



2025 -2026

PROGRAMS & EVENTS



720 5th Avenue | Grinnell, IA | 50112
www.grinnellschoolofmusic.org

Welcome to Grinnell School of Music!

Who We Are

We are a non-profit community music school in Grinnell where children and adults access professional music instruction. With an emphasis on participatory, community music-making in addition to excellence in performance, we provide opportunities for *all* ages through music lessons in a variety of styles and instruments, group classes, and special events.



Accessibility & Inclusion

Music does not discriminate, and neither do we. We strive to provide a welcoming, inclusive environment.

Location

Unless otherwise noted, programs take place at our beautiful new facility, located at 720 5th Avenue in Grinnell. Our building is wheelchair accessible.



Financial Aid & Pay-What-You-Can

Tuition costs listed reflect the true cost-per-student to run our programs. Our “pay-what-you-can” option helps ensure *everyone* can participate. Read more on page 22.



How to Register

We use an online registration system called Fons. You can find all registration links here:



grinnellschoolofmusic.org/sign-up-now

Table of Contents



Welcome to Grinnell School of Music!	1
General Information and Financial Aid	
Music Together® Grinnell	3
Early childhood music & movement. <i>For ages 0-5, with a caregiver</i>	
MiniKeys & Jam Band 101	5
Play games & write songs in your own rock band! <i>For grades PK-2</i>	
Grinnell Children's Choir	7
Develop musicianship skills while singing with friends. <i>For grades K-5</i>	
Music Lessons	9
1:1 Music lessons for all ages and stages!	
Group Classes & Workshops	11
Drumming, singing, music production, and sound technology	
Drop-in Programs	13
Come as you are, when you can!	
Sing-Along Movie Series	17
Sing along while you watch your favorite musical movies.	
Student Concerts, Recitals, and Special Events	19
Book Our Space	21
Small and large studios available for rehearsal and recording.	
Financial Aid & Pay-What-You-Can Policy	22
We're committed to making sure that cost is not a barrier to participation.	



Music Together® Grinnell

Ages 0-5, with a caregiver

Music Together® gathers babies, toddlers, preschoolers, and the grownups who love them, to play musically. Little ones love playing along in class, and caregivers love being a part of their children's growth into confident music-makers. Original songs and traditional favorites will have you tapping along in no time. Music Together® is the perfect family activity. Each session's tuition includes 8-10 weekly classes, a beautiful illustrated songbook, CD or download code, access to online resources, and more!

Saturdays, 9am and 10am **Thursdays, 9:30am and 5:30pm***

Fall Session
September 11 to November 13

Winter Session
January 8 to March 14

Spring Session
March 26 to May 30

**Class times subject to change for Winter
& Spring sessions*

Fees

- \$240 per session
- \$160 for additional siblings from the same household
- Children under 8 months attend **FREE** with an older enrolled sibling

SAVE with school-year enrollment

Sign up for Fall, Winter & Spring and save 15% with a monthly payment plan.
First child: \$68/month (September - May)
Additional sibling(s): \$46/month



Tinsel Tunes

Ages 0-5, with a caregiver

Holiday-themed drop-in classes are perfect for families who want to try Music Together® for the first time, or returning families looking for extra classes between our regular Winter and Spring sessions. Grandchildren or other little ones visiting for the holidays are especially welcome!

Tinsel Tunes classes feature songs from the Music Together collections alongside festive and seasonal favorites.

Saturdays, 9:30-10:15am

November 22
November 29
December 6
December 13
December 20
January 3

Fees

- \$20 per class
- \$15 per class for additional siblings from the same household
- Children under 8 months attend *FREE* with an older enrolled sibling

Attend 3 or more and save!

Enjoy \$5 off *per class* when you register for 3 or more Tinsel Tunes classes!

Music Together classes are taught by Libby Albright, Erin Bustin, and Ollie Peterson



Grades 1-2, no more than 5 students per class

A game-based, songwriting-centered program that inspires collaboration and communication through music. Perfect for beginners or kids with 1-2 years of lesson or band experience.



Core Music Fluencies

Students form their very own rock band and explore rhythm, harmony, melody, and songwriting with an expert instructor.



Group Songwriting

Band members collaborate to write songs, gaining confidence in their creativity and finding joy in music.

2 x 15-week terms

September 27-January 27
February 2-May 12

Jam Band Classes

Tuesdays, 5:30-6:30pm
Saturdays, 1:00-2:00pm

Bands perform for parents and friends during the last class of each term.



Grades PK-K, no more than 4 students per class

Plant the seeds for a growing love of music! Through games, songs, and instrument play, Mini Keys nurtures creativity, kindness, and friendship in a musical environment.



Instrument Exploration

Kids get to explore drums, keyboards, guitar, and vocals, preparing them for future lessons on the instruments they like best.



Game-Based Learning

Skills are taught through fun, engaging games, and students get online access to continue the fun at-home!

MiniKeys Classes

Mondays, 5:30-6:15pm

Saturdays, 11:30am-12:15pm

Bands perform for parents and friends during the last class of each term.

Fees

\$140 per month (4 months)

SAVE with school-year enrollment

Sign up for both terms for \$120/month (8 months)

Mini Keys and Jam Band 101 classes are taught by Libby Albright and Joshua Rex 6



Grinnell Children's Choir

For children in grades K-5

Founded in 2017, Grinnell Children's Choir provides foundational musicianship and choral training for singers in grades K-5 in or near Grinnell. Members learn songs, make new friends, and put on several concerts throughout the school year. In addition to music and singing skills, children learn about teamwork and build confidence.

Fridays, 3:30-4:30pm

Supervision and a snack provided from 3:00-3:30

Location

GCC meets in the lower level of Grinnell United Church of Christ (902 Broad Street). GNSD students may take the bus directly from school to the downtown (Arts Council) stop, where they are greeted by volunteers and accompanied to rehearsal.

September 5, 2025 to May 22, 2026

GCC follows the Grinnell-Newburg School District calendar and does not meet on in-service days or during school breaks.



Fees

- \$280 (\$140 each term, September to December & January to May)
- Pay in September for the whole year and save \$30!



Grinnell Children's Choir Concerts

Friday, November 21, 5:30pm (Jingle Bell Holiday)

Friday, December 12, 5:30pm

Friday, May 15, 5:30pm

Concerts will be held at the Grinnell UCC (902 Broad Street)

Additional performance opportunities may arise throughout the school year.

Grinnell Children's Choir Ensemble

Open to all GCC singers in grades 4 & 5, and younger members by invitation

An extra challenge for older and more experienced singers and those who are ready for additional musical and leadership development opportunities. The Ensemble focuses on music literacy and harmony-singing, and performs a special selection or two in GCC concerts.

Fridays, 4:45-5:15pm

GCC Ensemble meets immediately following regular rehearsals.

Fees

- \$100 (\$50 each term, September to December & January to May)
- Pay in September for the whole year and save \$20!



"I have been taking piano lessons and am learning so much. The atmosphere is welcoming and the special events are fun!"

~Catherine, adult student



Music Lessons

All Ages

For students 8 & under, please consider our other programs for young children, or contact us to discuss whether private music lessons are the right fit for your child.

We currently offer instruction on the following instruments:

- Bass
- Bassoon
- Cello
- Clarinet
- Drums
- Fiddle
- Flute
- Guitar
- Improvisation
- Music Production
- Music Theory
- Oboe
- Organ
- Piano
- Saxophone
- Ukulele
- Violin
- Voice/Singing

If your desired instrument isn't listed here, please contact us! We will do our best to find an instructor for you.

Weekly lessons are our most popular option. We also offer prepaid lesson packages for those looking for more flexibility, preparing for a specific audition or performance, or who want to see if it's a good fit before committing. See our website for more information about prepaid lesson packages.



"Piano helped me learn notes and keys, which helped me start percussion in band, and now I take drum lessons, too. Recitals help us get experience handling nervousness in front of audiences."

~Mateo, age 11.

September 2, 2025 to May 29, 2026

Lesson enrollment is ongoing - students may start lessons at any point during the year, pending teacher availability. Lesson timing is determined upon enrollment.

There are no lessons during GNSD school breaks or on statutory holidays. We *do* hold regular weekly lessons on GNSD in-service/professional development days.

How to register

New private-lesson students must schedule a New Student Intake meeting with the Director. We will discuss student goals, teacher fit and availability, instrument access or acquisition, and scheduling considerations.



Tuition (weekly lessons)

- 30-minute lesson - \$130/month
- 45-minute lesson - \$160/month
- 60-minute lesson - \$195/month

Books, Music, & Recital Fee - \$75

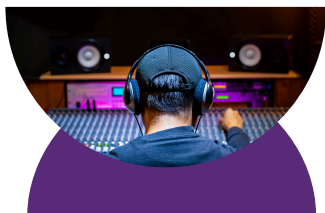
This once-annual fee covers student learning materials, lesson books, sheet music, and recital participation.

Tuition is calculated assuming 32 lessons throughout the regular program year, paid in equal monthly installments. Tuition fees account for breaks, holidays, illnesses, or other absences.

Meet our team of incredible instructors: grinnellschoolofmusic.org/teaching-team

Group Classes & Workshops

Explore, learn, be creative, and join a musical community! New group classes and workshops are added throughout the year, so stay tuned on our website and by subscribing to our e-news. Typically, registration for group classes opens one month prior to the first class.



Fees

\$120 per session

Thursdays

7:00-8:00pm

2 x 4-week sessions

September 25 to October 16 *no class October 9*

February 5-26

Sound Tech 101

All ages

Under 16 must attend with a participating adult

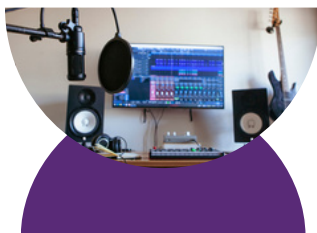
Whether you're a performer or an aspiring sound technician, this class will teach you the fundamental skills you need to know. You'll learn your way around a soundboard and basic PA setup including mics, amps, and monitors. You don't need to own your own equipment to participate in this class.

Taught by Jenna Kelley from The Loop Music Company

Music Production: Garage Band

Grades 5-8 and 15+

Learn the fundamentals of recording, mixing, and production... on the device you already have! Garage Band is a free app on iOS devices. GNSD students may use their school-issued iPad.



Taught by Joshua Rex

Fees

\$120 per session

Wednesdays

7:00-8:00pm

2 x 4-week sessions - Grades 5-8

September 30 to October 21

February 3 to 24

2 x 4-week sessions - 15+

October 28 to November 18

March 31 to April 21

Grinnell Percussive Arts Club

Ages 8-10, no more than 8 students

In this fun and interactive club, kids will explore percussion patterns and rhythms from around the world, with a special focus on African and Cuban musical traditions. Using a variety of instruments, participants will learn to play dynamic rhythms, work as an ensemble, and build a strong musical foundation through movement, listening, and hands-on practice. Along the way, participants will strengthen social and listening skills, develop coordination, and discover the joy of making music together in a group.

Taught by Sara McCue



Fees

- \$200 each session
- Payable in 3 installments
- Sign up for both and save \$30!

2 x 8-week sessions

September 17 to November 19
no class October 22 or 29

January 21 to March 11

Wednesdays

4:30-5:15pm



Songsters Group Singing Lessons

Ages 6-8, no more than 6 students

In this playful group lesson, children will explore their singing voices with fun, animal-themed games and songs. Students will build vocal confidence, develop their musical ears, and build the foundations of music literacy.

Perfect for young children interested in starting voice lessons, Songsters helps kids discover their voices while developing rhythm, pitch, and listening skills.

The session will conclude with a special performance at our Recital on Sunday, April 26, where Songsters can proudly share what they've learned.

Fees

- \$360 includes take-home song book
- payable in three monthly installments

Thursdays

3:30-4:15pm
February 29 to April 23



GRINNELL SCHOOL *of* MUSIC

Drop-In Programs

Designed for those who may be unable to commit to regular classes but who want to be part of a musical community, our drop-in programs allow you to attend whenever it works for you.

Fees

- \$15 per event, or pay-what-you-can
- Subscribe for \$50/month - attend all the programs you'd like, *and* help support the Grinnell School of Music!

To Register

Advance registration is recommended, but we will do our best to accommodate you at the door. Drop-in programs will be open for registration on our website no later than one month prior to each event:

<https://fons.app/@grinnellschoolofmusic/book/workshops>





Drum Circle

All ages, no experience necessary

This energizing class provides a welcoming environment to explore rhythm through group drumming.

Drumming in a group has powerful benefits: it supports physical coordination, relieves stress, sharpens focus, and boosts mood. It also builds community, encouraging connection, listening, and collaboration. Instruments are provided, or feel free to bring your own.

Come move, connect, and make some joyful noise!

**Wednesdays, 1:00-1:45pm
& Sundays, 2:00-2:45pm**

Facilitated by Linda Harvey

Pop-up Choir

18+, no experience necessary

Select Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30 pm:

September 10

October 8

November 5

December 10

January 14

February 11

March 11

April 8



A low-pressure evening of music-making! Each session features a different hit song from the last 50+ years of pop music. Whether you know the tune or not, our instructors will guide you through learning the melody and harmony parts step-by-step. By the end of the night, we'll sing the full song together in 2- or 3-part harmony.

Group singing has been shown to boost mood, reduce stress, and create a sense of belonging—plus, it's just plain fun. Pop-Up Choir is a great way to connect with others, build confidence, and experience the joy of shared musical expression.

Enjoy a relaxed atmosphere and complimentary snacks and beverages.

Open Jam Session

18+, some experience recommended

Join us for a jam session where the setlist is up to you. Dive into classic rock, folk, and country favorites, and bring your own song suggestions. This is a space to connect, collaborate, and play music in a creative environment.

Bring your own instrument or use one of ours: we've got a full setup including a drum kit, auxiliary percussion, acoustic and digital piano, synthesizer, electric and acoustic guitar, microphones, amps, and a mixing board.

We can provide lead sheets on request, but there's no need to read music to participate. Just bring your ears, your skills, and your love of playing.



Hosted by Jon Edwards, with Jenna Kelley from The Loop Music Company

Select Sundays, 4:00-5:30pm:

October 5	February 1
November 2	March 8
December 7	April 12
January 4	May 3



Musical Theater Singalong

All ages, no experience necessary

Under 16 must attend with a participating adult

Belt out your favorite show tunes alongside fellow Broadway lovers. Accompanied live on piano by talented local musicians, this series brings the magic of musical theater to an informal, joy-filled setting.

We'll provide a curated songbook full of beloved hits from classic and contemporary musicals, and you're encouraged to make requests. Whether you sing every word or just hum along, all voices are welcome.

Light snacks and beverages are provided.

Select Dates, 7:00-8:30 pm:

Tuesday, September 23	Thursday, February 26
Thursday, October 30	Tuesday, March 24
Tuesday, January 27	Thursday, April 23

Celtic Jam

All ages, no experience necessary
Under 16 must attend with a participating adult

Select Sundays, 3:30-5:00pm:


September 21	January 18
October 19	February 8
November 23	March 15
December 14	April 19
	May 17

Explore the rich musical traditions of Scotland, Ireland, and Cape Breton in this welcoming Celtic Jam Session led by fiddler and multi-instrumentalist Joshua Rex. Whether you're a seasoned player or new to jam sessions, this is a great opportunity to explore Celtic music in a supportive environment.



Participants may bring their own instruments, or borrow one from Grinnell School of Music's collection. A songbook of traditional Celtic tunes will be provided, and Joshua will guide players of all levels in joining the session, offering tips, cues, and encouragement along the way.

Blending live music, cultural exploration, and skill-building, this program is perfect for those who are curious about group playing but aren't sure where to start.



"I am just happy every time I walk in the door, because I know this is a place that is connecting people with music, which connects them to themselves and others."

~Liz, parent and participant

Singalong Movies

All ages

Under 16 must attend with a participating adult

Watch your favorite musical films on the big screen with lyrics provided so everyone can sing along. Sing along to every word, or just enjoy the show! Costumes and enthusiastic singing are encouraged, and snacks and beverages will be served.

Tickets

Advance registration is recommended. Tickets will be available on our website no later than one month prior to each event:

www.grinnellschoolofmusic.org/singalong-movies



Mamma Mia!

ABBA's greatest hits and an all-star cast feature in this feel-good musical. Sing along to hits like "Dancing Queen", and dress for the disco or the Greek Isles!

Friday, September 26 - 7:00pm





Coco

Celebrate *Día de los Muertos* with this beloved animated Disney film. We'll sing along to favorites like "Remember Me" and "Un Poco Loco," and enjoy themed decor and treats.

Saturday, November 1 - 3:00pm



The Muppet Christmas Carol

The whole family can enjoy this heartwarming (and hilarious) take on the classic tale. Celebrate the holiday season with music, laughter, and a little Muppet magic!

**Saturday, December 13 - 4:00pm
& Sunday, December 21 - 2:00pm**



High School Musical

Get your head in the game and sing your heart out! With Grinnell High School gearing up for their own musical, it's the perfect time to celebrate this fan-favorite – because *we're all in this together!*

Thursday, January 29 - 7:00pm



The Greatest Showman

It's your chance to be part of *the greatest show!* The conclusion of our 2025-26 singalong movie series celebrates the power of dreams and daring to be different.

Saturday, March 21 - 2:00pm

Save the date! Don't miss *Legally Blonde: The Musical* at Grinnell High School
April 17-19, 2026



"You or your child will walk away
with more confidence and a sense of
belonging in a musical community."
~Jess, parent

Student Concerts & Recitals

Studio-Wide Recitals

Students from all studios are invited to share their hard work with family and friends.

Select Sundays, 2:00pm

November 16

March 1

April 26

Grinnell Children's Choir Concerts

Select Fridays, 5:30pm

November 21

December 12

May 15

Admission

Student recitals and concerts are free to attend and open to the public. We invite guests other than immediate family members to consider a donation of \$10.

Location

Studio recitals and Grinnell Children's Choir concerts are held at the Grinnell United Church of Christ (902 Broad Street). We are grateful to the Grinnell UCC for the use of their beautiful space for our performances!



Special Events

Kids Music Day Open House

Children will be invited to check out Grinnell School of Music's instruments, and to create their own unique instrument using recycled materials. This event will also include a demo class of Music Together® and a drum circle. Save the date! More details will be announced soon.

This is part of the 10th Annual Kids Music Day celebrations. Organized by the nonprofit organization Keep Music Alive, Kids Music Day focuses on the importance of music in children's education and development. Read more on their website: <https://www.keepmusicalive.org/kids-music-day>

Saturday, October 4 - 2:00-4:00pm

Jingle Bell Holiday at Grinnell School of Music

Visit Grinnell School of Music during Grinnell's beloved downtown holiday extravaganza! The Grinnell Children's Choir kicks things off with a performance at the Grinnell UCC. Back at our building, we'll have community carol singing, color-your-own ornaments, and festive treats.

Friday, November 21

Grinnell Children's Choir Concert - 5:30pm (Grinnell UCC, 902 Broad Street)
Grinnell School of Music Open House - 6:00-8:00pm (720 5th Avenue)



Book Our Space

Whether you're recording an audition, starting a podcast, or just need rehearsal space for your band, Grinnell School of Music has flexible, affordable rooms and equipment to fit your needs. From cozy 50-square-foot practice rooms to the spacious Marion Austin Jones Classroom, we offer a range of creative spaces to support your project.

Daytime, evening, and weekend hours are available, and a variety of instruments and equipment can be reserved for onsite use with advance notice.

- Acoustic and digital pianos, including a 6' grand piano
- Drum kits
- Electric and acoustic guitars, ukuleles, and other instruments
- Multi-channel professional mixer
- Vocal and instrumental microphones and amps
- 125" screen and digital projector

Email director@grinnellschoolofmusic.org to inquire

Financial Aid & Pay-What-You-Can

Music should be available to everyone.

With the support of our donors and the Vosburg Music Fund, we are committed to offering pay-what-you-can options for *all* programs.

Tuition and fees listed reflect the true cost-per-student to run our programs. If for any reason this amount is not feasible for you or your family, simply opt for the pay-what-you-can options when you register, or talk to our Director.

To talk about pay-what-you-can options for yourself or your family, email Erin: director@grinnellschoolofmusic.org




Support our Mission

Grinnell School of Music is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Our pay-what-you-can policy is part of our mission, and we rely on the support of our community to make it possible.



www.grinnellschoolofmusic.org/donate



 [Donate](#)



Follow us!  

@grinnellschoolofmusic

Follow our Instagram or Facebook accounts to stay in the loop about our programs and special events!

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