 MSU Jazz@CMS-Detroit Spring Concert, 7:30pm
30 Adult Strings Recital, 7pm

MAY
4 Aspiring Musicians Program Recitals:
Level I - 9am, Level II - 10:30am, Level III - 12pm
7 Adult & Teen Piano Recital, 7pm
8 Adult Piano & Adult Guitar/Bass Recital, 7pm
8 New Horizons Bands - Our Community in Concert
Detroit School of Arts (DSA), 7pm

JUNE
4 Start of Adult Summer classes
16-21 Jazz Camp at MSU, East Lansing
17-21 CMS-Detroit Rock Day Camp
22 Rock Camp Concert at Detroit River Days, time tbd
24-28 Aspiring Musicians Program Day Camp

JULY
2-17 Adult Summer classes resume

AUGUST
27 Fall registration begins

SEPT.
10 First week of classes!
MSU President Lou Anna Simon sent a video crew 360 degrees around the world this year to document firsthand the life-changing work of MSU personnel.

In addition to many exotic locales, she dispatched them to Detroit to check out the music learning happening at 3408 Woodward!

The internationally-distributed web story titled "Making Music, Expanding Minds" can be seen on the YouTube channel "CMSDetroit."

CMS-Detroit is helping advocate for national music education standards in the United States by piloting an innovative new program.

The curriculum is based on Canada’s Royal Conservatory Music Development Program, which has set the bar high for other countries around the world.

"Canada has a unique system," says Rhonda Buckley, Executive Director of CMS-Detroit. "By having all music educators across the country use a single set of standards, it gives students total mobility across the job market and assures a very high level of proficiency."

National benchmarks and the high value placed on them also empowers and unifies teachers, providing them with a strong voice in the national dialogue on music education.

In the U.S., CMS-Detroit joins Carnegie Hall in adopting Music Development Program standards. The rigorous assessments inspire individual excellence and allow students to celebrate accomplishments and track their progress with others across the country.

The program also supports teachers with high-quality and innovative resources.

For more information visit www.musicdevelopmentprogram.org.

Drum Roll for Davina!

Detroit teen Davina Frison is an accomplished young lady. Since taking up the drums in third grade, she has actively pursued her natural gift for rhythms.

The 15 year-old is one of CMS-Detroit’s first crop of students to participate in an innovative pilot curriculum called the Music Development Program.

This rigorous approach to instrumental music is modeled after Canada’s Royal Conservatory program, widely considered to be the “best practices” model for national music education standards.

By offering this structured learning approach, CMS-Detroit is ensuring that its talented students have access to the highest level of instruction and preparation available. It also makes them highly mobile across different marketplaces.

As Davina's mom Christina puts it, "it's the crème de la crème of what she needs at this point in her musical training."

Davina is one of the most advanced students in the Aspiring Musicians III percussion class at CMS-Detroit.

"I’m learning to play things I could never play before," she says, "such as the bells (mallet percussion) and timpani."

Davina came to CMS-Detroit with a strong musical background. But her story is typical, in that her middle school did not offer music classes on site. Instead, she spent weekends at the Sphinx Program at Wayne State University. There she earned the nickname "Little Sheila E," after the American pop percussionist, and was able to explore Afro-Cuban beats, congas, bongos, djembe, woodblocks, claviers and more.

What's next for Davina? "I might like to be a producer, a DJ, or band director," she says. "I'm not really sure yet. My math scores are excellent. Reading and studying music helps with math, English and even science (she cites the physics of sound waves)."

Already accustomed to the hard work it takes to excel in music, Davina is ready for her next drum roll.
Eddie Harris "Fake Books" Give for Real

While surfing YouTube, Sara Harris and Yvonne Harris-Burnley stumbled across a video of music students in Detroit performing a jazz classic called "Cold Duck Time."

The irresistible, foot-tapping number is by the late great jazz artist Eddie Harris, husband of Sara and father of Yvonne, who reside in Virginia. And the students featured on the video are MSU Jazz @ CMS-D players.

The ladies were impressed. So impressed, they decided to gift CMS-Detroit and the MSU College of Music a treasure trove of Harris' literature from the music publishing agency that carries on his legacy.

The valuable gift included "fake books" of Eddie Harris original songs. Fake books are central to the culture of playing music, and especially suited to jazz and improvisation. They contain lead sheets of an artist's melody lines, chords and lyrics, enabling a performer to quickly learn new pieces.

"People of all ages, races and cultures from around the world are playing Eddie's music," says Sara. "It's so wonderful. He's been gone for some time, but his music and his followers continue to grow. We are in awe."

When asked what advice Harris would give young musicians, Sara says, "He loved to teach. But he would always, always say 'practice your instrument.'"

Despite becoming internationally famous with gold records and fans on every continent, Sara says Eddie practiced religiously up until the time he passed away in 1996.

A virtuoso on many instruments and across every musical genre, Harris's tenor sax playing can be heard on one of the first jazz albums ever to go certified gold.

Exodus to Jazz was just one of many highlights over his long career as a saxophonist, pianist, composer, trumpeter, vocalist, and inventor of musical instruments.

Fortunately for subsequent generations, his performances are captured on videos and recordings, as well as in fake books.

To learn more about the amazing artistry of Eddie Harris, visit www.eddieharris.com. To see the video of CMS-D students performing "Cold Duck Time," visit the YouTube channel "CMSDetroit."

Miss Betty Tapped for Music PSA Campaign!

Baritone sax player Betty Erni, age 77, is considered family at CMS-D.

She plays in the beginner adult band and volunteers for just about everything.

Her joyous love of music and life led to her recent selection as a spokesperson for a PSA Campaign presented by the Music Learning Alliance.

The campaign aims to enroll more people of all ages -- but especially children -- in the region's many wonderful music programs.

It also hopes to inspire public dialogue about the importance of this curriculum as school funding for music continues to shrink.

Through an accompanying website, any qualified individual or organization offering music lessons to the public can be listed for free.


Visit www.with1note.com or call 855-GO-1-Note (461-6683) to get your music on!