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teVelde today



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"Inspiring Musical Possibilities."

Contributing Writers: Teachers, Parents and more



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Ten Tips for Parenting Success at Home

By teVelde Music Parent: **Margo Kwasnoski**

Bio: Two kids in lessons; husband serving in U.S. Army, in Afghanistan; drives kids to lessons from Orcutt every week.

1. Turn off the TV/computer/phones as often as you can. I love technology and it's such a great aspect of efficiency in our lives but it can disconnect us with the person right next to us!
2. Delight in your children's presence. Have a "work hour," where they do their homework while you do your work or a hobby, like art, knitting or reading, at the same table.
3. Listen to all kinds of music. My son's favorites range from classical violin to rock and hip hop.
4. Reward the journey, not just the destination! The reward is in the work put forth - what gets rewarded gets repeated!
5. At the end of the day, talk about your favorite highlights; it will teach an attitude of gratitude. In my home, we teach our children why and how to pray.
6. Ask them open-ended questions about their day. For teenagers, I've learned that walking along, side-by-side, helps in discussing the day.

For younger children, getting answers besides "good" or "nothing" may require them to draw a picture of their day.

7. Read aloud together. My husband often reads in an "enchanted" voice and my children love it!
8. Tell children a funny story from their younger days or tell them a funny story from your own childhood.
9. Ask them to teach you how to do something. This is big - very big! The art of giving lessons is an amazing skill that I've learned from my son's Montessori School.
10. Love people. Find creative ways to give in your community, such as taking a bag of clothes to the shelter, writing a letter to a family member, caring for a neighbor, or making cookies for a friend for no reason. I think most individuals who have a passion to make a life better are those who are most successful.

From Bonnie: *Parents who juggle school, music, schedules, and good parenting are our heroes. Each volume of teVelde Today will feature tips from these successful parents.*

Product and Process

At teVelde Music, we use two methods to teach. Over the age of six, we use a combination of process-based and product-based teaching models.



Bonnie teVelde, owner/instructor

"Product" means the student is moving through the books until they are finished, learning one song at a time and moving on. The "process" model is where the student stays on the material in the books for as long as it takes to learn the material thoroughly, perhaps spending weeks or months on a song or lesson.

The goal of a product-centered lesson is to finish a song, get a sticker and move on, building the student's confidence and skill. The goal of a process-oriented lesson is to accumulate as many stickers on one song as it takes to completely learn the material. Every time the student plays the song again he or she learns something new and autonomic skills improve.

With children under the age of six, we use primarily the process-centered lesson style of teaching. This is because younger children need time to assimilate the material while they are also learning critical skills, such as hand/eye coordination; labeling systems, like colors; and reading. Learning music at the same time helps build these skills.

The goal, at any age, is to use both models, depending on the student's personality type. This is why it's important to have an updated Kidzmet profile every three months. Please update your profiles at Kidzmet.com and print them for your teachers.

Kidzmet 'Playbooks' Help Students with Learning

By **Bonnie teVelde**

Kidzmet has now introduced a new product: The **"Playbook for Learning."** This is a step-by-step, detailed plan for working with YOUR CHILD, exactly the way he/she learns. The information in your child's Playbook is vital for you to guide their steps and help them grow to be successful, productive, and happy people!

Is your child having a problem in one or more areas of learning? Do you sometimes feel lost when trying to come up with solutions that work? We have found that knowing the learning style and personality types of students makes a huge difference in their degree of success.

I used to personally test each new student

myself, which was costly to parents, but brought dramatic results. Now, with the information age, we have another huge resource for less than a quarter of what I used to charge... AND it's even better! It's KIDZMET.COM.

We use Kidzmet to get a learning profile on every new student for a reason - it works. If your child has a problem with learning, chances are that Kidzmet has a real world solution that will help.

If you get one on your child, PLEASE bring it in so our teachers can use the information to make your child's lessons even better! Find and order your **Playbook for Learning** online at www.Kidzmet.com. And be sure your child's Kidzmet account is linked to the school by inputting the number **167** in the "School ID."



Bill Benson

Featured Teacher Profile: Bill Benson

Musical Background: I have been a composer, arranger and performer since the age of nine. My music education from S.F. Conservatory of Music, CalArts, and USC prepared me for a high-paced career in the motion picture industry where I worked along side Hollywood's finest directors, composers and musicians. My music has been featured in movies, commercials, video games and television you have all heard, including an Academy Award winning animated film. **Teaching Philosophy:** It is my goal to foster a love for music in each of my students. I let them make mistakes and find joy in the self confidence they gain through overcoming an obstacle. I strive for my students to find meaning behind the notes, uncovering that place where they can become brave and instinctive enough to play what the music demands while discovering the fire in their creative soul.

Teaches: Piano

Experience our **NEWLY REDESIGNED** website at TEVELDEMUSIC.com - Order books and more!



Watch teVelde Music, Inc. Online by Going to Our Videos at www.youtube.com/teveldemusic.

New Teacher at teVelde - Emily Zimmerman

By Emily Zimmerman

Teaches: Piano

When I'm not writing songs, playing with a band or teaching music, I like to build furniture and do creative projects. I'm a visionary and a strategist. I work with teens helping them to discover their purpose in life and mobilizing them to become world changers. I recently launched a girls club called GLO at Santa Maria High School and will be working on other campuses soon. I am involved with organizing events and curriculum for my church's Intern program and I mentor a group of girls in the youth group. On the side, I am the creative writer for MZ Public Affairs Marketing Firm and I'm a nanny.

From Bonnie: *I chose Emily because of her piano skills and passion when it comes to seeing that young people have good role models and mentors. She's spent hundreds of hours talking to youth in local high schools, helping them to choose responsibility over immaturity in their daily lives. She truly dedicates her life to inspiring students of all ages. I see her as a gift to the school, and a gift to our students.*

Plan Your Next Vacation Around Music



The Epidaurus Theater, in Greece.
Photo by John and Mel Kots (flickr).

For your next family vacation, consider planning your itinerary around locations of musical interest. There are places and groups all over the world where music is not only engaging but also educational and sometimes even therapeutic.

If you're traveling to **Australia**, check out the One Tribe group, out of Perth. The group performs didgeridoo sound healing sessions, as well as concerts and workshops. More on One Tribe can be found online at www.onetribehaling.com.au.

The Epidaurus Theater, in **Greece**, is an ancient site with such amazing acoustics, due to the theater's limestone seats, that musicians can be heard clearly from the back row, according to the online article, "Greek Acoustics," by Don Glass.

New research being done into ancient sites, such as the Epidaurus Theater; or Stonehenge, in **England**, has found amazing effects involving sound, like "whispering galleries" and incredible echoes.

Some of these sound effects were probably used in ceremonies with powerful effects on the human brain.

One ancient site in **Malta**, called the Hal Saflieni Hypogeum, is an underground, man-made chamber equipped with a "speaking hole" that when spoken into results in a epic echo the reverberates throughout the entire chamber.

Brain scanning was done on people in the chamber as they experienced different sounds. Studies showed that when a sound at 110 Hz frequency was introduced into the chamber it had sudden and profound influences on people, including shifting to using more of the right side of the brain involved with creativity, empathy and social behavior.

An interesting correlation continues in that the 110 Hz frequency can be sung by a male vocalist, pointing to the possibility that the Hypogeum was used in ancient chanting rituals.

There are also places where the environment becomes a natural sound amplifier. Lake Onega, in **Russia**, is one such place where ringing rock sites can be found. The rocks on the shore of the lake can be struck like a drum and the surface of the lake water amplifies and carries the sound for a mile or more.

If you get the urge to play while on vacation, most hotels have a piano somewhere that you may be able to use, if you ask nicely and don't abuse the privilege.

Enjoy your travels. Enjoy music!

Sources: <http://www.landscape-perception.com/archaeoacoustics/>; <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-2131519/Was-Stonehenge-designed-sound-Researchers-recreate-ancient-site-sounded-like-Neolithic-man.html>; <http://neuroscienceandpsi.blogspot.com/2012/05/maltese-archeological-site-seems.html>; <http://www.ancient-wisdom.co.uk/maltahypogeum.htm>; www.onetribehaling.com.au; <http://indianapublicmedia.org/amomentofscience/greek-acoustics/>

Learning Tips

Take advantage of changes in schedule to invigorate the brain:

1. Expand your musical family. Take lessons with your kids.
2. Add extra time to the lesson. As little as 15 extra mins. each week can make a huge difference in the enjoyment and productivity of weekly lessons.
3. Add an extra lesson. If your child is doing really well, an extra lesson per week can produce three times the results of just one.
4. Add another instrument. Each new instrument is 50% easier than the last.
5. Learn how to compose a song.
6. Learn a duet with a partner.
7. Learn absolute perfect pitch - we can teach any age with the T.A.P. Method.

Teacher Requirements

All teachers that are hired at teVelde Music are chosen for who they are as teachers, musicians and human beings. Each candidate must undergo intensive testing and training in multiple areas, including music theory, multi-instrumental skills, curriculum planning, and learning/personality types.

New teachers must log at least 20 observation hours with veteran teVelde teachers; prove they understand how to teach the teVelde curriculum, including the T.A.P. Method; and undergo one-on-one training with Bonnie on an on-going basis. Regular teacher meetings are held to discuss and collaborate on each teVelde student.

It is our goal to find a way to make music a rewarding experience for every one of our students.

STUDENTS AND MUSIC

Every stage of learning will benefit from music. It's never too late to start!

Here are a few examples that showcase how important music instruction is to learning:

Music majors are the most likely group of college grads to be admitted to medical school.

Lewis Thomas, Case for Music in the Schools, Phi Delta Kappa, 1994

The College Entrance Examination Board found that students in music appreciation scored 63 points higher on verbal and 44 points higher on math than students with no arts participation.

College-Bound Seniors National Report. "Profile of SAT Program Test Takers. Princeton, NJ." The College Entrance Examination Board, 2001

High school music students have been shown to hold higher grade point averages (GPA) than non-musicians in the same school.

National Educational Longitudinal Study of 1988

Above Via Source: <http://www.resoundschool.com/resources/>

Students who took classes in music performance and music appreciation showed higher SAT scores than students who didn't take any arts classes.

Source: 1999 College-Bound Seniors National Report: Profile of SAT Program Test Takers, The College Entrance Examination Board, Princeton, New Jersey. Via the Internet at: <http://www.childrensmusicworkshop.com/advocacy/factsandstatistics.html>

Teachers found students are less aggressive with music instruction in schools.

Source: <http://www.mpsaz.org/rhodes/staff/krkuczynski/6th/files/musicfacts.pdf>

Search more stats online to find out more!

Up-Coming Events: 2012 Winter Concerts

When: Dec. 1, 5:30 and 7 p.m.

All are invited to attend. Children under 7 are invited to play at 5:30-6:30. Students 7-adult play 7-8 p.m.

Where: St. Barnabas Episcopal Church

**301 Trinity Ave.
Arroyo Grande, CA**



Welcome to our Newsletter!

Your up-to-date source for all that is happening at teVelde Music. If you have a comment or suggestion, please email the Editor at: jackson4425@gmail.com.

Contact Us to Enroll or Tour One of Our Campuses 805-474-1224 or Email: teveldeNewstudents@gmail.com