

Teacher and Director: Valerie Rumpf, MM

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The Music Academies Private: Independent and Structured lessons taught at the studio or online lessons:

The Music Academies offers structured private in person or online lessons in the following instruments: piano, violin, viola, cello, bass, ukulele, acoustic guitar, chincello, voice, recorder.

Teacher Bio: Valerie Rumpf, MM- (piano, violin, viola, cello, acoustic guitar, voice)- Valerie Rumpf earned her Bachelors (with high honors) and Masters degrees in Music and Composition from Indiana University (SB), having studied under the Toradze Studio instructors in piano, Eric Kus, David Machavariani, and Earle Perez on cello, and Delores Wilson on violin and viola. She is also an accomplished composer and member of ASCAP, ASTA, and MTNA, having had works performed in the US and in Europe. She was also recently awarded the Outstanding Music Teacher Award for 2017 by Steinway & Sons Piano. Valerie is also an enthusiastic orchestra conductor, having studied conducting under Dr. Michael Esselstrom and Dr. Robert Colt at Indiana University, and Bruce Uchimura at Western Michigan University. She currently conducts the New Apostolic Church Orchestra - South Bend District, and the Michiana Chamber Orchestra in Niles, MI. Valerie also continues to compose and arrange music for the various groups she works with, is primary organist/pianist and choir leader at the New Apostolic Church in Niles, and plays cello in the Rumpf Village String Quartet. She also performs privately as pianist in Style, a local professional piano/violin duet.

Course Description: Students will receive musical training for the instruments of their choice. Each student will be taught traditional note reading and chord progressions, musical symbols, correct rhythm identification and counting procedures. Music theory assignments are taught at each lesson and they will learn the history behind the pieces they are learning and will perform. Students will also learn how to compose short pieces to go with their assignments which will help with note recognition. Students will be introduced to a wide variety of musical styles, Classical, Blues, Ragtime, Sacred and modern. Instruction materials used consists of The Alfred series, Baistien, Suzuki and ABC's for strings, Hal Leonard and Mel Bay for guitars and Alfred Basic Percussion for snare drum. Each lesson is 30 minutes in length and will meet once a week for full semester. For times please contact Valerie Rumpf at The Music Academies.

Course Outline: Days and times vary depending on each individual student. Each week students will be given assignments based on their individual level of performance. Each student will be given assignments to be practiced at home on at least 5 days of the week. On a weekly basis the instructor will have the student play his or her pieces and correct any errors, give examples of how to play their pieces correctly to encourage progress and learning in both physical skills and musical concepts. Students will review with the instructor on a weekly basis musical notation, rhythm patterns and theory assignments to ensure they are making progress. Students will perform in a fall or spring recital, dates to be determined.

Pre/Post Evaluation details: At the beginning of the semester each student will be given a short song to sight read with a grade between 1 and 10, with 1 the least proficient and 10 the highest score. At the end of the semester they will replay the same piece to show advancement in their abilities and playing skills. This will not be the final grade.

Grading scale will consist of the following 1-4 scale.

4- above target/expectations

3- on target/expectations

2-below target/expectations

1-off target/expectations

Grades are determined in the following way:

Instructor Input: Teacher will assign a recommended grade based on the scale above. This accounts for 90% of the overall grade.

Attendance: Students are required to attend at least 80% of their scheduled times. This accounts for 10% of their overall grade.