



# SONGBIRD KIDS

Rachel Whinton

[thesongbirdkids@gmail.com](mailto:thesongbirdkids@gmail.com)

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With experience leading music and movement classes for more than 290 children and drawing on 30+ years of a rich musical background in piano, violin, and vocal performance, Rachel nurtures the ongoing development of each young child's innate musicality using movement, music, instruments, sing-along books, and play.

## Experience

### **Cedar Rock Children's House | Crawford, TX | February 2022 – present**

*Music and Movement Teacher, Songbird Kids*

- Lead a bi-weekly music and movement class for children ages 18 months-5 years old
- Customize lesson plans (e.g., songs, books, movements, props, & instruments) to complement the current unit of study

### **St. Paul's Episcopal School | Waco, TX | February 2022 – April 2022**

*Long-Term Music Substitute*

- Implemented lesson plans for all enrolled students (ages 18 months to 12 years old)
- Personalized the instruction for early toddlers, 2's, 3's, and preschoolers
- Assisted with hot lunches by organizing them and delivering them to classrooms
- Graded assessments
- Assigned grades for report cards
- Collaborated with other teachers for behavioral interventions

### **Tiny Treble Makers (Music Together®) | Waco, TX | August 2019 – April 2022**

*Registered Music Together® Teacher and Licensed In-School Specialist*

- Planned & taught weekly classes (both in person and on Zoom) that facilitated creative musical expression with and without instruments, rhythmic movement, and connection with friends and families.
- Encouraged families and caregivers to participate in music-making at home
- Attended online Songs & Skills workshops
- Participated in professional development webinars (e.g., "How Music Supports Executive Function," Dr. Lili Levinowitz, May 7, 2021)
- Maintained the Family Portal webpage
- Marketed classes on social media platforms
- Provided free, online demo classes to three Early Childhood classes at Waco Montessori School during quarantine
- Donated MT merchandise for Waco Montessori School's silent auction

Key achievement:

- Quickly and successfully transitioned from in-person classes to an online platform at the start of the pandemic, bringing Music Together to families all over the country (Colorado, Georgia, Minnesota, & Texas).

### **Baylor University Graduate School | Waco, TX | August 2010 – May 2014**

*Assistant for Graduate Studies and Professional Development*

- Managed benefits for graduate students
- Completed expense reports
- Scheduled meetings and maintained data on graduate students
- Coordinated events for graduate faculty, staff, and students
- Maintained budgets for various student groups
- Prepared travel documents and itineraries
- Created and updated webpages

Key achievement:

- Initiated collaboration with Baylor's Information Technology Services (ITS) to develop a simplified process for determining which Teachers of Record qualified for benefits, a very time-intensive process without the help of ITS.

### **CPMG, Inc. | Dallas, TX | September 2008 – May 2010**

*Administrative Associate*

- Provided administrative support to office management and research analysts by:
  - Greeting guests and creating a warm front office environment
  - Scheduling calls and meetings
  - Entering data into spreadsheets
  - Executing various administrative tasks including, but not limited to, filing, sorting mail, copying, scanning, faxing, and ordering supplies
- Assisted CPA by:
  - Creating monthly and quarterly Excel reports
  - Paying company bills
  - Reconciling bank accounts

### **Dartmouth Elementary, Richardson ISD | Richardson, TX | August 2006 – June 2008**

*Fourth Grade Teacher*

- Collaborated with teachers to plan and implement lessons in all subjects
- Scheduled and facilitated parent conferences
- Maintained detailed portfolios on all students

Key achievement:

- Fostered a caring, compassionate classroom environment for all students by adopting Tribes Learning Communities, a social emotional learning program (now called Peace Learning Circles).

### **Education**

Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies (magna cum laude)

*Emphasis in Early Childhood Education*

Texas A&M University in College Station, TX

2002–2006

### **Professional Memberships**

Early Childhood Music & Movement Association (ECMMA)

### **Relevant Skills**

- Communication
- Enthusiasm & friendliness
- Learner-centered instruction
- Quick learner
- Perspective-taking
- Team-player
- Creative
- Empathy & compassion
- Modeling cultural humility
- Cooperative learning
- Voice, piano, violin, & ukulele
- Music theory
- Translating & integrating complex musical elements into instruction
- Gregarious
- Trustworthy
- Organized
- Fluent in Microsoft Office 365 Suite, proficient in HTML code and multiple social media platforms

## **Music Teaching Certifications & Continuing Education**

- The Learning Groove Teacher Training (August 31, 2022)
- Music Together® Teacher Training (July 26-28, 2019)
- Attended all Music Together® Online (MTO) webinars
- “Effects and Mechanisms of Music Listening on Clinical Outcomes: A Discussion of Music-Oriented Cognitive-Affective Theory and Current Studies” April 6, 2022. Graduate Colloquium for Psychology & Neuroscience at Baylor University. Morgan Snyder and Joshua Rhodes. Mind-Body Medicine Research Lab.

## References

**M'Lissa Howen, M.Ed.**

*Head of School, St. Paul's Episcopal School*

517 Columbus Ave.

Waco, TX, 76701

254-753-0246

[mhowen@speswaco.org](mailto:mhowen@speswaco.org)

**Lauren Weber, M.F.A. (Musical Theatre) & M. Mus. (Vocal Performance)**

*Lecturer in Musical Theatre, Baylor University*

One Bear Place #97262

Waco, TX, 76798

(254) 710-1897

[lauren\\_weber@baylor.edu](mailto:lauren_weber@baylor.edu)

**Valerie Kocel, MT-BC**

*Director & Registered Teacher, Tiny Treble Makers*

919 Losak Rd.

Robinson, TX, 76706

440-390-8398

[Valerie@tinytreblemakers.com](mailto:Valerie@tinytreblemakers.com)

**Dr. T. Laine Scales, Ph.D.**

*Professor & PhD Co-Director, Diana R. Garland School of Social Work*

811 Washington Ave

Waco, TX 76701

254-710-6281

[Laine\\_Scales@baylor.edu](mailto:Laine_Scales@baylor.edu)

**Dr. Chris Rios, Ph.D.**

*Assistant Dean, Baylor University Graduate School*

One Bear Place #97264

Waco, TX, 76798

254-710-3427

[chris\\_rios@baylor.edu](mailto:chris_rios@baylor.edu)

**Dr. Larry Lyon, Ph.D.**

*Vice Provost & Dean, Baylor University Graduate School*

One Bear Place #97264

Waco, TX, 76798

254-710-3588

[Larry\\_lyon@baylor.edu](mailto:Larry_lyon@baylor.edu)