



Dear CMSS Families,

As we move through these uncertain times, moments of clarity and direction feel scarce, but when provided can offer a sense of comfort. We know you have a lot on your mind, and there are still more questions than answers in this unsettled world, but we are reaching out to you today with some clarity and direction regarding music lessons and classes at Community Music School of Springfield.

CMSS has committed to continuing to financially support our faculty and staff during the COVID-19 pandemic closure. Our dedicated and talented team of compassionate teachers, administrators, and staff members have enabled CMSS to thrive for more than 36 years, and during a time of crisis, we have the opportunity and privilege to stand by them.

We commit to also do right by our students and families. We are monitoring local and federal mandates very closely, and although we are not clear yet on a reopen date, we will provide updates and be in touch about restarting lessons and classes just as soon as it is safe to do so. We can't wait to see you again! In the meantime, we will continue to cultivate community and connection through music. Our faculty will be committed to reaching CMSS students through this closure, whether that be through virtual mentorship, FaceTime music lessons, the sharing of resources, the sparking of inspiration, or a simple phone call to check in on your family's well-being. All of us at CMSS commit to being a source of hope and beauty for the greater community at a time when it is so

desperately needed.

Community Music School of Springfield is proud to do the right thing for our community.

We invite you to please help us deliver on the commitments we've made to support our faculty and staff during our closure.

If you are able, we humbly request that you continue to pay your March, April, and May invoices. When we reopen, this will enable students to start right back with their lessons/classes, and CMSS will prorate any missed lessons/classes during the closure, creating a credit on your account that can be used for any summer 2020 or 2020-2021 school-year lessons or classes for anyone in your family.

Please [click here](#) to let us know how you'd like to proceed with your lessons and/or classes through the remainder of the school year.

Changes to Summer 2020

Regarding summer 2020, we will still offer private lessons, semi-private lessons, and adult beginner classes. We'll start registration for summer lessons and classes in mid-April, and we won't require tuition payment for summer until we have communicated our reopen date.

All K-12 summer sessions (Sonido Band/Orchestra, Musical Theatre, and Jazz & Blues) are cancelled. Although this will be a disappointing loss for our community, we feel that asking community members (faculty and families alike) to commit to a date-constrained session is unwise when we are still unclear on a reopen date at this time.

Please note that Prelude Preschool will offer flexible programming all summer long. Prelude Summer Session will mimic the school year schedule (rather than the originally planned six weeks of summer-specific curriculum and scheduling). Enrollment for Prelude Summer Sessions will start in mid-April and will continue through the spring. Please [contact us](#) if you'd like to learn more about summer care for your 3-6 year-old.

A New School Year on the Horizon: Fall 2020

We will proceed with enrollment for the 2020-21 school year. In a few weeks, we'll be in communication about how to reserve your lesson slot for fall while taking advantage of our early bird registration discount. We are hoping to help students reserve their slots soon, but we will be flexible with families about deposit deadlines to accommodate for financial uncertainty this pandemic may cause. We're also still accepting financial aid applications - please [click here](#) to get started online.

[Click here](#) to tell us how you'd like to proceed with lessons and/or classes for the remainder of this school year.

Please Stay Connected with Us!

We pledge to continue to be an organization that eagerly and earnestly responds to the needs of its community. Music is a balm for a hurting world, and while we may be distanced socially, we commit to do our part to use music as a vehicle to spread joy and encourage vital human connection amidst these troubling times.

During this time of social distance, we hope you're practicing with your instrument and flexing your creative muscles!

[Send us a video](#) of you making music so we can spread your joy and help our community to connect via social media.

Do you follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)? Tune in to watch fellow students' videos and share in our community's collective creativity.