

MORRIS EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CENTER



Early Childhood Education at the Preucil School of Music

"A new world begins with a young child."

~Shinichi Suzuki

Twinkie Tunes Preschool

3 - 5 year olds

Parents may choose from a 5, 3, or 2-day morning preschool, with optional extended days, to meet their needs. We believe that children are human beings worthy of respect. Therefore, our approach focuses on creative exploration through the arts and sciences, which fosters an aesthetic awareness in life.

The preschool environment evolves as children's ideas are accepted and explored in our discovery-based curriculum. Children delight in exploration, problem-solving, risk taking, investigation and humor as they learn. The Twinkie Tunes Preschool nurtures cooperation, caring, action, intellect, knowledge and inherent motivation.

Music Together® Classes

Birth - 4 years

with parents, grandparents or caregivers

We offer the nationally recognized early childhood music program Music Together. This approach develops every child's birthright of basic music competence by encouraging the actual music experience through song, rhythm, movement and instrument play.

Music Together is:

- ◆ Music and movement for families
- ◆ Infants/toddlers/preschoolers
- ◆ Parent/child classes with parent education
- ◆ Music learned through playful activities in mixed-age classes
- ◆ Songbooks and CDs for all families to use at home



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Instrument Lessons

Beginning at age 3

“Enjoyment of the moment” is a key phrase that describes our program’s philosophy. It is our hope that parents will enjoy their children’s development as they move through these important learning years.



Pre-twinkle Lessons

(3-4 year olds)

Training in the Suzuki Method is started early in Pre-Twinkle instrument classes. These classes are offered bi-weekly to parents and children interested in violin, cello and/or piano. Each class has 2-3 children accompanied by parents and includes discussion and application of the Suzuki Philosophy, individual instruction for each student and group activities.

Performances for Instrumentalists

(3 years and up)

All students perform annually in a formal recital held in Wilson Auditorium. In addition, as part of the school’s “Outreach” program, there are special performance opportunities in the community for groups of children or soloists.

Group Instrument Classes

(5 years and up)

Weekly group classes are recommended for all string students and are based on ability level. Group classes reinforce the private lesson as the student gains facility and confidence on his/her instrument.

TWINKIE TUNES PRESCHOOL

Philosophy

We believe children are human beings worthy of respect. Therefore our approach focuses on creative exploration through the arts and sciences, which fosters an aesthetic awareness in life. Through this end it is our hope to form a partnership with parents that will manifest an active caring community.

The Preucil School of Music Preschool, fondly known as Twinkle Tunes Preschool, focuses on creative exploration, problem solving, risk taking, investigation and humor. We believe the environment is a stimulus to discovery-based learning. Our environment evolves as children’s ideas are accepted and explored as part of the curriculum.

It is our goal to help each child learn as much as they can in all areas of human experience as it fosters cooperation, caring, action, intellect, knowledge and inherent motivation.



Classes

Preucil Preschool offers 2-day (T Th), 3-day (M W F) and 5-day (M T W Th F) classes. The preschool meets in a two-classroom setting with an accessible art room between the two classrooms. Class sizes number between 17 and 19. Each class has a lead teacher and one or two aides. In addition, children are free to work in the art room, staffed by the art teacher, during any unscheduled times. A daily music class is also included.

The academic session meets from the end of August to the end of May. A six-week summer session begins in mid-June.

Admission Policy

The Preucil School of Music is a non-discriminatory, non-profit organization and a member of the National Guild of Community Schools of the Arts. Any child between the ages of *three and five who is toilet trained* is eligible to enroll in the Preucil School of Music Preschool.

Children are accepted for enrollment through the preschool waiting list placement policy, which is consistent with the standard waiting list procedure for the school. Parents interested in enrolling their children are encouraged to fill out a waiting list form. A nonrefundable, nontransferable \$40 fee is required to place your child on the waiting list.

Financial Aid

Small need-based scholarships are available to students who have attended preschool or who have enrolled in the required number of Music Together classes the preceding year.

Curriculum

The preschool environment is ever evolving as children's ideas are explored in our in-depth project approach curriculum. The preschool curriculum begins by listening to what the children wonder about. Because children's curiosities are considered in the selection process, the project is developmentally appropriate. The investigation happens individually, in small groups or as a class. There are a variety of instructional approaches: storytelling, drawing, painting, guest speakers, fieldtrips, discussion. Multiple ways to explore a topic provide children with diverse backgrounds or abilities easy equal opportunity to participate. The project approach enhances a child's feelings of competence, belonging, and being a contributor to the class. Every child brings their own experiences to school so all responses are valuable with levels of participation not determined by age.

“Our team continually praises Tricia and her staff for the excellent services they provide to children. They successfully mastered and implemented quality best practices and action plans. They are always positive and professional.

- Bill Landers,
Grant Wood AEA Consultant

The arts are a vital aspect of our curriculum, recognizing the crucial need for children to be able to express their ideas in multiple ways. The arts support problem solving, reflection, personal expression and community. When children have an opportunity to express their own ideas, they invent their own challenges, learn to consider possibilities, define themselves and express feelings. Working side by side there is a natural sharing of symbols. This back and forth teaches empathy and promotes friendships and community.

General Daily Schedule

- 8:45** Day begins
Free choice from a variety of activities such as painting, drawing, block play, clay, cooking, number games, dramatic play, woodworking, water play, science experiments, dramatic play, art activities, storytelling
- 9:45** Clean-up
Group time, stories and discussions
Snack
Music or Orff
Outdoors
- 12:00** Lunch (Children bring their own)
- 12:30** Get ready to go home
- 12:45** Dismissal
- 2:45** Extended-day dismissal



Optional Extended Day

An extended day to 2:45 is offered on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. Children may register for one, two, three, or all four days. If registration is for fewer than four days, it is for a set day or days, for example, all Mondays or all Mondays and Fridays. Drop-in spots for children who stay only occasionally may be available on a daily sign-up basis.

Afternoons include free choice of activities, Spanish instruction, snack and rest time.



PREUCIL SCHOOL *of* MUSIC

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The Preucil School of Music is a member of the National Guild of the Community Schools of the Arts and the Suzuki Association of the Americas.