

THIS YEAR, TWO WAYS TO LEARN!!

This will be year FIFTEEN for the Fredericksburg Music Academy offering quality musical training to the children of our community! We did complete an abbreviated but terrific year twelve but things had to change last year as we began building the STUDIOS part of our Academy teaching private instruction - giving very personal attention in learning to play a musical instrument rather than being in a big class. From our first year of offering classes, we have found that person to person training is much better by far with all the normal classroom distractions eliminated.

Now that we are beginning a new year, we will offer both options: Academy classes on Tuesdays after school and STUDIOS private instruction through the week!

STUDIOS! The details for being involved in STUDIOS is pretty easy to understand - each individual teacher will set the cost for a 30-minute lesson, typically \$25-35. There will be a registration fee of \$25 per semester. On the registration form there is a place that you may request a partial scholarship amount and the teacher and FMA will make a decision regarding the request.

The teacher will agree with the parent on a lesson or class time and instrument rental if applicable. Parents are expected to pay for the month of lessons in advance per parent/teacher agreement. Along with the private instruction there will be optional times for ensemble or class instruction and may participate in the Academy classes on Thursdays which are included in the cost of instruction. If the student is registering for only a class or ensemble without private instruction, there will be a charge that will be assessed by the teacher in the same way as a private lesson with scholarship options.



This year also just happens to be the 13th year of our association with the Hill Country Youth Orchestra program! Our relationship with HCYO has brought huge opportunities for Fredericksburg students to be part of a very large orchestra program that otherwise wouldn't be available to community students. In the past 12 years we have seen some of our former FMA string students earn scholarships to the college of their choice advancing to reach their dreams! And it wouldn't have happened without the help of HCYO through FMA.

ACADEMY TUESDAYS! For fifteen years we have taught music education to our children in three ways: through reading music or music theory, through learning how to sing together in a group, and through learning to play an instrument. What began as a small children's music group has grown into a large 60+ student program involving Fredericksburg area students in a total music education experience in singing, instrumental training and music theory - it is our goal to serve the families of our community not only offering great music education, but to give our students a superb music experience with other students. The cost of Academy is \$50 per month or \$200 per semester, scholarships are available.

We decided not to offer the after-school classes last year but are starting back this year with some slight differences. Kinder through 2nd grade students will continue learning music theory and singing in a fun 'Music Discovery' environment then have some tactile instrument experience through bells and chimes. However 3rd through 5th students will have only instrumental and singing classes. This year all the theory training will happen through the other classes.

For the last seven years of participation the FMA kids have received a superior '1' trophy at the Pride of Texas Music Festival at Sea World or the Schlitterbahn Sound Waves Festival. Performing together is a huge part of music training and in our case, we have a venue that allows us not only to sing in front of friends and family, but also to be involved in singing in church worship services. We also participate in community Christmas events.



We are incredibly blessed here in Fredericksburg to have some extremely qualified musicians and instructors that will work through the FMA to teach

all instruments: piano, voice, guitar, violin, flute, trumpet, trombone, clarinet, sax, etc... any band or orchestra instrument! While Academy classes will help to teach more practical musical concepts, STUDIOS will make music learning more personal and include students of all ages while giving some flexibility in family scheduling.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2024/2025

Aug 20	Academy & STUDIOS Parent Meeting
Aug 26	STUDIOS begin
Aug 27	Academy classes begin
Dec 7-8	Fredericksburg Singing Tree
Dec 1	HCYO Christmas Concert in Kerrville
Dec 10	Academy End of Semester
Dec 11	Select STUDIOS Recital!
Jan 6	STUDIOS Resume
Jan 7	Academy Resumes
Mar 11	Spring Break
April 27	HCYO Spring Concert
May 10	Schlitterbahn Soundwaves Festival
May 13	Last Day of Academy

FOR HOME SCHOOL FAMILIES!

Never has there been a better opportunity for home-school families to include music into their studies than right now with STUDIOS! We understand your desire to find quality music instruction while also giving more 'social' opportunities of the home-schooled student and hope that FMA will give you that option.

We hope that students in the public school classrooms will find rich music instruction, but you can be assured that FMA has geared all of our classes and curriculum to make sure students receive a thorough training in music through our quality instruction.

For more information and forms go to <http://fredumc.org/> or email Don Doss at don@fredumc.org or call the church office 997-7679

Instrument Rental Information...

FMA does have a variety of instruments that are available for rental. There are all sizes of violins along with guitars, ukuleles, recorders and pre-band instruments. Those that are wanting to rent a band instrument will need to rent from an area instrument distributor who would be available to work with. If a particular instrument or size is not available, we will order an instrument for you.

1. The normal rental cost of the FMA instrument will be \$20 per semester.
2. The renter is responsible for the condition of the instrument. If the instrument is broken, the renter is responsible for the repair or replacement costs.
3. The instrument will be returned in a timely manner when the instrument is no longer needed.
4. Additional costs assumed by the violin renter are: shoulder rest, replacement strings, rosin, cleaning cloth and polish.