



ChiME

Chicago Center
for Music Education

ChiME Weekly

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.

*"Excellence is the gradual result of
always striving to do better."*

Pat Riley

Reaching High

In This Issue

[Reaching High
Early Childhood Classes
FREE Meet the
Instruments Class](#)

Special Offer

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

Social, Emotional,
and Character



We are devoting the month of October to thinking about how we can teach our children to recognize high quality and how we can inspire them to strive to achieve the highest standards in their work. What exactly does it mean to do something well? How do we develop the ability to recognize great work? How can we teach them to assess whether or not the work they are doing is up to standard?

Awareness of high quality and standards begins to form in music students when teachers and parents set clear expectations. When students know what is expected of them, they know what they are striving for. In instrument lessons, teachers use very specific language to explain the right way to play a passage or to perform a technical skill on the instrument, and they often demonstrate the best way to do it. Parents help by taking careful notes and writing down key phrases that will make it easier to know exactly the teacher is looking for.

In guiding students through the practice process, it is best to use very specific praise. Rather than saying "That was good!" it is much more effective to point out exactly what element was so good and why it was so successful. Next, we can offer advice on what else can be even better. For example, when working on a proper bow hold, a teacher might say: "Your bow hold is getting better. This time the pinky was so round! That's exactly what we want from the pinky! Can you now make sure the thumb is in the right spot?" On the flip side, saying vague phrases like "That

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, October 10

2:30 - 3:30 pm

**FREE Meet the
Instruments**

Saturday, October 31

1:00 pm, 2:30 pm, 4:00 pm

Halloween Recitals

ChiME Wishlist

- **Wireless speakers to play music in the family room**
- **Storage organizers for our instruments**

was great!" often leaves students confused about what exactly they did well. They may feel good for being praised, but they are not necessarily understanding what they should repeat in order to do the task equally well next time.

The student's ability to understand what is being asked of him, what the right way to do something is, and how to achieve the right way is essential in building awareness of high standards of quality. This understanding also later develops the student's ability to judge his own efforts. At some point music students start making a shift - instead of relying on teachers or parents to tell them whether something was good or needs improvement, they know on their own what went well and what needs more work. This level of awareness is the next step on the road to independence - the ultimate goal for any student in any area.

Early Childhood Music Classes

Ms. Alli's Saturday Baby STEPS classes are filling up, but there is still room and time to register! Please consider joining us for the following classes on **Saturdays**:

9:00-9:45 am [Twinkle Tots](#) (6-18 months)

10:00-10:45 am [Beat Explorers](#) (18 months-2.5 years)

11:00-11:45 am [Rhythm Explorers](#) (2.5-3.5 years)

12:00-12:45 pm [Steppin' Up](#) (3.5-4.5 years)

For more information about ChiME's Early Childhood music classes, visit our [website](#)!

FREE Meet the Instruments

in Spero

Performance Hall

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

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ChiME In!

[We would love to hear any questions, comments or concerns you may have.](#)
[Click here to ChiME in!](#)

ChiME Weekly Archives

[Missed last week's ChiME Weekly? Visit the ChiME Weekly archives on our website!](#)

Class

There is still one more chance to meet all the instruments we teach here at ChiME. Join us on **Saturday, October 10 at 2:30pm** to discover and explore the secrets of violin, cello, flute, guitar, voice, and piano. Please call **(312) 738-2646** to reserve your spot.

Meet the Instruments



DATES and TIMES

Wednesday, September 16 at 6:00 pm

Saturday, September 26 at 2:30 pm

Tuesday, September 29 at 6:00 pm

Saturday, October 10 at 2:30 pm

CLASS DURATION

60 minutes per class

Choosing the right instrument for your child may seem like a daunting and overwhelming task. We are here to make it easier and to give you a chance to examine all the possibilities and get to know each instrument a little better before you sign up for lessons.

**Classes are FREE
but space is limited,
so please call to
reserve your spot!**



**Call us at 312-738-2646
for more details!**

info@chimemusic.org | 1148 W Chicago Ave, Chicago, IL 60642 | chimemusic.org

**Chicago Center for Music Education
1148 W. Chicago Ave.
Chicago, IL 60642**

312.738.2646

www.chimemusic.org

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