



University Settlement
Founded in 1910

US | Music & Arts School

Program Guide | 2025-2026

Celebrating over **100 years** of music making!





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About USMAS | 100 years and counting!

Since 1921, **University Settlement's** Music & Arts School has offered high-quality, affordable music and art education to children, teens, adults and seniors from both the Grange neighbourhood and Greater Toronto Area.

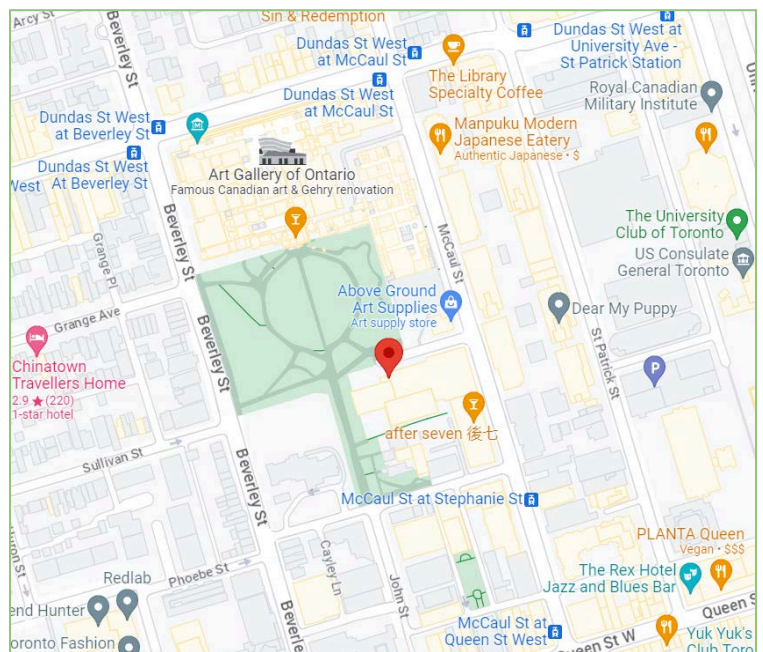
We function in the belief that the arts should be a right, not a privilege, and that lessons should be available to everyone regardless of age, ethnicity, perceived talent, disability, or socioeconomic status. Our School aims to provide an open house of learning in a welcoming, family atmosphere. *All are welcome.*

“*Our teacher is an exceptionally kind, professional, and trustworthy individual. In addition to teaching my children music, the teacher has also instilled in them a positive attitude towards life and learning.*”

Location

The School is located at 23 Grange Road in the heart of downtown Toronto. It is easily accessible by public transit, within walking distance of 505 and 501 streetcar routes as well as the St. Patrick and Osgoode subway stations.

Our school and studios are all accessible! Limited paid parking is available directly outside the building on Grange Road, additional street parking is available on McCaul, or in the Village by the Grange underground lot.



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Make music with U.S!

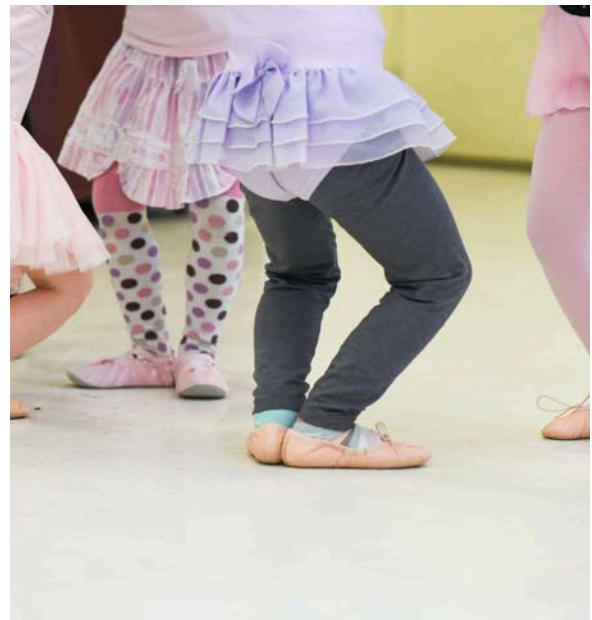
At the Music & Arts School, students may study music in private lessons or in group classes.

Private lessons are offered on a variety of instruments, including: strings, piano, winds, and voice. Private lesson instruction generally takes place between the hours of 3:00 pm - 9:00 pm Mondays through Fridays, and between 9:00 am - 5:00 pm on Saturdays and Sundays.

Beginner students enroll in weekly, 30-minute lessons. For students with previous experience, we are also able to offer 45-minute and 60-minute private lessons.

Group classes are offered for all experience levels, and run from 30 minutes to 60 minutes in duration.

Whether in private or group study, we welcome students of all ages and abilities. We offer a mix of online and in-person programming to meet demand. The Music & Arts School does not have a catchment area and is able to accept students from across the GTA!



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Registration & Fees - *affordable, below-market rates!*

At the Music & Arts School, we divide our year into 4 terms (fall, winter, spring and summer). The regular school year runs for 36 weeks from September to June, followed by an optional 5 week summer term. Students make payments on a term by term basis, and pay for each term in advance. Registrations after a term begins are accepted first-come, first-served, for as long as openings remain.

2025-2026 Term Dates

Fall: September 2 to December 8

Winter: January 5 to March 13

Spring: March 23 to June 22

Summer: July 2 to August 5

Music & Arts School students can study music in private lessons or in group classes, with fees as follows:

Private Lesson Fees (students aged 6+)

| | Weekly Fee | Fall term | Winter term | Spring term | Summer term | Total est. yearly fees* |
|-------------------|------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| 30 minutes | \$ 29 | \$ 406 | \$ 261 | \$ 377 | \$ 116 | \$ 1160 |
| 45 minutes | \$ 44 | \$ 616 | \$ 396 | \$ 572 | \$ 176 | \$ 1760 |
| 60 minutes | \$ 58 | \$ 812 | \$ 522 | \$ 754 | \$ 232 | \$ 2320 |

*Estimates based on a 36 week school year

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Group Class Fees

Group classes are charged a FLAT FEE based on the length of the term. Term lengths vary from class to class. Class size minimums and maximums apply. Please check with office staff for more detailed information.

| Group Classes (in-person) | Fall term | Winter term | Spring term | Total yearly fee* |
|---|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Music 4 Little Ones | \$156 | \$96 | \$132 | \$372 |
| Kids Dance Classes (ballet, hip hop, etc.) | \$156 | \$96 | \$132 | \$372 |
| Beginner Ballet (youth) | \$156 | \$96 | \$132 | \$384 |
| | \$234 | \$144 | \$198 | \$576 |
| Intro to Ear Training (ages 5-6) | \$126 | \$90 | \$117 | \$324 |
| Kids Ear Training Classes (levels 1-9) | \$168 | \$120 | \$156 | \$432 |
| Adult Ear Training | \$252 | \$180 | \$234 | \$648 |
| Children's Choir | \$168 | \$120 | \$156 | \$408 |
| Toronto Song Lovers Choir | \$168 | \$120 | \$156 | \$408 |
| Ukulele (kids/youth & adult fees) | \$156 | \$108 | \$144 | \$396 |
| | \$234 | \$162 | \$216 | \$738 |
| World Music Drumming | FREE | | | |
| Art (kids/youth & adult fees) | \$156 | \$108 | \$144 | \$384 |
| | \$234 | \$162 | \$216 | \$738 |
| Youth Chamber Ensemble | \$156 | \$96 | \$156 | \$396 |
| Adult Chamber Music Program | \$185 | \$185 | \$185 | \$555 |

** Estimates subject to change*

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Group Class Fees (continued)

Group classes are charged a FLAT FEE based on the length of the term. Term lengths vary from class to class. Class size minimums and maximums apply. Please check with office staff for more detailed information.

| Group Classes | Sep to Dec | March to June | Total est. yearly fee* |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Theory: Rudiments Levels 3 (Online) | \$104 | \$88 | \$232 |
| Theory: Rudiments Levels 4 (Online) | \$156 | \$132 | \$348 |
| Theory: Rudiments Levels 5-7 (Online) | \$208 | \$176 | \$464 |

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Financial Assistance Plan (Subsidy Program)



Financial assistance may be available to students, age 18 and under, who demonstrate financial need and who meet the criteria as outlined on the Subsidy Application form. Students from eligible households can receive a 30-80% discount on any group class registrations (except theory) and one private instrument. Please refer to the chart below, or ask our staff for further details and conditions.

| Household Size | Maximum Household Income | Maximum Household Income | Maximum Household Income | Maximum Household Income | Maximum Household Income | Maximum Household Income |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2 persons | \$6,908 | \$13,818 | \$20,728 | \$27,638 | \$34,548 | \$38,003 |
| 3 persons | \$8,497 | \$16,991 | \$25,485 | \$33,979 | \$42,473 | \$46,720 |
| 4 persons | \$10,311 | \$20,625 | \$30,939 | \$41,253 | \$51,567 | \$56,724 |
| 5 persons | \$11,695 | \$23,393 | \$35,091 | \$46,789 | \$58,487 | \$64,336 |
| 6 persons | \$13,196 | \$26,388 | \$39,580 | \$52,772 | \$65,964 | \$72,560 |
| 7+ persons | \$14,689 | \$29,377 | \$44,065 | \$58,753 | \$73,441 | \$80,785 |
| Subsidy | 80% | 70% | 60% | 50% | 40% | 30% |

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Private Lesson Offerings -  = online  = in-person

| | MON | TUES | WED | THURS | FRI | SAT | SUN |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| Cello |   |   |   | | |   | |
| Classical Guitar | |  |  |  | | | |
| Drum Kit | |  | | | | | |
| Flute/ Recorder |  | | | | | | |
| Piano |   |   |   |  |   |  |  |
| Saxophone/Clarinet | | |  | | | | |
| Ukulele |   |  | | | |  |  |
| Violin |  |   | |  |  |   |  |
| Voice |  |  | |  |  | | |
| Private Ear-Training/Theory | <i>Times TBC</i>  | | | | | | |

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Program Offerings - Group Class descriptions

| Music 4 Little Ones - Young Children & Caregivers | Length of Program |
|--|---|
| <p>Our MUSIC 4 LITTLE ONES classes offer early childhood music making for children and their caregivers!</p> <p>These interactive classes are available for children from birth to 4 years.</p> | <p>September to June (34 weeks)</p> <p>Sundays 9:15-10:00 am (0-1 year) 10:15-11:00 am (2-4 years) 11:15 am-12:00 pm (2-4 years)</p> |

| Dance Classes - Young Children & Caregivers | Length of Program |
|---|--|
| <p>CREATIVE MOVEMENT DANCE CLASSES for toddlers and caregivers offer families a chance to connect through the joy of shared creative movement!</p> | <p>September to June (36 weeks)</p> <p>Saturdays or Sundays 9:30-10:15 am</p> |

| Beginner Ballet - Youth & Adults | Length of Program |
|---|--|
| <p>Learn the basics of ballet in these relaxed, non-competitive classes. No previous training is required. Dancers will learn strong fundamentals of ballet technique including good posture, turnout, and supple use of feet and arms.</p> | <p>September to June (36 weeks)</p> <p>Sundays 4:15-5:00 pm</p> |

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| Dance Classes - Children | | Length of Program |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Instruction is available in ballet, tap, jazz, musical theater & hip hop starting at age 4 and up. This program runs for 36 weeks throughout the School year, and culminates with an end of year recital in June.</p> <p>DANCE CLASSES at the Music & Arts School offer children a chance to learn the basics of western dance styles in a relaxed, non-competitive environment.</p> | | <p>September to June (36 weeks)</p> |
| <p>Tap (ages 4-5) Tap (ages 6-8)</p> <p>Ballet (ages 4-5) Ballet (ages 6-8)</p> <p>Hip Hop (ages 4-5) Hip Hop (ages 6-8) Hip Hop (ages 9-12)</p> <p>Jazz (ages 4-5) Jazz (ages 6-8)</p> <p>Musical Theatre (ages 4-6) Musical Theatre (ages 7-12)</p> <p>Ballet (ages 4-5) Ballet (ages 9-12)</p> | <p>Saturday, 10:30-11:15 am Saturday, 11:15 am-12:00 pm</p> <p>Saturday, 1:00-1:45 pm Saturday, 1:45-2:30 pm</p> <p>Saturday, 2:45-3:30 pm Saturday, 3:30-4:15 pm Saturday, 4:15-5:00 pm</p> <p>Sunday, 10:30-11:15 am Sunday, 11:15 am-12:00 pm</p> <p>Sunday, 1:00-1:45 pm Sunday, 1:45-2:30 pm</p> <p>Sunday, 2:45-3:30 pm Sunday, 3:30-4:15 pm</p> | |



| Ear Training Program - Children & Youth | Levels | Length of Program |
|---|---|--|
| <p>Ear Training classes introduce students to the basic elements of music, helping to improve their listening, singing and sight-reading skills as well as their sense of rhythm and overall musicality.</p> <p>Preliminary Classes (ages 5-6 & Level 1) are fun and designed for beginners with no previous experience. Levels 2-9 are progressively more challenging, and have been developed to follow curriculum guidelines from the Royal Conservatory of Music. Ear-Training is an important complement to private study.</p> | <p>Intro (ages 5 & 6) Levels 1 & 2 Levels 3 & 4 Levels 5 & 6 Levels 7 - 9</p> | <p>September to June (36 weeks)</p> <p><u>Tuesdays</u> 4:15-4:45 pm 4:45-5:30 pm 5:30-6:15 pm 6:15-7:00 pm 7:15-8:00 pm</p> |

| Ear Training Program - Adults | Length of Program |
|--|--|
| <p>Ear Training classes introduce students to the basic elements of music, helping to improve their listening, singing and sight-reading skills as well as their sense of rhythm and overall musicality. The adult class is tailored to the needs of the students enrolled, with a limited class size of no more than 6 adults. Adult students can register at any time and can complete as many terms as needed.</p> <p>This program draws on material from the Royal Conservatory of Music method.</p> | <p>September to June (36 Weeks)</p> <p><u>Tuesdays</u> 8:00-9:00 pm</p> |



| Ukulele | Length of Program |
|--|---|
| <p>Our UKULELE classes offer an introduction to Ukulele in a small group setting. This small, guitar-like instrument is an accessible way into music making for learners of all levels. Hauling out your Ukulele at your next party is a sure fire way to make all your guests smile!</p> | <p>September to June (36 weeks)</p> <p><u>Mondays</u></p> <p>Ages 6-7: 5:15-6:00 pm Ages 8-14: 6:00-7:00 pm Youth & Adults: 7:00-8:00 pm</p> |

| World Music Drumming | Length of Program |
|--|---|
| <p>World Music Drumming is a dynamic and engaging class that explores the vibrant rhythms and songs of West Africa, Brazil, Cuba, and India. Participants will learn foundational hand-drumming styles and techniques using instruments such as the djembe, congas, and kpanlogo, along with transferable skills that apply to a wide range of percussion traditions.</p> | <p>January to June (25 weeks)</p> <p><u>Saturdays</u></p> <p>Ages 6-7: 1:00-1:45 pm Ages 8-14: 1:45-2:45 pm Youth & Adults: 3:00-4:30 pm</p> |



| Youth Chamber Music Program | Length of Program |
|---|--|
| <p>Similar to our Adult Chamber program, the Youth Chamber Music Program is for intermediate or advanced youth between the ages of 8-18. This program incorporates classical and popular music. All instruments are welcome! Each session runs weekly for one hour, and culminates in an end-of-term concert performance. Our expert instructor is here to ensure a relaxed and encouraging atmosphere!</p> | <p>September to June (30 weeks)</p> <p><u>Saturdays</u> 11:15 am-12:15 pm</p> |

| Adult Chamber Music Program | Length of Program |
|---|---|
| <p>Our Chamber Music Program has been running for over 20 years! Designed for intermediate and/or advanced adult students who wish to make music in small ensembles, we offer a relaxed and encouraging atmosphere, with expert coaching from talented instructors. Each weekly session is 90 minutes, with the program running for 7 weeks per term.</p> <p>A Program Coordinator matches players based on participant level, availability, and repertoire requests. Pre-formed ensembles are also welcome. Coaches instruct groups on how better to coordinate ensemble playing, and to teach musical style.</p> <p>Participants have access to School studio space for practice purposes in addition to their rehearsal times. At the end of each term, students perform in an informal concert for friends, family and fellow students.</p> | <p>September to May (21 weeks)</p> <p><u>Fall Term:</u> September 29 to November 22</p> <p><u>Winter Term:</u> January 5 to February 27</p> <p><u>Spring Term:</u> April 7 to May 29</p> |



| Children's Choir | Length of Program |
|--|--|
| <p>The CHILDREN's CHOIR is a great opportunity for children aged 5-12 to learn vocal music as an ensemble in a comfortable group setting.</p> <p>This program runs for 36 weeks. Students perform at School concerts twice a year in December and June.</p> | <p>September to June (36 weeks)</p> <p><u>Wednesdays</u> 5:00-6:00 pm</p> |

| Toronto Song Lovers Choir | Length of Program |
|---|--|
| <p>The TORONTO SONG LOVERS CHOIR is a youth & adult choir built for fun! If you've never sung in a choir before or don't read music, that's okay! No prior experience necessary. Simply bring your enthusiasm, your joy and your laughter. We'll take care of the rest.</p> <p>This program runs for 36 weeks.</p> | <p>September to June (36 weeks)</p> <p><u>Wednesdays</u> 7:00-8:30 pm</p> |

| Art Classes | Length of Program |
|--|--|
| <p>Art classes allow every student a chance to be creative and develop their own unique talent. Using a wide-array of materials, students will focus on the process of creation all while fostering imagination.</p> <p><i>All enrollees will be required to pay a non-refundable \$10.00 fee to assist in covering costs for art materials.</i></p> | <p>September to June (36 weeks)</p> <p><u>Mondays</u></p> <p>Ages 4-5: 4:30-5:15 pm Ages 6-8: 5:15-6:00 pm Ages 9-14: 6:00-6:45 pm Youth & Adults: 7:00-8:00 pm</p> |

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| Theory: Rudiments (Online) | Levels | Length of Program |
|---|---|---|
| <p>We offer RCM THEORY classes for students preparing for examinations. Classes are offered between September to January or March to June. These classes are tailored to the most up-to-date RCM curriculum, and focus on such skills as: pitch, rhythm recognition, transposition, analysis and musical terms.</p> | <p>RUDIMENTS: Level 3 Level 4 Level 5 Level 6 Level 7</p> | <p>March to June (16 weeks) Saturdays 9:30 am - 10:00 am 10:00 am - 10:45 am 10:45 am - 11:45 am 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm</p> |

We reserve the right to vary program length or cancel programs.

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Concert Performances - *Tips & Guidelines for a great experience!*



The Music & Arts School typically offers students up to 15 performance opportunities per year:

- Most concerts take place at neighbouring churches.
- Sign-up for private lesson students is available a month in advance. Forms are submitted to the Music Office in order to confirm your performance. Group class teachers are responsible for group enrolment.



The day of your performance:

- Plan to arrive at least 10 minutes before the start time.
- **Plan to stay for the entire concert.** Student concerts run between 1 to 1¼ hours .
- Please turn off or silence cell phones, and leave the room if you need to take a phone call.
- Please don't eat during the concert. Save snacks until the end!
- Don't forget to bow at the end of your performance!

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FAQs - frequently asked questions!

What is your policy on cancellations?

If you cancel your private lesson, a make-up lesson will be offered, maximum of 1 per term. Should your teacher cancel a lesson, it will be rescheduled. Group classes missed by a student are not rescheduled or refunded. If extenuating circumstances prevent you from completing the term, please enquire in the office about the School's Early Withdrawal Policies.

Does the School have its own system of learning?

There is no University Settlement method of music instruction. Our teachers are trained in and familiar with many methods. Should you wish, our faculty can offer you guided instruction in progressive methods, such as the RCM method. Some students, particularly adults, prefer to progress at their own pace, setting their own goals in consultation with our teachers. Music & Arts School faculty members are also qualified to draw upon their knowledge to offer this type of individualized instruction.

Will I need to practice, and may I practice at the School?

Yes, private practice is essential if you wish to progress in your studies. You can practice at the School during teaching hours, so long as a studio is not reserved for private teaching. Please check the studio schedules next to the Music Office door for studio availability.

Will I need to buy book or an instrument right away?

Not necessarily. The School has several different types of instruments available for rental at reasonable rates. We also keep a waitlist of students looking to either purchase or receive a donated piano. Please keep in mind that as you progress in your studies, a purchase will become necessary. While we can often supply some music for the first few lessons, you will be expected to purchase music books.

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