

What is Orff Schulwerk?

Orff Schulwerk is a unique way to teach and learn music. It is based on things children like to do: sing, chant rhymes, move, dance, clap, and keep a beat on anything at hand. These instincts are directed into learning music by hearing and making music first and then reading and writing it later. This is the same way we all learned our language.

Orff Schulwerk happens in a non-competitive atmosphere where one of the rewards is the pleasure of making music together. The special Orff melody instruments include wooden xylophones and metal glockenspiels played together in a small orchestra. Poems, rhymes, games, and songs can be spoken, sung, and accompanied by instruments and movement.

The title "Schulwerk" is an indication of the educational process taking place: Schulwerk is learning by doing, that is, by being active and creative. Orff Schulwerk provides the opportunity for children to participate in their own musical education and personal growth as they create, listen and perform. Not only are their minds and imaginations stimulated but they are urged to give expression to their feelings. Orff Schulwerk introduces students of any age to a lifetime of pleasure in music, whether as participants or informed listeners.

Composer Carl Orff and his associate Gunild Keetman evolved the Schulwerk method as a model for teachers worldwide. More than 10,000 teachers in the United States have found the Schulwerk the ideal way to present the magic of music to their students.

The instructor, Susan Bond, is an Orff Schulwerk Music Specialist, certified by the American Orff Schulwerk Association. She is also an experienced Montessori teacher certified by the American Montessori Society. At one time a professional singer, she is the composer of many children's songs and musical activities. She has coordinated school music programs and written and directed children's musicals. At one time a classroom teacher at Santa Fe Montessori School, she now provides the school's music program for the toddlers, the Children's House students and the Junior One elementary students.

***Making Music* classes are held on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. Tuition is \$8 per class, billed monthly. For more information call Susan Bond at 858-271-9102**

