



# ChiME

Chicago Center  
for Music Education

## *ChiME Monthly*

At the Chicago Center for Music Education (ChiME) we provide an exceptional music education to a diverse community as a path for social, emotional, and character development.

*"Music expresses that which cannot be said and on which it is impossible to be silent."*

**-Victor Hugo**

### **ChiME Night at Ravinia**



We invite all families to celebrate ChiME with us at the Ravinia Festival - one of the top Chicagoland summer music experiences. We will gather on the evening of July 26 to celebrate the second anniversary of the school's name change (from Suzuki-Orff

#### In This Issue

[ChiME Night at Ravinia](#)

[Programs for Ages 4-6](#)

[Programs for Ages 5+](#)

[Summer in the City](#)

[Summer Practice Tips](#)

[ChiME Partnerships](#)

[Rock and Glee](#)

[Self-Expression](#)

[Voices in America](#)

[Lloyd A. Fry Foundation](#)

[Thank You](#)

#### Special Offer

[Click here to print out our coupon for a free class or lesson!](#)

School of Music to the Chicago Center for Music Education). The program, performed by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, will feature Stravinsky's Firebird as well as works by Benjamin Britten and Claude Debussy. Thanks to the generosity of the Ravinia Festival's Classical Invitations Program, ChiME has received some complimentary pavilion and lawn tickets for this concert.

This ChiME Ravinia outing will take place on **Tuesday, July 26**. We will meet at **5:30 pm** on the lawn and will enjoy picnicking, talking, and exploring the beautiful Ravinia grounds. Ravinia KidsLawn - a new, interactive, family-friendly space featuring an instrument petting zoo, arts, and crafts - will be available for your enjoyment starting at 5:00 pm. The performance will begin at 8:00 pm.

In addition to ChiME Night at Ravinia, we also have some pavilion tickets reserved for the Saturday, July 16th performance of Beethoven's 5th Symphony (7:30 pm) and the Wednesday, August 3rd performance of Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue (jazz version) and Bernstein's Symphonic Dances from the West Side Story (8:00 pm).

Please contact Gosia Bagley at [gbagley@chimemusic.org](mailto:gbagley@chimemusic.org) to reserve your tickets for any of the above concerts (please specify date, lawn or pavilion, and the number of tickets requested).

## Social, Emotional, and Character Development

Self-confidence  
Listening  
Patience  
Respect  
Perseverance  
Self-expression  
Problem Solving  
Set, work toward, and achieve goals  
Discipline  
Self-assessment  
Giving back  
Collaboration  
Empathy  
Quality standards  
Pro-activity  
Motivation

## Upcoming Events

**Saturday, July 23**

**2:30pm**

**Voice Recital**

**Tuesday, July 26**

**5:30pm**

**ChiME Night at Ravinia  
(Concert begins 8:00pm)**

## Summer Programs for Ages 4-6

Join us for two new mini-camps at ChiME this summer! Children ages 4-6 will explore stories, instruments, and music in our Musical Story Time and Instrument Primer programs.

### Musical Story Time

**with Ms. Alli**

Children will discover a new, musical way to read and experience books through singing, playing percussion instruments, and using movement to bring the story to life.

*Session 1: We're Going on a Bear Hunt*

*July 12 and 14*

*9:30 am - 12:00 pm*



*Session 2: Over in a Meadow*

*August 2 and August 4*

*9:30 am - 12:00 pm*

### Instrument Primer

## ChiME Wishlist

- Storage organizers for our instruments in Spero Performance Hall
- Fun artwork for the walls
- Full-sized electric guitar
- Overhead projector

## Follow Us!



**with Ms. Alli**

This class will introduce students to the world of instruments and get them acquainted with the details of private music instruction and the fundamental skills essential to private lessons.



*Session 1*

*July 11, 13, and 15*

*2:00 pm - 4:30 pm*

*Session 2*

*August 1, 3, and 5*

*9:30 am - 12:00 pm*

For more information or to register, [click here](#) or call **(312) 738-2646!**

**ChiME In!**

We would love to hear any questions, comments, or concerns you may have.

[Click here to ChiME in!](#)

**ChiME Monthly Archives**

Missed last month's ChiME Monthly? Visit the [ChiME Monthly Archives](#) on our website!

## Summer Programs for Ages 5+

Whether your child is an experienced instrumentalist or has no musical background, ChiME has a summer program for you! Check out the options below for ages 5 and up:

### [Intro to Ukulele](#)

with Ms. Kristen

#### **5-7 years old**

*Tuesdays and Thursdays from July 19 - August 11*

*4:00 pm - 5:00 pm*

#### **8-10 years old**

*Tuesdays and Thursdays from July 19 - August 11*

*5:00 pm - 6:00 pm*

Students will delve into the history of the instrument and the music it has inspired, from traditional Pacific island repertoire through modern-day ukulele classics. They will learn proper tuning and posture, basic chords, and strumming patterns.



## **Sound Innovations**

**with Mr. Lenny**

**11 years and up**

*July 11 and 13*

*10:00 am - 2:30 pm*

This class will provide students with an experience in shaping and mixing sounds with some of the latest sound recording software. It will consist of a mix of a foundation of basic sound science as well as whimsical experimentation.



## **Suzuki String Camp**

**with Ms. Cecilia, Ms. Lauren, and Mr. Billy**

**Ages 6 and up or teacher recommendation**

*July 18-22*

*9:00 am - 3:00 pm*

This camp is designed for all violin, viola, and cello students for the ultimate, all-around musical experience. Participants will further their instrumental skills in mini lessons and group classes, and they will engage in motivating enrichment sessions

which include musicianship, drumming, and fiddling.



For more information or to register, please [click here](#) or call **(312) 738-2646!**

## Summer in the City

### Free Music Events for the Whole Family



As the temperature heats up, so does our longing to spend as much time as possible outside, enjoying all that Chicago has to offer in the summer. Nothing says "Summer in Chicago" quite like a blanket, picnic, and beautiful music. With such a variety of performance groups and genres, this is a perfect time to expose your children to a variety of musical styles in an open-air environment. Here are just a few of the many free options to take advantage of this summer:

#### [Millenium Park's Family Fun Festival](#)

**June 20 - August 21, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm**

The Family Fun Festival hosts interactive music, art, and dance, and movement activities throughout the morning and afternoon, along with an Activity Zone Partner organization holding special family events at their location each week. Upcoming partners include Barrel of Monkeys, Chicago Architecture Foundation, and the Museum of Science and Industry. Visit the Family Fun Festival website for more information on programs and locations.

### [Grant Park Music Festival](#)

**June 14 - August 20**

What better way to spend a beautiful summer afternoon or evening with a picnic and beautiful music, surrounded by the Chicago Skyline? The Grant Park Music Festival runs now through August 20th at the Jay Pritzker Pavilion in Millennium Park. Lunchtime rehearsals are free and open to the public. During breaks in rehearsals, Festival docents lead informal talks about the music, composers, and the history of classical music. On Fridays at 5:30 pm, the Young Artists Showcase highlights performances from students taking part in music programs from all over the city.

Performances (most of which begin at 6:30 pm) are free, and families are encouraged to bring a blanket to the Great Lawn, and enjoy an evening of music under the stars.

### [Tuesdays at the Gazebo](#)

**Welles Park**

**June 18th - August 27th, 6:30 pm**

Kid-friendly and picnic-friendly concerts featuring family friendly performances from artists such as Susan Salidor, Seth Boustead, and The Dreamtree Shakers.

### [Rush Hour Summer Concert Series](#)

**St. James Cathedral**

**Tuesday evenings, June through August**

Busy music lovers can head to St. James Cathedral in Chicago's Near North neighborhood for a quick concert. The indoor concerts are 30 to 45 minutes long and will take you "Bach" to the classical music era with compositions by Brahms, Rossini, Bach, and more. The concerts are open to the public, and no tickets are required. If you like what you heard, you can also purchase a flash drive with that evening's performance.

### [Ravinia Festival](#)

Along with the manicured lawn and wooded setting of this Highland Park venue, the diverse musical offerings of this

festival make it the perfect opportunity for an enchanting family afternoon or evening. For a younger audience, the Kids Concert Series is available on Saturday and Sunday mornings, and all children under 15 are admitted free to Chicago Symphony Orchestra performances throughout the summer. High-school and college students can purchase free lawn tickets with their student ID to CSO performances as well.

## Summer Practice Tips

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Routines often change or disappear during the summer, making it more difficult for parents to motivate their children to practice consistently or even occasionally. Most teachers advocate for continued lessons and regular practice; they know that starting up again in the fall is much easier when there are few disruptions during the summer months. But how is a busy family to keep up with practice when there are so many summer activities and so much travel? Here are some of our tried ideas:

*More listening* - As you spend time in the car or on the plane during summer travel, bring those Suzuki CDs or mp3 files along! Daily listening to the repertoire is a great way to keep up the connection to the instrument. On those days that practicing with the instrument is impossible, listen more and ask your child specific questions about the repertoire you are listening to. What mood is the piece in? How fast is the beat? Can you tap the beat? Can you clap the rhythm as you listen?

*Reverse roles* - This is a great review game. The student becomes the teacher and has to show the parent how to play a particular piece. The parent can pretend he or she knows absolutely nothing about the piece, and the child has to analyze and synthesize his or her knowledge of the music to be able to explain to the parent what to do.

*Musical playdates* - If your child has friends who play instruments, create opportunities for all kids to play for each other. Invite them over for a playdate and organize an at-home

performance. You can invite the other parents or even neighbors. For instruments other than piano, the performance can be outside - for the whole neighborhood to hear. You can stage a rehearsal before the actual performance, which will serve as practice time and preparation for the event.

*More games* - Keep things light in the summer by using more games in the practice process. Dice, cards, board games, hiding games - anything goes. Follow your child's cues as to what they enjoy the most. They might be willing to come up with new games just for practicing! Let go of too many expectations and just enjoy "playing" - playing games AND music!

*Away from the instrument* - There are many exercises, whether mental or physical, that can be done away from the instrument. From finger exercises to discussions about the correct posture and hand position, there are plenty of topics and ways to explore current practice objectives without the instrument at hand.

*Reading* - Summer is a great time to delve into a project such as improving reading skills. From flashcards and games to worksheets and workbooks, there are many options to choose from. Learning the names of the notes on the staff and relating them to the instrument can be tricky during the school year, when there are so many other priorities, but in the summer this can be done even on days away from the instrument. Ask your teacher for recommendations on games, worksheets, and workbooks to use for improving music reading.

## ChiME Partnerships

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The school year ended at all of our partner schools. It has been a fun and successful year. Through our In-Schools Programs, ChiME has reached around 2,500 children weekly in 81 classrooms, from preschool to 6th grade.

The end of the year was marked by many student performances. At Budlong Elementary, a new partner for ChiME this past year, all classrooms that received music instruction had a chance to perform an end-of-the-year program in front of peers, parents, and community members. Grades 3-5 performed on June 2 under the direction of Carolina Folmer, and grades K-2 performed on June 8 with their instructor Lenny Zieben. Congratulations to all students on a great year and lots of musical growth!



We are now looking forward to a fun week in July at Tamayo Elementary School, where ChiME will work with students in grades 3-8 in their first ever Glee Camp.

## A Week of Rock and Glee

Last week two groups of aspiring musicians roamed around ChiME filling the building with bright music. Rock 'N' Roll campers and Glee campers took residence at the school for the week and learned some fun new skills and repertoire. Campers had a blast not only rehearsing for a performance at the end of the week, but creating posters and decorations for the performance and playing outdoor games at the park!





## Developing One's Voice Through Music

Reflections by Gosia Bagley

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*"Where words fail, music speaks."*

Hans Christian Andersen

No matter what age, all music students at ChiME are encouraged and inspired to express their personalities through music. Through participation in classes, lessons, and practice at home, students are building knowledge and a set of skills that provide an increasingly rich technical and artistic vocabulary, which then can be used to beautifully interpret the music of others or to create one's own compositions. One of the ultimate goals of studying music is to express that which cannot be said in any other way.

At ChiME, we strive to provide students with tools for self-expression from the earliest stages in their musical journey. In Early Childhood classes, children are encouraged to sing and play hand-held percussion instruments, finding their own ways to express beat, rhythm, and melodic ideas. Parents and instructors model and help children become more confident with such expression through continuous nurturing guidance, encouragement, and support. In private lessons and musicianship classes, students learn more specific ways in which to use expressive tools, including tempo, dynamics, and articulations to evoke images, ideas, and feelings in the listener. Their expressive language becomes more nuanced, and as they advance in the repertoire and technical skills, they are able to

give deeper meaning to their expression. You see this expression mostly in recitals, but you can hear it in the hallways every day, as it happens in lessons, group classes, and rehearsals. ChiME is bustling with expression!



One of the ultimate expressive experiences ChiME provides for students is our **Music Artist Showcase**. In this program, students who have achieved an intermediate level on their instrument choose a work to perform for others in a showcase setting. They study the music deeply, searching for answers on what feelings, thoughts, or reactions they want to evoke in the audience, what their artistic goals are for the performance, and what impact they wish to make with their art. They discuss these ideas as a group and learn from each other as they continue to open up new ways of expressing their own personal voice through music. They develop camaraderie with other members of the MAS cohort, which helps them feel safe and comfortable to express their feelings and ideas. They begin to develop trust in others' willingness to listen to and understand their voice through music. This is a huge step in developing their self-confidence as an artist.

By the time we send students off to college, we hope to have instilled in them the knowledge, technical and artistic skills, and confidence that will help them to courageously and unapologetically share their artistic voice with others.

## ChiME on Voices in America

ChiME will be featured on the television show **Voices in America**, hosted by James Earl Jones. Voices in America is aired on public broadcasting stations throughout the country and profiles thought leaders impacting education. The series focuses on community education taking on new importance in developing future leaders. ChiME's segment will air periodically throughout the country over the course of the next year.

Although you will need to catch the James Earl Jones segment when it airs on public broadcasting, you can see the footage without James Earl Jones below:



## Lloyd A. Fry Foundation

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ChiME recently received a one year grant of **\$40,000 from the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation** to support its program in Chicago Public Elementary schools and for the development of new assessment tools. The grant will partially fund programs at the following schools:

- Blair Early Childhood Center
- Budlong Elementary School
- Burnside Scholastic Academy
- Wendell Green Elementary School
- Frederick Stock Early Childhood Center
- Rufino Tamayo UNO Charter School

ChiME is very grateful for the continued support of the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation!

## Thank You!

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Thank you to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association for underwriting tickets to the June 20th performance by singer-actress Kristin Chenoweth at the Symphony Center. Thanks to the generosity of the Association, many ChiME students and their family members were able to enjoy the concert for free. We are beyond grateful!

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