

Classical
WETA
90.9^{FM}



TAKE ACTION!



INSPIRED? TAKE ACTION!

Are you inspired by the music, performances, and interviews you heard on *Take Note*? Are you looking for ways to do more with your music, or looking for ways to start learning how to play an instrument?

Here are some ideas for you to get more out of your love for music, from getting started as a brand new beginner, to taking your music to the next level and spreading joy to others. We hope this will be a useful guide in your own musical journey.

Music is here for us to enjoy and share on any level. From your very first notes to the very best on stages across the world, we all have something to express: our passion and the beauty of music.

And it all starts with inspiration, hearing the greatest performers playing the masterpieces. Thank you as always for tuning in for all the great music.

From all of us here at
Classical WETA





BRAND NEW TO MUSIC?

So you've heard the great performances and interviews and you are excited and ready to start learning an instrument, or more about music. Here are some ideas to help you get started!

LEARNING AN INSTRUMENT

No matter where you live, we are lucky to have music in our public school systems. Whether you attend the particular school or not, contact your local middle school or high school band/orchestra/choir director. Depending on you or your child's age, they can help you get plugged in with the appropriate ensembles, either within the school curriculum or a community organization. Ensembles geared towards beginners provide group instruction on reading music, as well as learning how to play your chosen instrument.

They also often have a list of private teachers in your area that can give you individualized attention, and help you get started on the right foot! Local youth orchestras also often have a list of great teachers on their websites.

Contacting the Tri-M music honors society of your local high school is also a great option. Tri-M focuses on serving their local music community.

Online private lessons are also becoming very popular. Though it cannot replace an in-person teacher guiding you, online lessons can be a great resource in a pinch.

LEARNING MUSIC FOR ADULTS

If you are an adult looking to learn music for the first time, have no fear!

Many areas have choirs, whether it's through a religious organization, or an amateur choral society. Joining a choir is a great gateway for diving into the music world. Choral directors guide you through learning your part in rehearsals, and the great comradery makes it a very inviting community. Not sure where to start? Feel free to reach out to your local high school choir director! Music teachers are some of our fiercest advocates for music education, at any age!

If you are interested in learning an instrument, reach out, once again to your local high school band/orchestra director for a list of private teachers for your instrument. Often times, there are also local music schools or continuing education programs that provide private lessons. A private teacher is able to get you going with a great foundation, in both reading music and playing.

Once you've achieved a certain level of proficiency there are amateur orchestras and bands where you can begin making music with others!

WHERE TO GET AN INSTRUMENT?

The best recommendation for acquiring your own instrument is your local music shop, as well as national chains. Both offer rent-to-own options, and are able to service the instrument as needed. Every instrument is inspected and are expected to be in playable condition, and you are able to try different brands and models.

There is nothing more frustrating than trying to learn on an instrument in poor working order! Unless you have a professional to guide you, avoid buying used instruments by yourself online.

Many music shops also offer private lessons, and are a great source for local musical activities!

TAKE YOUR MUSIC TO THE NEXT LEVEL

*Do more with
your music!*

Have you already been playing for a while, but are wondering what more you can do with your music? Here are some ideas!

- If you are a middle school or high school student, consider auditioning for your regional Honors ensembles and All-State ensembles. No matter the outcome, this is a great opportunity to experience the stepping stones of playing on a higher level.
- If you are proficient in reading music or playing your instrument, volunteer your time to tutor or mentor a beginning student. Music has been passed down for thousands of years through the greats giving back to those wanting to learn. Furthermore, you are guaranteed to learn more about music and yourself through helping others learn.
- Form your own chamber group! The best part of music is making it with others. Find people you enjoy playing with, and start getting together to read through repertoire! Before long, you will start to have some pieces under your belts to organize concerts in your community. Don't be afraid to ask a professional to coach your group to get to the next level!
- Audition for local ensembles! Whether you are in school, or are an adult amateur, many areas have great youth and amateur orchestra programs. Preparing for the audition itself is a *great* motivator, and you will improve and learn a great deal from the preparation. When you become a member, you get to rehearse weekly, working towards concerts, learn how to play standard repertoire, and become motivated spending time and playing with others who are dedicated to music, just like you!



PERFORM!



The very essence of music is sharing your talents and artistry with others! You don't have to be a professional to perform for others. The beauty of music is that if you are genuine in what you are trying to say through your performance, your listener will take something away from hearing you play. Here are some ideas!

- If you're ready to take on solo repertoire, organize your own solo recital! Many religious organizations often allow you to use their facilities for a small fee, or sometimes in exchange for performing during their service. Find a great accompanist (music teachers have great recommendations), find a handful of pieces you enjoy playing, and invite your friends!
- Get creative and plan an online recital! With some basic setup, you can share your music with friends and family anywhere from the comfort of your own home!

Contact local hospitals or senior living centers and ask if they allow informal performances for their residents. Music is about sharing on any level, and often times they would love to have you perform and greet their residents. Performing for others is even more meaningful when you can connect with your audience. Take advantage of this informal opportunity to speak with your audience in-between pieces. You can talk about the composer, why you chose this piece, a fun anecdote...the sky is the limit!

Not ready to put on a whole program by yourself? Get your musician friends together! A variety of instruments and personalities is even more engaging for these kind of performances!