



# 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.

*"Once you replace negative thoughts with positive ones, you'll start having positive results."*

**Willie Nelson**

## Happy Halloween!

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### In This Issue

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[Happy Halloween!](#)

[Instrument Primer Class](#)

[Early Childhood](#)

[Registration](#)

[Focusing on the Positive](#)

### Special Offer

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

**Social, Emotional,**



**ChiME would like to wish everyone a fun and safe Halloween this Saturday!**

We will be holding three **Halloween Recitals** on **Saturday, October 31 at 1:00 pm, 2:30 pm, and 4:00 pm**. All performers are encouraged to wear costumes. We hope you will join us for these spooky student performances!

## **Instrument Primer Class**

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## **and Character Development**

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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

## **Social & Emotional Learning**

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[Click here](#) to read a great article from the University of Texas on **Perfectionism versus Healthy Striving!**

## **Upcoming Events**

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**Saturday, October 31**  
**1:00 PM, 2:30 PM, 4:00 PM**  
**Halloween Recitals**

**Tuesday, November 10**  
**Fall Session B begins!**

**Saturday, November 14**  
**2:30 PM**

# Instrument Primer

with Ms. Alli Dunn

## Ages 4-6

Designed to introduce students to the world of instruments and get families acquainted with the details of private music instruction, the Instrument Primer class will address the fundamental skills essential to private lessons. Students will work on:

- developing focus
- following instructions
- listening
- weekly practice habits
- elements of musicianship such as beat, rhythm, and melody

This class will introduce all instruments we teach at ChiME!

Saturdays, 12:00-12:45 PM  
November 14 through January 23  
Tuition: \$140 for 9 weeks

Call (312) 738-2646 to register or for more details!



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

Call (312) 738-2646 for more details.  
Register today in person, via phone,  
or [online!](#)

## Early Childhood Registration

### All School Recital

Saturday, November 21

1:30 PM

Suzuki Basics for Parents

### ChiME Wishlist

- Wireless speakers to play music in the family room
- Storage organizers for 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 Weekly Archives

Missed last week's ChiME Weekly? Visit the [ChiME](#)



A new session of ChiME's Early Childhood music classes will begin on **November 10**. There is still time to register! Here are the schedule options:

**[Twinkle Tots \(6-18 months\)](#)**

Thursdays at 11:15 am with Ms. Cecilia  
Saturdays at 8:00 am with Ms. Kristen  
Saturdays at 9:00 am with Ms. Alli

**[Beat Explorers \(18 months - 2 ½ years\)](#)**

Thursdays at 10:15 am with Ms. Cecilia  
Saturdays at 9:00 am with Ms. Kristen  
Saturdays at 10:00 am with Ms. Alli

**[Rhythm Explorers \(2 ½ - 3 ½ years\)](#)**

Mondays at 10:15 am with Ms. Cecilia  
Saturdays at 10:00 am with Ms. Kristen  
Saturdays at 11:00 am with Ms. Alli

**[Steppin' Up \(3 ½ - 4 ½ years\)](#)**

Saturdays at 11:00 am with Ms. Kristen

You can register **online**, in person, or by calling the front desk at (312) 738-2646.

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## Focusing on the Positive



Have you ever noticed your child's teacher will often first point out all the good things that your child did when they played something in a lesson? This is not an accident or a cheap trick to get your child to listen. Suzuki teachers in particular are very intentional about pointing out the positive aspects in any performance or play-through. Early Childhood teachers also use positive reinforcement quite frequently. There is even a rule in education that positive remarks from the teacher (or praise) should outweigh corrective statements by the ratio of four or five to one. The concept is mirrored in the business community as an effective tool in motivating teams (read more about this concept [here](#)).

So, why is focusing on the positive so important? Especially when we want our children to develop high standards, wouldn't we want to focus on what they still need to do to achieve a higher level?

As with everything else in life, taking a balanced approach works best. Students work more efficiently and with more enthusiasm when they first hear the acknowledgment of what they did well, followed by things that can still be improved. The idea behind praising first has many merits. Students feel their hard work is appreciated, even if it's not yet perfect. Process is valued as much as the final product. Students feel more motivated knowing they did something correctly and they are more willing to continue to work hard at the next steps. We start with what is already working and

then build up from there. The goal is to not lose sight of how far the student has already come. When we know how much we have already accomplished, it is so much easier to then set our sight on yet another goal to be achieved.

In our pursuit of high standards we need to always remember that we are all continually learning and that sometimes things will take a bit more time and effort. While teachers and parents encourage students to set the bar high and to strive to do their best in each activity they do, they also know when to rejoice in the little victories of everyday practice. Those are the tiny little steps that add up to success in the end.

Today's society puts lots of pressure on the importance of being successful, efficient, and better than everyone around us. There is also increasing pressure on parents to raise highly successful children. To many parents it may seem that if their child is not amazingly good at a sport, instrument, or an academic field by the age of 7, they are already behind the ball. Stress mounts and parents and kids develop unhealthy habits of setting unreachable expectations and become victims of the rat race to the top. Sometimes we all need to stop and enjoy our little victories. Next time when you practice with your child (or help with homework), see if you can find a few positives to point out before jumping in to conquer all the challenges that are yet to be conquered.

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**Chicago, IL 60642**

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**[www.chimemusic.org](http://www.chimemusic.org)**

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