
SG Music News

34 Third Street

Orangeville, Ontario

JANUARY 2026

2025 Students' Christmas Album

20 Students participate in Multi-track recording project.

It's my belief that collaboration is one of the most important elements of musical education. Teaching students one-on-one lets the teacher tailor lessons to each individual, but if students don't have a chance to collaborate with other musicians, they miss out on an important opportunity for growth. With this in mind, this past fall I decided to embark on a large scale multi-track recording project with my students.

Starting in November, we got together in small groups and as individuals, and pieced together an album of Christmas songs. The initial recording sessions took place over the weekend of November 15 and 16.

On Saturday November 15th, a group of students recorded the "bed-tracks" (in this instance, bass and drums) for the songs *Jingle Bells*, *O Little Town of Bethlehem*, and *Winter Wonderland*. The following day, a different group came in and recorded bed-tracks for the songs *Jolly Old Saint Nicholas*, and *Joy to the World*.

From there, we continued recording additional instruments during lesson time, as well as at extra sessions on weekends.



Students played a wide range of instruments on the recordings – along with drums and bass, we overdubbed electric, acoustic, and classical guitars, piano, synthesizer, shakers, glockenspiel, alto saxophone and vocals.

Recording went right up to the end of the last week of lessons for 2025. The final tracks were recorded on December 22nd. From there, all the songs were mixed, which means all of the sounds we'd recorded were balanced, so everything sounded as good as possible.

Students made artwork to go along with each of the nine songs, so the final task was to photograph all of the art to use for YouTube thumbnail pictures.

The full album can be heard via YouTube:

[Students' Christmas Album](#)

January lesson Availability

I currently have a handful of openings weekday evenings.

On Mondays, I'm available for lessons after 7:15.

On Tuesdays, I'm available after 7:00.

On Wednesdays, I'm available for lessons after 7:45.

On Thursdays, I'm available after 8:00.

On Fridays, I'm available for lessons after 7:15.

After school lessons are almost fully booked – my only opening is Thursday at 3:45.

I have lots of openings weekdays through the morning and early afternoon. For anyone interested in daytime lessons, please reach out and I can give you some options.

Please call or text for more information:

(226) 200 - 1605

January Drum Lesson Special!

One of my goals for 2026 is to take on a number of drum students. I'm planning lots of collaborative musical projects for my students this year, and I need dedicated drummers! There will be opportunities to perform live, as well as studio recording.

I've played drums for over 30 years – it was the second instrument I learned how to play after guitar. I've taught drums in the past, but until now was not properly set up at my home lesson studio to offer lessons.

I have a gorgeous Gretsch kit, but as it's full size and set up for an adult to play, it isn't ideal for teaching.

With this in mind, I recently purchased a beautiful, vintage Coronet blue sparkle three piece drum kit, from [Aardvark Music and Culture](#).

A standard drum kit has a 22" bass drum, whereas my Coronet has an 18" bass. This means it sets up very nicely for smaller drummers.

I'm offering an introductory special on drum lessons. Anyone who buys 5 drum lessons in January 2026 will save 25% (5 lessons for \$93.75). Drum lessons purchased in January can commence at any time.



JANUARY DRUM LESSON SPECIAL

• BUY FIVE LESSONS AND SAVE 25% •

Spring Concert

In May 2025, I hosted my first Students' Concert in many years. The event, held at the Concert Hall at [Windrush Estate Winery](#), was a great success.

It was with sadness that I recently learned Windrush are no longer hosting music, so I will be doing some research into a venue for this year's event.

It's my intention to hold the event toward the end of May, once again featuring both band and solo performances.

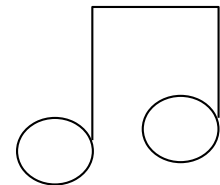
I'll start arranging some dates for band rehearsals in early February. I'll be talking to students to see who is interested in playing as part of a group, and we will go from there.

Original Recording Project

Starting this winter, all interested students will have the opportunity to take part in a new recording project.

For this project, we will be working on original songs. Students will have the option of either recording all of the instruments themselves, or working with other students to record collaboratively.

We will also spend some time talking about the technology and equipment used in the making of a multi-track recording.



Please feel free to contact me with any questions!

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