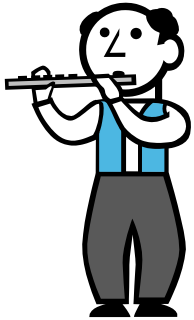


Music Classes for Schools and Kindergardens with Alexander Starz

Introduction

My name is Alexander Starz. I hold a M.A. in Linguistics and Teacher's certifications for English as Second Language and Orff Schulwerk Pedagogy.



My musical carrer began at the age of four on the recorder, I picked up the violin when I was ten, the flute when I was twelve, and with sixteen I added guitar and piano. Later in life I studied the cello. Prior to the birth of my own children I was an active member in a variety of music groups and ensembles.

I was offered my first teaching position at my former high school at the age of nineteen, followed by a position at the public music school of my home town. During my time as a student I taught for Music & Arts Centers in Virginia, Victor Litz Music in Maryland, and privately.

After the completion of my studies I opened a school for Music and Languages in the Washington area. During my nine years as President there, I learned to use the Suzuki Method and integrated the *Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music* (ABRSM) evaluation system into the school's operations. I also served as State President for the *American String Teachers Association* (ASTA) Maryland and D.C. chapter. A combination of opportunity and circumstances led me to leave the school in 2004. By then, the school had 150 strudents and 15 teachers in two locations. My wife's carreer brought us to Vienna in the same year.

In 2007, I started teaching as Native Speaker Teacher at a Vienna elementary school. In the fall of 2009, I began teaching Music classes.

Early Childhood and Primary Music Education

With young or new students of Music, I follow Orff Schulwerk Pedagogy. It uses language, movement, and music in an integrated approach. Language has natural rhythm and melody. Movement is expressive and has form, tempo, and energy. We learn to exploit these musical concepts we already know and combine them in new ways to learn about music.

The students progressively acquire elemental building blocks of Music. From the beginning, they will use them and combine them in improvisation exercises that allow the students to create their own melodies. This process is highly motivational and leads, with a little guidance, to respectable and often beautiful results. A back and forth of solo and ensemble play enhances the ability to listen, to concentrate, to hold back, to be part of a team, to take responsibility, and to be considerate of others. This forms an integral part in the Orff Schulwerk learning environment. We will work with all the instruments in an Orff ensemble (pitched and non-pitched percussion, barred instruments, etc.) and learn to play the recorder. Other instruments (guitar, flute, strings) will make an appearance and can be tried out. The curriculum follows modern pedagogical standards and the historic development of music in western cultures.

Group Classes for Recorder, Violin, or Guitar

4 to 7 students are taught in a group with a combination of Orff Schulwerk and Suzuki Method. The focus is the instrument, learning to play and enjoying it is more important than being able to recite musical theory. The students experience playing in a group as much as playing solo. Improvisation and composition of melodies develop the student's musicality. Percussion instruments and sound effects round out the experience and make it even more fun. Music theory, reading and writing music, and the building of a repertoire will be prepared in this course and accomplished in follow-up courses.

Registration

If registering via e-mail, please add „VSDC Music“ as a reference!



I am registering

_____ (student name)

for the Music Course *Let's make Music* offered at VBS Leonard-Bernstein-Straße. I have read the Course Description and Information and accept the terms and conditions listed therein.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

I am ordering a recorder from the teacher: Y N

Preferred start time 14 h 15 h any

Date _____

Signature _____