

**HAPPY NEW YEAR AND
WELCOME BACK!**

We hope you had a wonderful
and restful break.

 **News:**

**Thank you to everyone who
participated in our
ONLINE RECITAL!**

Stay tuned to see
your fantastic
performances on
our social media.



**Welcome 23
New Students!**



Wiaam A.

Sarah A.

Preston B.

Bailee C.

Ke'rod C.

Rodney C.

Lawson G.

New Students
Continued:



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR **MUSIC FUNTIME** PERFORMERS!

Our recent winter showcase was the first year we were able to welcome these young musicians to the stage.



Alonzo G.

Tyler H.

Inky I.

Aadhya K.

Alisa K.

Gordon M.

Haley M.

Rebecca M.

Joyce M.

Roman O.

These are our Sunday students, taught by our wonderful teacher Katherine. We are excited to see more amazing performances in the future!

TODDLER & PRE-SCHOOL
GROUP MUSIC CLASSES
For Ages 18 Months to 7 Years



**NOW ENROLLING!
 REGISTER TODAY**

More Classes - New Schedule

TUESDAY

THURSDAY

SATURDAY


5:30 - 6:00 PM
Pre-Schoolers:
 Age: 3 to 5 y.o.
 Class Length: 30 min

6:00 - 6:30 PM
School-Age:
 Age: 5 to 7 y.o.
 Class Length: 30 min


11:00 - 11:30 AM
School-Age:
 Age: 5 to 7 y.o.
 Class Length: 30 min

WE PROVIDE A STRONG FOUNDATION FOR YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION


The Magical Connection between Math/Science and Music is now available to you with an innovative new preschool group music program.



Learn music in the same manner they learn letters, numbers, shapes, etc. We have an array of colorful tools and worksheets that teach rhythm, pitch, notation, symbols and key signatures.



Receive a collection of instruments throughout the course that add variety, diversity and fun. All students are introduced to piano, guitar, percussion, violin, bells, kazoos, flutophones, and recorders.



Your children will become more confident, communicative and attentive, in addition to a growing appetite and appreciation for various types of music and musical instruments.



Scan me

New Students
 Continued:

Ashley O.

Charlie S.

Kinsey S.

Kathy S.

Shai T.

Simon W.

CALL TO REGISTER TODAY (419) 471-2100

THE BLADE

One of America's Great Newspapers

Pitch perfect: Area coaches help aspiring performers to find their best voices

12/11/2022

BY JASON WEBBER / THE BLADE



Kane Schermbeck, 13, of Maumee takes a voice lesson Nov. 30 at Forte Music School in Toledo.
THE BLADE/JEREMY WADSWORTH

There they were, master and pupil, eyes locked in a hypnotic, almost ritualistic stare. Voice instructor Jim Stanton sat behind the large black keyboard and played the melody of Lennon and McCartney's "Blackbird," as Kane Schermbeck, 13, sang the lyrics.

It's just another day on the job for Stanton, a vocal instructor for **Forté Music School in Toledo**.

Northwest Ohio is home to several vocal coaches like Stanton, who teach breath control, voice projection, and other elements of singing. Coaches work with a wide range of students, and say they cater each lesson to their abilities and objectives.

"I just really love teaching and working with students who are developing their voice," said Katharine Murphy, who has taught voice for the last five years and currently teaches at the Studio Connection in Bowling Green. "I love working with all age groups and all backgrounds."

“My background is in opera and classical music, but I’ve taught a lot of jazz, a lot of Broadway and musical theater, but I want to know what their goals are. Everybody is a unique individual so each lesson has to be tailored for each student. So every lesson looks a little different. Some students need to focus on working on intonation. Some students need to work on breath support and control. It really depends on what they’re focused on and where they want to go with their voice.”

The first thing Stanton does when he takes on a new student is find out what makes the aspiring singer want to sing in the first place.

“The most important thing is to form a relationship with a student because if they don’t like to come in here, I won’t see them enough to teach them anything,” said Stanton, who has been teaching voice lessons for more than 50 years. “I really want to make them feel comfortable. Then I listen to them sing and I try to pick out everything that’s good about their voice.

“I’ll say things like, ‘You know, that’s really beautiful. We need more of that in your singing,’ rather than the other way around. I like to go for the positive approach and eventually they leave the bad habits behind and all the good things we just enhance.”

Stanton, a Toledo native, graduated from Whitmer High School in 1968 and spent many years of his music career as the musical director for churches. He wrote and directed several musicals related to Christmas and Easter.

“I wasn’t in musicals myself back in those days,” Stanton said. “Musicals are really big nowadays but it wasn’t like that when I was a kid. They did musicals at school, but everybody didn’t want to be in them. Nowadays people want to be in them. That’s really what people are interested in these days — to sing with a purpose.”

Stanton said the key to successful singing is expression. Lots of it.

“You have to bring the song alive,” Stanton said. “Otherwise you’re just another singer.”

Kane, his student during a recent lesson at Forte, has been interested in singing since 2017. He began studying with Stanton in 2019.

“When I sing I feel really good,” said Kane, who cites Elvis Presley and the Beatles as his vocal muses. “It’s really great,” the young crooner continued. “I love it here.”

Can anyone learn how to sing? Stanton says yes.

“Everybody can learn at some level and they can all enjoy it and it can be a great experience for everybody,” Stanton said. “You can learn to sing on key. You have to be patient and take a few notes at a time. Don’t take difficult songs, take simple songs. Maybe even something like ‘Mary Had a Little Lamb,’ something where there’s only a few notes. “Music is about enjoyment. It’s not all about performing. Everyone can get something out of music.”

Toledo icon Jean Holden has been gracing stages all around the Midwest and beyond since the 1960s, and she has been giving private voice lessons for more than 50 of her 82 years.

“My passion has always been sharing my gift with other people. For a fee of course,” said Holden, who still teaches and performs regularly.

Holden said the first thing she does when working with an aspiring singer is to find out about their singing goals.

“I don’t want to impose the way I sing on them. A lot of people come to me because they heard me sing and they say, ‘I want to do what you do.’ But I want them to tell me what it is they want to do so I can help them and guide them into doing what they’re choosing to do,” said Holden, who has worked with everyone from rock ‘n’ roll singers to opera chanteuses.

Holden began singing in Toledo area supper clubs and nightclubs in 1966, and started teaching voice lesson privately that same year. In 1975, she was the vocal coach for the cast of Hair at the University of Toledo. Today, Holden still enjoys teaching people how to use their voices to sing.

“I enjoy watching people enjoy what they would like to do. That is really my passion — sharing,” Holden said.

“Music is such a wonderful thing. Being able to do music and sing is very healing. I think it’s a healing of the body and the mind to be able to do that and to share with people so they’re not damaging their vocal chords.

“That’s the most important thing — that people sing the correct way.”

We are extremely excited to welcome new, amazing teachers to our Forté Family!

Daniel H. - Guitar, Voice



Born and raised in Sylvania, OH, Daniel started humming along with Disney songs at the age of 3. It was then that his parents knew he would have a love of music. At a young age, he joined the choir at his church and began his musical journey. Daniel got his first guitar in the 5th grade and has always had an eclectic background in his song selection. Throughout his youth, he took private lessons and performed in many shows and showcases around the Toledo and Sylvania area. At the age of 14, he saved up from summer jobs to buy his first recording software, and a love of audio engineering was born.

Daniel graduated from Northview High school in 2006. While in High school, he was a member of several choirs and ensembles including a jazz ensemble and an award-winning barbershop quartet. He was given several awards in his time at Northview and was the section leader of several choirs.

In 2007, Daniel was awarded a scholarship to attend Berklee College of Music in Boston, MA for vocal performance. While in Boston, he played in several bands and was a member of a Berklee Acapella group. He won best vocal percussion in the acapella group at the International competition for collegiate acapella held at Lincoln Center in New York. He continued creating original music at Berklee and realized a passion for lyric writing.

Daniel has performed around the country and the Toledo area since 2012 and enjoys the live music scene in Toledo! In 2013 he joined his friends at a local record label where he produces, writes, and records several artists in many different genres. At this label, he discovered a love of teaching and began his teaching career in 2015. Daniel loves sharing the knowledge he has acquired over many years. His eclectic upbringing and love of music bring a fun and energetic flair to his teaching!

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Yana - Violin, Viola



Yana started playing violin at the age of 7 in her home country of Ukraine. She entered The Cherkasy State College of Music when she was 15 years old and graduated from it with an Honors Diploma. She continued studying violin at The Novosibirsk State Conservatory in Russia and then at The Kyiv State Conservatory named by Tchaikovsky in Ukraine, where she obtained her Master's Degree both in Violin Performance and Music Education. Among her professors were such well-known musicians as Zakhar Bron, Aleksey Gorohov, Bogodar Kotorovich, and Lazar Bendersky. Her teaching experience started in College, where the teaching of school-aged kids was part of the curriculum.

After graduation from Kyiv Conservatory, she obtained a full-time job as a violinist in The Kyiv State Symphony Orchestra and a few years later, after a successful audition, she got a full-time job in the Symphony Orchestra of Kyiv National Opera and Ballet Theater.

Shortly after immigrating to the United States in 1999, she became a Concertmaster of the JCC Community Orchestra in Toledo, OH. In 2000 she joined the teaching staff of the Notre Dame School of Music, where she served as a violin teacher for 5 years. After the school's closure in 2005, Yana decided to continue teaching privately.

While always enjoying teaching music, Yana remains an active playing musician. She has ongoing contracts as a violinist in several area orchestras, such as The Lima Symphony, Adrian Symphony, Livonia Symphony, and Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestras. Yana is excited to teach at Forté, and share true musicality and positivity with her new students of all ages and levels.

Forté is Filling up! Here are the remaining teacher openings!

Monday:

Amy L. (flute) - SOLD OUT

Chavar (guitar) - SOLD OUT

Chelsea (voice/piano) - 1 Opening

Chloe (voice/guitar) - 3 Openings

Conner (guitar) - 4 Openings

Dana (violin) - 2 Openings

Daniel B. (voice/piano) - SOLD OUT

David (guitar/voice/piano) - SOLD OUT

Evelyn (violin/viola) - 2 Openings

Jim A (cello) - 1 Opening

Jim S. (voice/piano) - 1 Opening

Jordan (drums) - SOLD OUT

Julia (voice/piano) - 1 Opening

Katherine (piano/brass) - 2 Openings

Kevin L. (voice/piano) - SOLD OUT

Kevin S. (winds/piano) - SOLD OUT

Melissa (violin/viola) - SOLD OUT

Ron (guitar/banjo) - 2 Openings

Scott (drums) - SOLD OUT

Sy (piano) - 1 Opening

Tuesday:

Bogdan (violin/viola) - SOLD OUT

Chelsea (voice/piano) - SOLD OUT

Chloe (voice/guitar) - SOLD OUT

Connor (guitar) - 1 Opening

Danielle (piano) - 1 Opening

Evelyn (violin) - SOLD OUT

Gracie (violin) - 2 Openings

Jim A. (cello) - 1 Opening

Jim S. (voice/piano) - 2 Openings

Jordan (drums) - SOLD OUT

Tuesday Continued:

Joseph (guitar) - 1 Opening

Julia (voice/piano) - 1 Opening

Katherine (brass, piano) - SOLD OUT

Kevin S. (winds) - SOLD OUT

Melanie (piano) - SOLD OUT

Melissa (violin) - SOLD OUT

Peter (guitar) - SOLD OUT

Randy (violin) - SOLD OUT

Ron (guitar/banjo) - 1 Opening

Sy (piano) - SOLD OUT

Taylor (piano) - SOLD OUT

Wednesday:

Bogdan (violin/viola) - 2 Openings

Cam (guitar/piano) - 1 Opening

Chelsea (voice/piano) - 1 Opening

David (guitar/voice/piano) - 1 Opening

Evelyn (violin) - 1 Opening

Greg (guitar) - 2 Openings

Jim A. (cello) - 1 Opening

Jim S. (voice/piano) - 2 Openings

Julia (voice/piano) - 1 Opening

Katherine (brass, piano) - 2 Openings

Kevin P. (piano) - SOLD OUT

Kevin S. (winds) - SOLD OUT

Melanie (piano) - 1 Opening

Peter (guitar) - SOLD OUT

Randy (violin) - SOLD OUT

Ron (guitar/banjo) - SOLD OUT

Sam (drums) - SOLD OUT

Sy (piano) - SOLD OUT

Tajj (voice/piano) - SOLD OUT

Forté is Filling up! Here are the remaining teacher openings!

Thursday:

Chelsea (voice/piano) - SOLD OUT

Dana (violin) - 1 Opening

Danielle (piano) - 2 Openings

David (guitar/voice/piano) - 2 Openings

Evelyn (violin) - 1 Opening

Jim A. (cello) - 1 Opening

Jim S. (voice/piano) - 1 Opening

Jordan (drums) - SOLD OUT

Joseph (guitar) - 2 Openings

Katherine (piano) - SOLD OUT

Kevin L. - 2 Openings

Kevin S. (winds) - SOLD OUT

Lucas (voice/guitar/uke) - SOLD OUT

Marjorie (piano) - 1 Opening

Orlando (piano) - 2 Openings

Peter (guitar) - SOLD OUT

Randy (violin) - SOLD OUT

Ron (guitar/banjo) - 2 Openings

Scott (drums) - 1 Opening

Sy (piano) - 3 Openings

Friday:

Bogdan (violin) - SOLD OUT

Brandon (voice/piano) - SOLD OUT

Corey (trumpet/online) - 2 Openings

Dan (guitar) - 2 Openings

Greg (guitar) - 2 Openings

Jane (trumpet/piano) - SOLD OUT

Jordan (drums) - SOLD OUT

Julia (voice/piano) - 1 Opening

Melissa (violin) - SOLD OUT

Nolan (piano) - SOLD OUT

Orlando (piano) - 1 Opening

Peter (guitar) - SOLD OUT

Randy (violin) - SOLD OUT

Saturday:

Chelsea (voice/piano) - 1 Opening

Corey (trumpet/online) - 2 Opening

Danielle (piano) - 1 Opening

Darius (voice/piano) - 1 Opening

David (guitar/voice/piano) - SOLD OUT

Deja (voice/piano) - 1 Opening

Grace (saxophone, clarinet) - SOLD OUT

Jim A. (cello) - 2 Openings

Jordan (drums) - SOLD OUT

Joslynn (voice/piano) - SOLD OUT

Nolan (piano) - 2 Openings

Peter (guitar) - SOLD OUT

Ron (guitar/banjo) - SOLD OUT

Ryan - 2 Openings

Yana - 2 Openings

Sunday:

Ayanna (violin) - 2 Openings

Cam (guitar/piano) - SOLD OUT

Chavar (guitar) - SOLD OUT

Chelsea (voice/piano) - SOLD OUT

Daniel B. (piano) - 1 Opening

Daniel H. (guitar/voice) - 3 Openings

Darius (voice/piano) - 1 Opening

Jim A. (cello) - 1 Opening

Joslynn (voice/piano) - SOLD OUT

Kevin P. (piano) - 2 Openings

Orlando (piano) - 1 Opening

Peter (guitar) - SOLD OUT

Sara (voice/piano) - 1 Opening

Scott (drums) - SOLD OUT