



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.

"One important key to success is self-confidence. An important key to self-confidence is preparation."

-Arthur Ashe

2016 Gala: Thank You!

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Special Offer

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

Social, Emotional, and
Character Development



We are happy to report that we raised **\$166,607** through our 2016 Gala: Inspiring Greatness! We are extremely grateful for the support received through our community of ChiME friends. Because of your support we will be able to continue to inspire greatness through music in the thousands of children in our programs.

Stay tuned here for the announcement of our 2017 Gala date!

Early Childhood Music



Registration for the next session is now open!

Summer Session: June 25 - August 22

Watch your child develop a love of music in ChiME's Early Childhood Music program. Our Baby STEPS curriculum for children 6 months to 4.5 years old exposes students to basic musical concepts such as beat, rhythm, and melody while helping them develop social and emotional competencies through group activities and play.

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

Thursday, June 2

6:30pm

Violin Graduation Recital

Saturday, June 4

1:30pm

Suzuki Basics for Parents

2:30pm

All-School Recital

3:30pm

Graduation Recital

Saturday, June 11

2:30pm

Advanced Guitar Ensemble Recital

4:00pm

Violin Studio Recital

Sunday, June 12

1:00pm and 2:30pm

Piano Fest

ChiME Wishlist

- Storage organizers for

Click on your preferred class time below to register:

Twinkle Tots - 6 to 18 months

[Thursdays at 11:15 am with Ms. Cecilia*](#)

[Saturdays at 8:00 am with Ms. Kristen](#)

[Saturdays at 9:00 am with Ms. Alli](#)

Mi-Fa-Sol-Agu - 6 to 18 months

[Thursdays at 9:00 am with Ms. Cecilia](#)

Mi-Fa-Sol-Agu - de 6 a 18 meses

Los jueves a las nueve de la mañana con Cecilia Pinto

(More info below about this NEW Spanish immersion class!)

Beat Explorers - 1.5 to 2.5 years

[Saturdays at 9:00 am with Ms. Kristen*](#)

[Saturdays at 10:00 am with Ms. Alli](#)

Rhythm Explorers - 2.5 to 3.5 years

[Mondays at 10:15 am with Ms. Ana](#)

[Thursdays at 10:00 am with Ms. Cecilia](#)

[Saturdays at 10:00 am with Ms. Kristen*](#)

Steppin' Up - 3.5 to 4.5 years

[Saturdays at 11:00 am with Ms. Alli](#)

[Saturdays at 11:00 am with Ms. Kristen*](#)

*Registration reserved for current students until June 6

New to ChiME?

Call **(312) 738-2646** to schedule your FREE trial class!

Mi-Fa-Sol-Agu

Spanish Twinkle Tots Class

our instruments in Spero Performance Hall

- Fun artwork for the walls
- Full-sized electric guitar
- Overhead projector

Follow Us!



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!



While music is a language of its own, in Baby STEPS classes, music also assists in the development of the child's language skills through folk songs from our native English language. But what about families and children whose native language is not English? Or families who want to immerse their children in a musical and cultural experience that broadens horizons and viewpoints?

ChiME is delighted to announce that we are piloting a new class this summer for children 6 to 18 months old called **Mi-Fa-Sol-Agu** (a Spanish equivalent of our Twinkle Tots class). Baby STEPS instructor Cecilia Pinto, who is a native Spanish speaker from Peru, will be constructing and teaching this completely immersive class, which will be meeting on **Thursdays at 9am this summer, from June 30th through August 4th.**

All Baby STEPS classes are rooted in the Orff method, which means folk songs from the child's culture are the root of all musical exploration. For this class, Ms. Cecilia is translating a few songs from the current English version, but most songs introduced will be folk and children's songs that are a part of Latin American culture. "I come from Peru," said Ms. Cecilia, "and if I want my daughter to learn from my culture, music is a great way to show her. The songs talk about things that we experience in our country. It's a way for her to be close to where I'm coming from."

The songs reinforce not only cultural diversity and musical skills, but also language acquisition and development, which is critical at this young age. As Ms. Cecilia explains, these songs expand upon the vocabulary that would be normally used in the home, and properly prepare children's ears and minds to hear and speak the Spanish language. Whether you are a native Spanish speaker seeking an immersive class, or a non-fluent or English speaking family who wants your baby to experience and develop a sense of the Spanish language, all are welcome to join us for

this exciting addition to the Baby STEPS class offerings!

To register for **Mi-Fa-Sol-Agu**, please [click here](#) or call
(312) 738-2646!

Summer at ChiME

Get ready for a fun summer at ChiME! Spend some time with us making music in one of our summer classes or camps! Many of them are designed for students with no prior musical experience. Check out the following options:

[Musical Story Time](#)

4-6 years old

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.



[Instrument Primer](#)

4-6 years old

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.



[Intro to Ukulele](#)

5-7 years old, 8-10 years old

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

11 years and older

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.



Glee Camp

6 years and older

If your child loves to sing, dance, and act, don't miss this camp! Instructors will motivate and inspire young musicians while teaching fundamentals of healthy vocal technique. This year we will be exploring a selection of songs in the "Disco Nights" theme.



Rock 'N' Roll Guitar Camp

Suzuki Book 2 or higher or teacher recommendation

This week-long experience will be filled with jam sessions and an electrifying force of some great Classic Rock songs. Students will be moved to collaborate, be creative, and express themselves as they exercise rehearsal discipline. Thrilling results of their work will be presented in an exciting show at the end of the camp.



Suzuki String Camp

Ages 6 and up or teacher recommendation

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 summer program schedules and registration, please [click here](#) or call **(312) 738-2646!**

Music Therapy

What to Expect in Individual Sessions



Individual Music Therapy sessions are designed to help children and caregivers work toward non-musical goals through fun and engaging musical interventions. Individualized attention provides ample opportunity for creativity, depth, and strong therapeutic relationships, making it an effective dynamic for a wide variety of abilities and ages, especially for those who may not benefit as deeply from group sessions. The following fictional scenario is an illustration of what one might expect in an Individual Music Therapy session at ChiME:

Today is the fourth individual music therapy session between

five year-old Anna and her music therapist. Present for each meeting has been Anna's mother, Jenny. Anna was born with a rare condition called Anophthalmia, meaning she was born without both eyes. Several other complications during birth have left Anna with low muscle tone, keeping her wheelchair-bound, and with cochlear implants to assist her hearing. Anna's expressive language skills are limited, as a result of her hearing deficit, but she is able to produce laughter, cries of distress, and a high-pitched sound that typically indicates a preferred object or activity. Anna's goals for individual music therapy were developed using an assessment form filled out by Jenny, and observation by the music therapist during the first two sessions. The goals for the eight-week session are as follows:

Goal 1) Anna will locate the source of sound by turning her head toward the sound independently 75% of opportunities presented.

Goal 2) Anna will vocalize to fill in song phrases independently 65% of opportunities presented.

Goal 3) Anna will indicate a preferred choice from a field of two by moving the hand on the side of the preferred object 60% of opportunities presented.

The music therapist begins the session with their hello song, during which Jenny keeps the beat on Anna's hands. The singing and guitar playing is immediately met with a smile from Anna, who begins to kick her feet sporadically while her mom keeps the beat. The music therapist sings, "Hi, Anna! Hi, Hi..." and pauses before completing the phrase. The guitar stops, as does the beat in Anna's hands. The music therapist observes that Anna stops smiling, and her eyebrows have raised as if intently listening. After 15 seconds, the music therapist repeats the phrase, "Hi, hi..." and waits again. This time, Anna responds by kicking her feet, and several guttural sounds are heard. "I hear you trying, Anna!", the music therapist says to acknowledge Anna's effort. After singing the prompt one more time, Anna responds with a high-pitched vocalization, upon which Jenny and the music therapist cheer enthusiastically. After several more opportunities during the song, the music therapist marks on her data sheet "X, X, +, PP, +, +", indicating that Anna vocalized three opportunities out of six independently, and once with a physical prompt (rubbing the throat).

To continue reading and learn what the rest of this fictional Music Therapy session would look like, please [click here](#).

In addition to Individual Music Therapy, ChiME offers Group Music Therapy and Adaptive Instrument Instruction. Tuition assistance is available for all music therapy options. For more information on ChiME's Music Therapy program, please contact

Music Artist Showcase



ChiME's first Music Artist Showcase (MAS) culminated with a public performance on Friday, May 6th. The showcase is **designed for students** who have reached a **high level of proficiency and competency** on both their instrument and the language of music. The purpose of the showcase is:

- To help students gain greater **awareness** and **ability to develop their unique artistic voice**.
- To help students improve their ability to present their **musical work and engage their audience**.
- To help students **develop effective competencies** such as:
 - Creativity
 - Self-confidence
 - Responsibility
 - Discipline through exercising their independent will
 - Begin with the end in mind
 - Put first things first
 - Think win/win

Over the **five weeks of preparation** for the showcase, students were asked to:

- Provide a **written description** of a musical **piece that moved them**.
- Provide a **written description** of the **impact** they wanted their performance to have on **their audience**.
- Provide a **written timeline of their preparation plan**, identifying specific "**mile markers**" along the way.
- **Submit a video** of themselves **introducing and describing** their artistic work.

At the conclusion of the project participants **presented their musical work** to an **audience** and our guest panelist, **José Ochoa**, Artistic and Executive Director of the Chicago High School for the Arts. José **inspired and motivated** the participants **to reach higher** through his meaningful and constructive feedback.

"Even though I've been a musician at ChiME for a very long time, the Music Artist Showcase significantly grew my passion for music. I loved experiencing the other students' performances and hearing their interpretations of their pieces. My showcase experience has driven me to work harder and be more curious about music in general. The Music Artist Showcase was one of the most enjoyable experiences I've had at ChiME."

-MAS participant

"I'm definitely coming away from the Music Artist Showcase with a deeper understanding of what music means to me. Before, I had a general sense of what appealed to me in music, but I didn't think and analyze why it appealed to me on the same level that I have now. I learned how I want to reach the audience when I perform and how the song I choose affects that. This experience will benefit me in the future because I better know how to carry myself onstage and I know what to look for when I want to learn a new song."

-MAS participant

A date has yet to be identified for the next Music Artist Showcase. Stay tuned for more information!

Graduating Seniors Spotlight

At the end of each school year, ChiME is delighted and proud to feature graduating senior students in our newsletter. This year, we have three seniors who will be graduating high school and moving on to the next chapter in their lives: Lydia Allen, Zachary Carrera, and Tyler Maegawa-Goeser. We wish these students the best of luck as they continue to pursue their dreams, both musical and non-musical. **Congratulations!**

Lydia Allen

Lydia began piano lessons with David Andrews at ChiME (then Suzuki-Orff) just before she turned five. She took Orff classes, private lessons, group classes and eventually Musicianship classes. She continued her piano lessons until 2014, and has also taken voice lessons with Scott Dankert since 2012.



Next year, Lydia will be attending Knox College. She wants to be on a pre-med track and study chemistry and French. She is also excited to be on the school's swim team and hopes to be in the advanced choir. Lydia's dream is to become an OBGYN and participate in Doctors Without Borders.

Lydia feels that playing music has allowed her to communicate with people on a new level. She is able to have involved conversations about music and culture because of her immersion in it at ChiME. Lydia writes,

I've gained an incredibly deep appreciation for music's importance in life. I see how time and work can result in something beautiful and moving. I see how music can speak to people and bring them together. I appreciate the power of music.

I know that I want a life full of music. I want to sing in a choir as long as I can and improve my piano skills to be able to sit down at the end of a long day and play for myself. Music keeps me grounded.

Zachary Carrera

Zach started taking lessons at ChiME in 2004 when he was 6 years old. While at ChiME he studied guitar under Michel Chatara-Morse for both individual lessons and group classes. He also took Musicianship lessons taught by Scott Dankert.



Next year, Zach plans on attending the University of Chicago. He plans to major in either engineering or computer science. It has always been a dream of his to become some type of scientist or engineer. He has sometimes dreamed of going into space or working in a state of the art lab, but right now his dream job is to be an audio engineer and work in a recording studio. He hopes to

be able to combine the musical knowledge that he has gained at ChiME with the skills that he will learn in college and to go on to graduate school to study audio engineering.

Zach's favorite memory from his time at ChiME is performing in the Halloween concerts: "It was always fun to see everyone (including the teachers) dressed up in their costumes for the concert."

Tyler Maegawa-Goeser

Tyler started at ChiME in 2012. He has studied classical guitar with Carolina Folmer and been a part of Michel Chatara-Morse's advanced group class. Next year, he will be attending the University of Southern California where he is unsure of his major, but it will be in the arts.



In the future, Tyler hopes to work as a technical director, graphic designer, or animator. He plans to continue his study of guitar on his own through college and beyond.

Tyler's favorite memory from his time at ChiME is his Book 5 graduation concert: "There were only 5 people there, it was very relaxed and went as smoothly."

Through Music to Self-Confidence

Reflections by Gosia Bagley

With the end of the school year just around the corner, music students everywhere are preparing for final performances. Most of them will bravely walk out on the stage and present the results of all the hard work they did over the course of the year. Their audiences will witness the obvious self-confidence that music study has instilled in these students. While recitals are the clearest example of confidence-



building power of music, the skill of presenting their work in front of others is only one of the many ways in which music students build self-confidence on daily basis.

Much of the work actually happens in daily practicing and weekly lessons. When they begin learning new pieces, students start on a journey of discovering the intricacies of the musical work in front of them. To do that, they break the music down into small sections and practice those tiny sections repeatedly. The hardest sections are broken down into the smallest of steps, so that conquering each tiny difficulty is easier. By breaking down the challenging parts of the music, students make them more accessible and easier to tackle. Over time, the music becomes easy and students feel not only a sense of accomplishment and pride, but also a growing faith in their own abilities. Nothing builds self-confidence better than knowing that you can do something well.

At ChiME, the road to self-confidence through music happens even before instrument lessons are ever started. In Early Childhood music classes students are already working on building this skill. Nurturing teachers and parents are an essential part of this process, as they patiently and kindly encourage children to come up to the drum to take their turn, to sing with a strong voice, or to answer any of the teacher's questions out loud in front of their peers. It may take some children weeks, or even months, to be able to come up to the drum or speak up during class. However, the safe environment and increasingly familiar faces of fellow students make it easier each time to take small steps in the right direction.

As parents, we can bring the lessons in self-confidence through music home with our children. When we practice instruments with them, we can praise them for specific elements of their playing and give them honest, positive feedback on the things they did really well. We can support and encourage our children when they start composing their own songs on their instruments, or when they want to start their own band. We can help them set new goals and teach them to plan how to reach those goals successfully. We can encourage our little ones to go up to play with other children in the park or to sing for their grandparents. Through all these little steps, our children are developing their unique voices, their own identities, and the feeling of ownership of those identities.

How has music helped your children develop their self-confidence?

Share with Us



If your child has had musical successes outside of ChiME that we may not know about, please let us know and we will be happy to share them with the rest of the ChiME family here in ChiME Monthly. Please send any news or submissions to gbagley@chimemusic.org

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