

# Musical Notes

December 2012



## History of Our School



The first Pro-Music school established in 1998.



In 2006, the main Pro-Music school in Markham expanded and moved to a 6000 square feet unit.



The Pro-Music retail store at First Markham Place.

### McCowan Location:

The first Pro-Music was established in 1998. It has since expanded to its current location at 5051 Highway 7 East, Markham, and is now one of the largest music schools in the Markham area. It features 6000 square feet of showroom space, 23 teaching studios and a mini recital hall.

### First Markham Location:

In May 2010, the First Markham store opened at 3255 Highway 7 East. This location showcases the latest in PA equipment, with an in-house sound engineer with "sound advice" to offer!

### Oakridges Location:

In June 2012, our newest addition to the Pro-Music family opened at 13075 Yonge St, Richmond Hill. This location offers group and private classes for music theory and a variety of musical instruments. The brand new teaching studios have been renovated with the latest sound proofing ensuring the best teaching and learning experience.

Here at Pro-music, we would like to sincerely thank you for your support in our quest to bring quality music learning to all who love music.



## The Importance of Music Education

**Music is academic.** For some people, this is the primary reason for providing music lessons to their children. A recent study from the University of California found that music trains the brain for higher forms of thinking. Second graders who were given music lessons scored 27% higher on proportional math and fractions tests than children who received no special instruction. Research indicates that musical training permanently wires a young mind for enhanced performance.

**Music is emotional.** Music is an art form. We are emotional beings and every child requires an artistic outlet. Music may be your child's vehicle of expression.

**Music is physical.** Music can be described as a sport. Learning to sing and keep rhythm develops coordination. The air and wind power necessary to blow a flute, trumpet or saxophone promotes a healthy body.

**Music is for life.** Most people can't play soccer, or football at 70 or 80 years of age but they can sing or play piano or some other instrument. Music is a gift you can give your children that will last their entire lives.

Hello parents! We're off to a great start this year and we're looking forward to the journey with your child as they grow musically. Here are a few points of interest that you could familiarize yourself with as the year progresses.



**Waiting Area**

We know that sometimes you will want to show up early or perhaps wait while your child takes part in their lesson, so we have a comfortable waiting area with magazines and chairs. The waiting area is located at the back of the store. Please feel free to use this area until your child finishes their session.

**Washroom**



As many parents, students, and staff use our washroom, please help us keep it clean! With cold weather settling in for the season, we do not want germs to spread. For parents who have infants, there is a changing table in the washroom, please feel free to use it.

**Christmas Store Hours**



We will open on some days during the holidays for make-up lessons and enquiries. No regular lessons are scheduled between Dec 23 and Jan 6.

December 24	10:00 am to 3:00 pm (no regular lessons)
December 25 to January 1	Close
January 2 to 4	11:00 am to 5:00 pm (no regular lessons)
January 5	Close

**Celebrate Christmas with the Gift of Music!**

This Christmas, show friends and family you care by giving them the timeless gift of music. Our Christmas lesson package has all the trimmings to make for great memories, including instrument rental! Ask our front desk for more information and check out our display for great gift ideas.



**Progress Reports**

Throughout the year we not only train your child, but also assess them to better their talents. We will be distributing our progress reports that outline your child's musical growth every December and May. Please do not hesitate to inquire during the year about your child's progress- their musical education is our top priority!

**Annual Events**



This would not be an institute of music without the opportunity for you to listen to your child's progress! Every year there is a grand recital in June, where your child's abilities and growth will be on display for family and friends to enjoy. If you find yourself itching for more music, there are plenty of community events and music festivals in the city for your child to attend. Just ask us for more information!

Bring a friend!  
**Discounts**



We love to promote music for everyone in the family, so we are now offering discounts to those with multiple children enrolled with our music programs! Starting February 2013, if your child is already learning music with us, any additional siblings that also join will receive a \$1.00 discount per lesson. This same deal applies if you want to enrol your child in multiple musical programs.\*

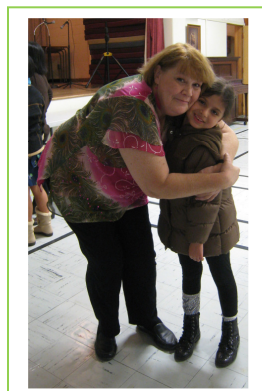
**Referral program**

If you refer a friend, relative, or anyone else who successfully enrolls with us, you will receive a \$20 credit\* towards the tuition for next fall or winter term. Take advantage of this deal while it lasts!

\*Discount does not apply to theory lessons. Terms and conditions apply. Please ask the office for details.



Mia Ellis (left), Romina & Sienna Porcelli (right) performed 2 vocal pieces, Beauty and the Beast and Twinkle Twinkle Little Star at the recital of the vocal teacher, Nancy Maxwell.



Top: Sienna and her teacher, Nancy after the recital.

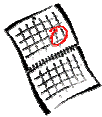


Left: Mia Ellis took this picture with her mom after the performance.

**School Policy Reminder**

While we strive for consistency, we understand that unforeseen circumstances can sometimes occur.

- If a class is to be missed, the front desk must be notified by 6 pm one day prior to the lesson in order to be eligible for a make-up.
- Emergency cancellations (allowed twice every year) can be made a minimum 2 hours prior to the lesson.
- Should inclement weather be an issue, it is the responsibility of the parent to call to see if classes will still be running.
- All make up sessions must be completed within a 3-month time frame.
- No refunds or credits will be issued for any cancellations.
- Once a make-up lesson has been scheduled, it cannot be rescheduled.

**Important Dates**

December 10 to 15	Distribution of progress reports
December 24 to January 6	Christmas break
January 21	Deadline for winter registration
February 18	Family day
March 11 to 16	March break
March 29 to April 1	Easter holidays
May 20	Victoria day
TBA	Annual recital
June 3 to 8	Distribution of progress reports
June 17	Deadline for summer and fall registration

**Payment**

As spots for our programs fill up rapidly, the only way to secure your spot for private or group lessons is to submit post-dated cheques at the front desk before the deadline. We regrettably cannot guarantee a spot for your child if a payment is not submitted on time.

Payment for the lessons can be done through two options:

- 1) Monthly post-dated cheques\* for the entire term
- 2) Credit/debit charge in full

\*a \$15 charge will be applied should a cheque bounces

**Pro-Music Programs**

With the New Year quickly approaching, it makes for a great opportunity to try something new! Your child might just fall in love with one of our professionally taught lessons. Ask us or visit [www.pro-music.ca](http://www.pro-music.ca) for more information!

Group Lessons available:

- Music Adventure (for 4 to 6 years old)
- Group vocal (Musical theatre)
- Group guitar
- Group keyboard
- Theory (Rudiments, Harmony & History)



Private Lessons available:

- Piano
- Violin (Suzuki & Classical)
- Guitar (Acoustic, Electric, Bass & Classical)
- Ukulele
- Flute
- Drum
- Vocal

**Up Coming Events****Royal Conservatory of Music Exam Sessions**

**APRIL SESSION** (in select centres only)  
**Registration Deadline:** January 8, 2013  
**Practical Examinations:** April 15 - 20, 2013  
**Theory Examinations:** Not Available

**SPRING SESSION**  
**Registration Deadline:** March 5, 2013  
**Theory Examinations:** March 10 & 11, 2013  
**Practical Examinations:** June 10 - 29, 2013

**SUMMER SESSION**  
**Registration Deadline:** June 4, 2013  
**Theory Examinations:** August 9 & 10, 2013  
**Practical Examinations:** August 12 - 24, 2013

**Pro-Music (Richmond Hill) RCM#:** 65992

**Toronto Symphony Orchestra**

**A Merry TSO Christmas**  
 Tue. Dec. 11, 2012 at 8:00 PM  
 Wed. Dec. 12, 2012 at 2:00 PM  
 Wed. Dec. 12, 2012 at 8:00 PM

**The Snowman**  
 Sun. Dec. 9, 2012 at 3:00 PM

**Handel's Messiah**  
 Tue. Dec. 18, 2012 at 8:00 PM  
 Wed. Dec. 19, 2012 at 8:00 PM  
 Fri. Dec. 21, 2012 at 8:00 PM  
 Sat. Dec. 22, 2012 at 8:00 PM  
 Sun. Dec. 23, 2012 at 3:00 PM

For more information, please visit [www.tso.ca](http://www.tso.ca)

**Music Festivals**

**Pickering Rotary Music Festival**  
 Entry Deadline: November 30, 2012  
 Festival Dates: January 30 – February 13, 2013

**CCC Music Festival**  
 Entry Deadline: January 9, 2013  
 Festival Dates: February 16 – March 1, 2013

**Markham Music Festival**  
 Entry Deadline: February 3, 2013  
 Festival Dates: March 22 - April 7, 2013

**North York Music Festival**  
 Entry Deadline: February 18, 2013  
 Festival Dates: April 12 – 15, 19 – 22 & 26 – 29, 2013  
 Ask the office for more information.