

Website

The MusicalArts website is interactive! You can find information for classes, schedules and payments. You may also log into your account to update payment information, add classes, or see your payment history.

Frequently Asked Questions

How are tuition payments charged?

Music lessons run year round. While dance classes run through the school year and a 6 week summer session. When you register you will pay a registration fee that is good all year for all programming. Tuition payments are charged on the 28th of the previous month. Some months you will receive 3 classes, others 5 classes depending on the month. The tuition charge stays the same but over the course of the year you will receive the full complement of classes. If you started late, your first tuition payment was prorated to reflect classes missed.

How do I schedule a make up music lesson?

Private music students may attend up to two departmental workshops free as makeups for absences. If you are owed a lesson, please sign up in the office or online for one of the workshops.

Can I make up a dance class?

Dance students are more than welcome to attend another class to makeup a missed class. Please let us know in the office so we do not overbook a class.

How do I withdraw from classes?

The deadline to withdraw from all classes and lessons is March 1st. Students must give 30 days notice by completing and signing a withdrawal form in the office. We do not accept email or telephone withdrawals. In order to discontinue payments the office must have a signed withdrawal form. The form will be processed and your account will be settled for all classes including the 30 day period. There will be no credits or refunds within the 30 day withdrawal period but you may choose to transfer to another program for 30 days.

How do I find out if there is a weather cancellation or delay?

MusicalArts follows the SAU 16 Exeter school cancellations for the Exeter School and the SAU 11 Dover School cancellations for the Dover school. You can either check WMUR or check the MusicalArts facebook page or website - www.musicalarts.org. Although we make every effort to reschedule and makeup missed classes due to weather we cannot guarantee makeups for lengthy extreme weather events. If there is a delay there will be no morning classes.

If you would like to receive cancellations by text message you may sign up for this on our communications form.

Podcasts & Videocasts

MusicalArts will record monthly podcast and videocasts for music and dance students. Students will be chosen by their individual teachers. If your child would like to be a part of these you may also ask your individual teacher and they will work on this goal with your child. Podcasts and Videocasts will be posted on the www.musicalarts.org monthly. Podcasts & Videocasts are also fabulous for grandparents and extended family to see and hear your child perform.

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Bring a Friend Day

October 20-25th, we hold a Bring a Friend event for all students. Music & Dance students may bring a friend to their lesson to observe and take part in the lesson when possible. This is a great way to encourage students by sharing this experience with a friend!

Music

Instrument & Supplies

Each student should have an instrument to practice on at home. With the exception of drums and piano students need to bring their instrument to lessons. Your child should have a practice book, binder, music staff paper and lesson book. We can recommend where to rent or purchase an appropriate instrument in the office.

Practice Expectations

All students should have an instrument to practice on at home. Your child should be practicing regularly throughout the week to continue progress. At weekly, lessons the instructor will check in and correct any bad habits, assign the next steps, and teach new concepts. A beginning student may be asked to practice 10 minutes every other day, while an advanced student may be asked to practice an hour each day. Your instructor will set practice guidelines the first lesson and you should be available the last 10 minutes of the lesson to review this with the instructor.

Goal Setting

Students will set specific goals for each week, month and for the year.

The First Lesson

The first lesson you should bring your instrument and a notebook. Many things are accomplished during the first lesson and the subsequent lessons will be very different than this initial meeting. Your child will be acclimated to lessons, their instrument and get to know the teacher. Sometimes the teacher may even play for the student. The parts of the instrument will be explained and a lesson book will be assigned.

Changing Teachers

Always bring all supplies to the new instructor and any past notebooks to the new lesson. MusicalArts has over 30 teachers and encourages students to try different teachers when the student is ready or interested. Feel free to consult the office for advice on the best choice of teacher.

Encouragement

It is important to encourage your child by taking an interest in each practice session. Younger children should have a parent assist with practice. As your child gets older and more experienced, you will find they will take more and more initiative in their practicing. As with any skill, interest will ebb and flow. If you are having difficulty with practicing it is important to discuss this with the instructor.

Music Recitals & Performances

Music recitals are held twice per year, in the winter and spring. Recitals are a fabulous venue for encouragement and a strong feeling of accomplishment in the student. All ages and levels participate. Beginner students will often play with their private teacher. More advanced students may play multiple songs or even have their own recital. You may sign up for these online at www.musicalarts.org, click Music, scroll to the bottom of the page under recitals. You may also sign up in the office. We ask families to sign up 3 weeks prior to the recital date. Recitals are very popular and space is limited. If your child is at an advanced level and would like their own recital please contact the office to schedule this.

For additional performance opportunities, chamber groups provide greater ensemble experience and performances. Chamber groups are open to any student with at least one year experience. Chamber groups begin rehearsals in October.

Progression & Evaluation

At the end of the year each student is provided with a recommendation form for next year's class choices. You may at anytime ask your individual teacher about your child's progression. Parents of music students should be available the last 5-10 minutes of lessons to discuss progression and goal setting for the coming week.

Ensembles & Performing with others

In October, ensembles and chamber groups begin rehearsals. Students are placed with appropriate age and levels in Rock band, String ensemble, Children's chorus, and chamber groups (various groupings for example....singer/piano, clarinet/piano/violin, violin duet ect.) This is by far the most motivating step for your child's music learning. Connecting with peers and creating music is a profound experience for any student. Private teachers will recommend student, however you may also ask in the office if your child is ready for this next step.

Practice Challenge

Are you up to the practice challenge? Your teacher sets your practice goals, meet your goals each week and win a prize! Fall practice challenge - October 1 - January 31. Spring practice challenge - March 1 - May 31.

In order to participate in either contest students will need to:

- Pick up a calendar practice log in the office. Tell your teacher you will be participating
- Students who meet practice goals set by teacher each week will win a prize at the end for meeting their goals each week!
- Turn in practice log calendar at end of contest
- Each school will have a self serve sticker chart to help you chart your progress against others at the school!

Dress Code

There is a required dress code that enables the teacher to see the line of the body for accurate form and also to create uniformity in the classroom. Please no tutus or extra decoration as it is distracting in the classroom. No jewelry and hair should be pulled off the face. Ballet students should wear hair in a bun.

Dance Recital & Costume information

The dance recital is held in June. A recital email will be sent to you after the first of the year with costume costs and expectations for recital. At the recital we celebrate students hard work and put on a professional show on a real stage. The recital is held at Exeter High School.

The Steadfast Tin Soldier Performance

MusicalArts students present a Holiday performance of Hans Christian Anderson's The Steadfast Tin Soldier. The show usually showcase most level 1 and up classes. There is a \$25 performance fee that covers costume rental and rehearsals. The show is held at The Cooperative Middle School in Exeter.

Encouragement

It is important to encourage your child by taking an interest in each session. Parents may choose to watch classes on the viewing tv in the waiting area. As with any skill, interest will ebb and flow. If you are having difficulty attending class it is important to discuss this with your instructor.

Young children and the first class

The first dance class for your 3 or 4 or 5 year old can be exciting and overwhelming. Every child is different and we are supportive of each child's participation level. Some children will jump right in, waving goodbye to mom or dad with gusto. While others are overwhelmed by the new experience and might rather watch from the viewing tv for the first few moments and then transition to a class with mom or dad watching close by. This is all natural and your teacher is very aware that each child will come to the class with differing skills and participation for this age group. Our goal is for your child to love dance and a smooth transition to class is our goal. Your teacher and the staff of MusicalArts is always available should you have any questions.

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