

EMMANUEL CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

# Music Lessons Program

## 2026-2027 Program Overview, Policies & Calendar



|                                  |                               |                                      |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ENROLLMENT CLOSES<br>September 1 | LESSONS BEGIN<br>September 21 | ANNUAL LESSONS<br>26 lessons         |
| REGISTRATION<br>\$25 per student | TUITION<br>Billed Sept-May    | SCHEDULING<br>During or after school |

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Emmanuel Christian Academy Music Lessons Program provides students with structured, skill-building music instruction in a Christ-centered environment. Our goal is to help students develop strong musical foundations, grow in confidence, and discover opportunities to use their musical abilities in worship, performance, and lifelong enjoyment.

Lessons are offered during the school day or after school, depending on student schedules, teacher availability, and program placement. Students enrolled in the program receive 26 lessons from September through May, with designated breaks for holidays, school events, testing, and makeup lessons.

#### A NOTE ABOUT PLACEMENT

With the exception of Intro to Piano, course placement is based on a student's age, previous musical experience, skill level, and overall readiness. Grade-level ranges are general guidelines and do not guarantee placement in a particular class. The Music Lessons Director and/or instructor may recommend a different class or lesson format if it would better support the student's musical development.

### PROGRAM OPTIONS & TUITION

#### Intro to Piano | K4-K5 | \$65/month

Designed especially for little fingers! Intro to Piano gives young students their first experience at the keyboard in a fun, engaging group setting. Students explore the piano, develop basic musical skills, learn simple rhythms and keyboard patterns, and enjoy making music alongside their peers.

This class is specifically designed for K4 and K5 students who have not previously taken piano lessons and serves as an introduction to future group or private piano study.

**Prerequisite:** No prior piano experience is necessary.

#### Beginner Group Piano | Suggested for K5-2nd Grade | \$65/month

A fun and collaborative piano class for beginning students. Students develop foundational keyboard skills, basic music reading, rhythm, technique, and simple repertoire while learning alongside their peers.

Group Piano provides students with a strong musical foundation and is excellent preparation for future private study.

**Placement:** Students will be placed according to age, previous experience, and readiness. Students with prior piano experience may be recommended for private lessons or another appropriate level.

#### Private Piano Lessons | Placement Based on Readiness | \$100/month

Individualized one-on-one instruction tailored to each student's ability, experience, and musical goals. Students develop skills in music reading, technique, rhythm, playing by ear, chords, repertoire, and overall musicianship.

As students progress, they may also have opportunities to perform in recitals, chapel, Fine Arts events, and other school programs.

**Placement:** Private lessons are available for a variety of skill levels. Teacher placement will be based on the student's experience, ability, and instructional needs.

### Group Guitar | Placement Based on Readiness | \$65/month

Beginning guitar students learn foundational skills in a collaborative class setting, including proper playing technique, chords, rhythm, strumming patterns, basic music reading, and simple songs.

Group Guitar is designed to help students become comfortable with their instrument while developing the skills necessary for continued guitar study.

**Placement:** Enrollment is based on the student's age, physical readiness, prior musical experience, and ability to participate successfully in a group setting.

**Instrument Requirement:** Students must own or have reliable access to an appropriately sized guitar for home practice and bring their guitar to class as directed by the instructor.

### Private Guitar Lessons | Placement Based on Readiness | \$100/month

Private Guitar Lessons provide individualized instruction based on each student's experience, ability, and musical interests. Students may work on chords, rhythm, strumming, picking technique, music reading, scales, repertoire, and other foundational or advanced guitar skills.

Lessons can also help students develop the practical musicianship needed for performance, accompaniment, and future participation on worship teams.

**Placement:** Teacher placement will be based on the student's age, experience, skill level, and individual learning needs.

**Instrument Requirement:** Students must own or have reliable access to an appropriately sized guitar for regular home practice and bring their instrument to lessons as directed by their teacher.

### Worship Piano | Placement Based on Readiness | \$65/month

Worship Piano is designed for students who already have a foundation in piano and want to develop the practical skills needed to play contemporary worship music.

Students will work on chord progressions, chord voicings, rhythm patterns, accompaniment techniques, lead sheets, transitions, playing with other musicians, and developing the confidence and flexibility needed to serve effectively on a worship team.

**Prerequisite & Placement:** Students should already be able to read music and demonstrate a basic understanding of chords. Because readiness may vary by student, enrollment in Worship Piano is subject to instructor approval. The instructor may assess a student's current skills before confirming placement in the class.

### Private Voice Lessons | 4th-12th Grade | \$100/month

Students receive individualized instruction in healthy vocal technique, breathing, tone, pitch, repertoire, musical interpretation, and stage presence.

As students progress, they may have opportunities to prepare solos for chapel, concerts, recitals, Fine Arts competitions, and other school performances.

**Placement:** Voice lesson placement is based on the student's age, vocal readiness, experience, and individual instructional needs.

## FEES & REGISTRATION

- A \$25 registration fee per student is due at enrollment and covers required lesson books, binder, and program materials.
- Tuition is billed monthly from September through May through FACTS.
- Enrollment is intended as a full school-year commitment.
- Lesson and class placement is based on student needs, academic schedules, instructor availability, and available space.

## WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Families who need to withdraw from the Music Lessons Program must provide notice by the 5th of the month to avoid charges for the following month.

Withdrawals received after the 5th will be billed through the following month.

Exceptions may be granted at the discretion of the Music Lessons Director.

## STUDENT & PRACTICE EXPECTATIONS

- Students must attend lessons consistently, arrive prepared, complete weekly assignments, and practice regularly at home.
- Students must bring required books, materials, and instruments to lessons.

- Piano students must have access to a keyboard or piano at home for regular practice. A 66-key minimum is required; an 88-key weighted keyboard or acoustic piano is preferred.
- Guitar students must own or have reliable access to an appropriately sized guitar and practice consistently between lessons.
- Participation in the Spring Recital is strongly encouraged for all eligible students.
- Students may be invited to participate in chapel, concerts, Fine Arts events, worship opportunities, or other school performances as appropriate.

## MISSED LESSONS & MAKEUPS

### SCHOOL CLOSURES DURING REGULAR LESSON WEEKS

If ECA is closed on a student's regular lesson day during an otherwise scheduled lesson week - most commonly for a Monday holiday or a Friday Parent-Teacher Conference closure - the lesson will be rescheduled with the teacher. The makeup may take place during a designated makeup week or on another mutually agreed date. These school-closure reschedules do not count toward the student's two approved absences.

- Up to two excused student absences may be made up as the teacher's schedule allows.
- Excused absences may include illness or family emergencies.
- Lessons missed by the instructor will be made up or refunded.
- Makeup lessons may be scheduled during designated makeup weeks, lesson breaks, or at another mutually available time.
- Lessons missed because of inclement weather or a school closure may be rescheduled with the teacher and do not count toward the student's two approved absences.
- Makeup lessons are dependent upon teacher availability, room availability, and the school calendar.
- Families should communicate directly with their instructor as soon as possible when an absence occurs.

## SCHEDULING & CLASS-TIME GUIDELINES

Lesson times are determined according to teacher availability and each student's academic schedule. While we will make every effort to accommodate scheduling preferences, specific lesson times cannot be guaranteed.

### In-School Lesson Guidelines

- No lessons will be scheduled during Math.
- Reading may be missed only when the student maintains an A or B in the class.
- Secondary students may not miss core academic classes or electives for recurring music lessons. Lessons should be scheduled during study halls, TA periods, or after school.
- Lessons will not normally be scheduled during chapel, except occasionally for a makeup lesson.
- School holidays, Parent-Teacher Conference closures, early dismissals, testing, concerts, and other school events may occasionally require lessons to be rescheduled. Please refer to the Music Lesson Calendar for specific dates.

### Athletics & After-School Activities

After-school lesson times may occasionally conflict with athletic practices, games, rehearsals, or other extracurricular activities. Parents and students are responsible for coordinating these commitments with coaches, activity leaders, and music instructors.

Lessons missed because of a student's athletic or extracurricular schedule will count toward the student's allotted absences. Teachers may offer a makeup when scheduling and room availability allow; however, frequent conflicts may not be able to be accommodated.

## COMMUNICATION & MY MUSIC STAFF

ECA uses My Music Staff to manage lesson schedules, attendance, assignments, teacher notes, and program communication. Parents will receive information for accessing their account following enrollment.

Families should regularly check My Music Staff and email for lesson schedules, teacher notes and assignments, schedule changes, makeup information, program announcements, and reminders.

Questions regarding enrollment, placement, tuition, or program policies should be directed to the ECA Music Lessons Director.

# 2026-2027 MUSIC LESSON CALENDAR

Parent Calendar | 26 Regular Lessons, September-May

This calendar shows regular lesson weeks, school closures, lesson breaks, makeup weeks, and recital information. If a student's normal lesson falls on a school closure during an otherwise regular lesson week, the lesson will be rescheduled with the teacher.

| Regular Lesson Week | Closure / Adjustment | Break / Makeup |
|---------------------|----------------------|----------------|
|---------------------|----------------------|----------------|

## FALL SEMESTER

| WEEK         | SCHEDULE                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sep 21-25    | Regular Lesson Week                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Sep 28-Oct 2 | Regular Lesson Week                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Oct 5-9      | Regular Lesson Week                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Oct 12-16    | Regular Lesson Week. School closed Monday, October 12 in observance of Columbus Day. Affected lessons will be rescheduled.                                                                         |
| Oct 19-23    | Regular Lesson Week                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Oct 26-30    | Regular Lesson Week                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Nov 2-6      | Regular Lesson Week                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Nov 9-13     | Regular Lesson Week. School closed Wednesday, November 11 in observance of Veterans Day. Affected lessons will be rescheduled.                                                                     |
| Nov 16-20    | Regular Lesson Week. School closed Friday, November 20 for Parent-Teacher Conferences. Affected lessons will be rescheduled.                                                                       |
| Nov 23-27    | Thanksgiving Break - No Regular Lessons. Makeup lessons may be scheduled Monday and half-day Tuesday based on teacher availability.                                                                |
| Nov 30-Dec 4 | Regular Lesson Week                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Dec 7-11     | Regular Lesson Week. ECA has an early dismissal on Friday, December 11 for Christmas Concert rehearsal. Lessons may need to be rescheduled December 10 and 11 due to Christmas Concert rehearsals. |
| Dec 14-18    | Semester Makeup Week                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Dec 21-Jan 1 | Christmas Break - No Lessons                                                                                                                                                                       |

## SPRING SEMESTER

| WEEK                | SCHEDULE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Jan 4-8</b>      | Regular Lesson Week                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Jan 11-15</b>    | Regular Lesson Week                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Jan 18-22</b>    | Regular Lesson Week. School closed Monday, January 18 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Affected lessons will be rescheduled.                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Jan 25-29</b>    | Regular Lesson Week                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Feb 1-5</b>      | Regular Lesson Week                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Feb 8-12</b>     | Regular Lesson Week                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Feb 15-19</b>    | Winter Break - No Regular Lessons. School is closed Monday, February 15 for President's Day and February 18-19 for Winter Break. Makeup lessons may be scheduled Tuesday and Wednesday, February 16 and 17, based on teacher availability.                                     |
| <b>Feb 22-26</b>    | Regular Lesson Week                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Mar 1-5</b>      | Regular Lesson Week                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Mar 8-12</b>     | Regular Lesson Week                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Mar 15-19</b>    | Regular Lesson Week. No lessons Friday, March 19 due to Parent-Teacher Conferences. Affected lessons will be rescheduled.                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Mar 22-26</b>    | Regular Lesson Week. School closed Friday, March 26 in observance of Good Friday. Affected lessons will be rescheduled.                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Mar 29</b>       | No Lessons - School closed for Easter Weekend.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Mar 30-Apr 9</b> | Lesson Break for Iowa Testing. Makeup lessons MAY be scheduled beginning the week of April 5, depending on the elementary teacher's testing schedule. All makeup lessons scheduled during this period must be arranged in advance with permission from the elementary teacher. |
| <b>Apr 12-16</b>    | Spring Break - No Lessons                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Apr 19-23</b>    | Regular Lesson Week                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Apr 26-30</b>    | Regular Lesson Week                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>May 3-7</b>      | Regular Lesson Week                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>May 10-14</b>    | Regular Lesson Week + Spring Recital Week. Recitals are scheduled May 10-12. Students attend their regularly scheduled lesson in addition to their assigned recital.                                                                                                           |
| <b>May 17-21</b>    | Makeup Lesson Week. Friday availability may be limited due to Spring Concert rehearsal.                                                                                                                                                                                        |

### MAY SCHOOL CALENDAR NOTE

ECA has early dismissals on May 25-26 and May 28. Regular music lessons have concluded by these dates.

### PLEASE KEEP THIS CALENDAR

Families should refer to this calendar throughout the school year and check My Music Staff and email for any teacher-specific schedule changes, makeup arrangements, or program updates.