

instructor corner

David Rueda, Violin Instructor

The Extended Classroom: How to Continue the Learning Process at Home with Your Young Musician



There are lots of questions I get from the parents of my youngest students about how to support their learning at home. Many parents, especially those with little to no musical training themselves, worry that they are not doing enough to help their child succeed. The truth is that even if you do not know how to read music or correct technique, your involvement can provide valuable structure and encouragement during practice time for your young musician. Here are a few tips and tricks I share with the parents of my students to help support their musical growth at home.

Establish Consistency

Have your student sit down at a dedicated time each day and practice for a set amount of time with a specific goal in mind. Getting into a routine helps build habits that stick.

Have Them Be the Teacher

When they sit down to practice, ask them what they learned in their previous lesson and have them try to teach it to you. Many times, a student will understand

an idea during the lesson but may not be able to fully explain the "why" behind a technique or concept until they break it down for someone else.

Celebrate the Effort

At the end of their practice session, have them show you what they worked on and ask how their session went. Remind them that even if they did not meet their goal for the day, they still put in meaningful work that helped them move closer to achieving it.

Reflect and Communicate

Have them take note of what went well during their practice session and what may have felt a little trickier. Encourage them to share both their successes and struggles with their instructor at the next lesson so we can celebrate their progress and provide guidance.

Above all, remind them that practice makes progress, not perfection. Mistakes are a natural part of the journey toward becoming an amazing musician. By providing encouragement, consistency, and a positive attitude toward learning, you can play an important role in helping your child build confidence and develop a lifelong love of music.

upcoming events

SAMA BREAK
JUNE 29 - JULY 4
SAMA will be closed for 4th of July Break


JULY 1
Isai Trejo's Birthday


JULY 2
David Rueda's Birthday


JULY 9
Juan Arreguin's Birthday


JULY 13 - JULY 18
SAMA Spirit Week


JULY 18
Student Performances at Senior Living Residence
The Waterford on Huebner (2pm)

student of the month

Wyatt F.

has a love for music, guitars, gear, and a hunger for knowledge that has helped him make huge progress since finishing his Bachelor's degree at UTSA. Most recently, Wyatt placed in the Top Ten during this year's Practice Log Month, averaging 1 hour and 13 minutes of practice per day. Excellent work, Wyatt!



Jake Ramirez, M.M., Guitar Instructor

student accomplishments



Congratulations to Katie L., student of Khadijah Enriquez, for being cast as Pugsley in Wonder Theatre's teen production of The Addams Family: The Musical!



Congratulations to Natalie D. for earning a place in the Symphony Orchestra in YOSA!



Congratulations to Pia A., student of Taylor Mendoza, on being cast as one of the Fates in the teen production of HadesTown!



Congratulations to Emmanuel C., student of Taylor Mendoza, on being cast in the Ensemble of the teen production of HadesTown!



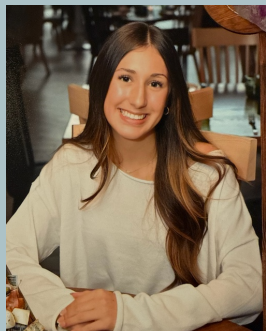
Congratulations to Giovanni D., student of Andres Losada, who received a Division 1 "Superior" rating and a gold medal in Piano Solo at the UIL Texas State Solo and Ensemble Competition. He performed "Prelude from Chants d'Espagne, Op. 232" by Albeniz and earned the highest possible rating for his performance!



Congratulations to Charlee G., student of Khadijah Enriquez, for being cast as Flapper Ancestor in Wonder Theatre's production of The Addams Family Jr!



Congratulations to Josie T., student of Taylor Mendoza, for being cast as the Bride Ancestor in Wonder Theatre's youth production of The Addams Family and as Lavender in Matilda Jr.



Congratulations to Rory R. for being accepted into North East School of the Arts (NESA) as a musical theatre major!

upcoming events



SAMA SPIRIT WEEK

JULY 13-18

MON
13

CRAZY HAIR DAY

Students can spike it, braid it, color it with temporary spray, wear fun clips, or just style it differently.

TUE
14

JERSEY DAY

Wear a jersey, team shirt, dance uniform, martial arts shirt, or anything representing your favorite team or activity.

WED
15

WESTERN WEDNESDAY

Think cowboy hats, boots, giant buckles, and denim.

THU
16

PAJAMA DAY

Wear your favorite pajamas, slippers, and come relaxed for your lesson!

FRI
17

CHARACTER DAY

Come as your favorite superhero, Disney, movie, or video game character.

SAT
18

SILLY SATURDAY

Get creative - Welcoming all mismatched socks, clothes worn backward, mixed patterns, different shoes, etc.

HAPPY 10-YEAR SAMA ANNIVERSARY!

Congratulations to the following students celebrating ten years at SAMA!

Brendan B.

Thad H.

Caleb G.

Ivanna Z.

Yairis G.

