



COVENANT

CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

2025-2026
CCA Music Lesson Program
Informational Handbook

Covenant Christian Academy
83 Pine Street, West Peabody, MA 01960
978-535-7100 / www.covenantchristianacademy.org

2025-2026

CCA Music Lesson Program

Covenant fully embraces the value of the musical arts in a student's education, especially the benefits that come from one-on-one personal instruction. Our music lesson programs are designed to meet the needs of students wishing to pursue a musical instrument and develop life-long musical skills and appreciation. The following information provides details on our music lesson programs, policies, faculty, and fees.

All students in Grades 4-12 are invited to participate in *Covenant's Music Lesson* program. Students who participate in this program will be able to take lessons from our instrumental instructors on one of the following instruments: flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, euphonium/baritone horn, and drums/percussion. There is also instruction for piano, voice, guitar/bass/ukulele and violin, viola, and cello. Students in Grades K-12 are eligible for violin, viola, cello and piano lessons, while students in Grades 3-12 are eligible for guitar/bass/ukulele, drum and voice lessons.

Students receive 28 lessons during the school year (there is an option for additional lessons during the last part of the school year). Lesson fees can be paid all at once or be split up into monthly payments. Payment is made directly to Covenant Christian Academy. There is a one-time nonrefundable \$25 registration fee factored in to the total cost for lessons.

For more information on our music lesson programs and instructors, please refer to the enclosed materials.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call or email.

On behalf of the Music Department faculty,

Lisa Coleman
Director of Fine Arts

Strive for Excellence. Do Your Best. Honor God. Have Fun!

2025-2026 Covenant Music Faculty



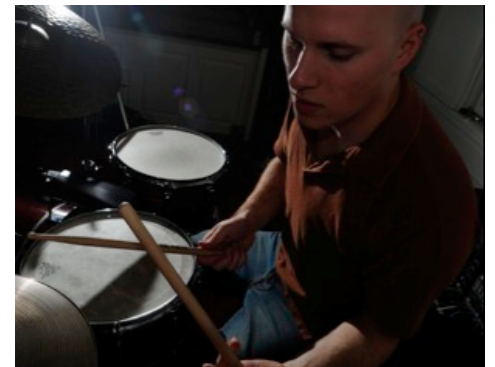
Miss Hannah Cohen (piano) is a classically trained pianist with over ten years of experience teaching private lessons. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music with a Concentration in Piano Pedagogy from Covenant College. She enjoys working with students of all ages and especially loves the mentoring role that comes with working individually with young growing musicians. Her goal is to keep them motivated and invested in the learning process, develop well-rounded musical skills, and nurture an appreciation of beauty and creativity that serves them far beyond the keyboard. In addition to her work at Covenant, Hannah teaches lessons privately and serves periodically as an accompanist for church services, recitals, weddings, and other events. This will be Hannah's fifteenth year teaching at Covenant.

Mr. Henley Douglas Jr. (alto sax and flute) has been playing saxophones and flute professionally in the Boston area for over 40 years. Henley studied at New England Conservatory and has toured internationally as a member of the Heavy Metal Horns and with his band the Boston Horns. He's been a private instructor for over 20 years. Henley is a cofounder of the Salem Jazz and Soul Festival, which he ran for 15 years. Henley has been a large encourager to our student musicians, helping them learn and understand how to "gig" in the music industry. This is Mr. Douglas' third year teaching at Covenant.



Mr. Billy Garzone (guitar/bass/ukulele) has been teaching private music lessons for over 25 years. He has taught for American School of Music, Governor's Academy, National Music and runs his own private teaching practice. Billy has had students become Berklee graduates and has lead students to showcases for Nickelodeon and Disney and opening up for major acts including Arianna Grande. Billy Garzone is a guitarist, vocalist and full time musician. He is a graduate of Musicians Institute of Hollywood California and has spent the past 25 years performing thousands of show all over New England and as far as Hawaii. He has performed with Grammy award winner and Rock-n-Roll Hall of Fame legend Bo Diddely and has worked with music producers for well known TV shows. This is Billy's ninth year teaching at the Covenant.

Mr. John Itlis (drums) is a freelance drummer working in and around the Boston and New York area. John is also one of our General Music teacher's here at Covenant, teaching grades 4-12. He received a Bachelor of Music Degree in Percussion Performance from Gordon College, during which time he toured both North America and Europe with various ensembles. John has studied with top drummers such as Tommy Igoe and Kenwood Dennard. John currently performs frequently with a wide variety of artists as well as his own Jazz Trio. In addition to his performance work John runs a successful private teaching studio and has taught competitive drum lines at area high schools. This will be John's fourteenth year teaching at Covenant. For more info, visit www.johniltis.com.





Mrs Joo Hye Kim (Piano), originally from South Korea, began piano studies at age three with her mother. She attended Yewon School and Seoul Arts High School, then earned her Bachelor of Music in Piano from Ewha Womans University. She continued her studies in the U.S., receiving both a Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts in Piano Performance from the University of Missouri–Kansas City. Later, she completed a Master of Theology and Master of Divinity at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. With nearly three decades of teaching experience in private studios and college settings, she currently teaches in Ipswich, MA, and serves as Music Minister at First Parish Congregational Church of Wakefield. This is Ms. Kim’s third year at CCA.

Mr. Jacob Lamb (guitar & piano) is a professional musician and teacher living in Massachusetts. He began writing songs in his early teens and went on to study at Berklee College of Music in 2014, as well as completing training in virtual teaching from UC Irvine. In addition to private instruction, Jacob has created online guitar and music courses with Ultimate Guitar, TrueFire, and Fender, reaching tens of thousands of students worldwide. He has taught players of all levels in guitar, songwriting, and music production, and enjoys helping students discover their own style and sound. This is Jacob’s first year teaching at CCA.



Mrs. Johna Mitts (Strings) has been a lifelong musician, starting lessons on piano at age 4 and beginning her strings journey at age 5. During the years that have followed, she played in youth orchestras, performed as part of a trio for a Vermont Symphony Orchestra fundraiser, composed chamber pieces performed by professional musicians (including the VSO’s touring Brass Quintet), performed in pit orchestras, and received her B.A. in Music from Gordon College in 2018. Since then, she has deeply enjoyed composing and arranging for various ensembles, teaching private lessons and high school music, and performing around New Hampshire as part of an acoustic duo. Outside of teaching strings at Covenant, she loves being a part of her church’s worship team on violin or piano, songwriting about her faith journey, rock climbing, and snuggling with her pet bunny. This is Mrs. Mitts’ second year at Covenant.

Mr. Ron Parsons (Brass, Woodwinds, Piano) was the director of the Danvers High School Band Program for 33 years. Under his direction, the Danvers Band is the only Massachusetts high school band to perform in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade three times. The band also represented Massachusetts at Pearl Harbor performing for the 70th Anniversary and 75th anniversary of the attacks on Pearl Harbor making them the only Massachusetts high school band to perform at Pearl Harbor two times! Ron's bands have also performed at a Presidential Inauguration, Walt Disney World, Disneyland, Universal Studios, and the St. Patrick's Day Parade in NYC. He received both his Bachelor of Music in Education and Masters of Education in Curriculum and Instruction with Director Certification from UMASS Lowell. He is a certified instructor in Music Technology for the Technology Institute for Music Education (TI-ME) and adjunct faculty at Endicott College. Ron is recognized as one of "50 Directors who Make a Difference" by School Band and Orchestra (SBO) Magazine, and one of "100 Influential Leaders in Essex County" by the Salem News. Mr. Parsons is an alumni parent and has been teaching at Covenant for nine years.



Mrs. Lauren Patrick (voice) graduated with honors from the Greatbatch School of Music at Houghton University in New York where she received her Bachelor's in Music. Lauren has been studying vocal performance since her time as a student at CCA, and piano since her childhood. In college, she performed with the Houghton University's a cappella group as well as the prestigious college choir. She was also very involved in the musical theatre program at the university. She has performed in leading roles in over a dozen theatre productions ranging from classical opera to contemporary musical theatre. Most recently, Lauren was teaching many voice students in a private studio outside of Philadelphia and was recognized with an award from Carnegie Hall's American Protégé International Vocal Competition in 2021. This is Mrs. Patrick's fourth year teaching at Covenant.

Mrs. Elizabeth Singleton (Piano) is currently serving as the 1st grade aide in Mrs. Fitzgerald's classroom three days a week, but prior to having children, she also taught General Music at Covenant. Elizabeth received a Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education and Psychology degree from Gordon and a Master of Education in Reading, also from Gordon. She sang in Gordon's Symphonic Chorale and Women's Choir and led one of the college's chapel bands during her time there. Elizabeth has played piano for over 30 years. She has sung for and accompanied many weddings and events, including Covenant's Christmas/Spring concerts and graduation ceremonies. We are so glad to welcome Mrs. Singleton back to the music department this year!



CCA Private Music Lessons Policies & Procedures

The following information pertains to all private music lessons at Covenant. If you have any questions or need further clarification, please contact Lisa Coleman at (978) 535-7100 x510 or lisa.coleman@ccamail.org.

Payment of Lesson Fees: Private music lesson fees are paid directly to the school on annual or monthly basis through FACTs.

Scheduling of Lessons: Lessons will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis and lesson times are not guaranteed from year to year. We will observe the Covenant school calendar for lesson days (see attached lesson calendar for specific information). All state and federal holidays will be observed. Students are responsible to be present at the beginning time of their lesson and will not be offered make-up lesson time if arriving late.

Missed Lessons & Make-up Lessons: Absolutely no make-up lessons will be given for missed lessons unless absence is due to serious illness or school event and 24 hour advance notice is given via phone or email to Mrs. Coleman and the instructor. Make-up lessons due to illness will be limited to two per teaching year. Make-up lessons will be scheduled at the earliest possible date and may not be used as credit for future months. If the instructor cancels a lesson, a make-up lesson will be scheduled at the earliest possible date. Make-up lessons will be offered in the case of a school-initiated conflict ONLY WHEN the conflict is told to the instructor 24 hours in advance of the conflict (such as field trips, athletic events, school functions). It is a parents responsibility to inform their instructor of the school conflict. Lessons missed for any other reason will not be made up, nor will the missed lesson be refunded.

Withdrawals & Refunds: There is a half-year minimum for all lessons. One-month notice from the first of the month and within the first seven days of the month is required to discontinue any lesson during the school calendar year. No withdrawals will be accepted after May 1. The instructor and school reserves the right to terminate any lessons at any time, in which case a refund for unused lessons will be issued. If all 28 lessons are not completed prior to the end of the school year due to teacher illness, school cancellations, or any other school-related reason, a refund will be issued to the parent.

Parent's Responsibility to be Aware of Dates and Events: It is the parent or adult student's responsibility to be aware of school calendar activities as well as lesson activities such as recitals and dates the school is open or closed. If students wish to participate in recitals or other special events, it is the parent's responsibility to be aware of all fees, dates, & deadlines associated. It is the parent's responsibility to inform the instructor and Mrs. Coleman of any changes in contact information.

2025-2026 Music Lesson Calendar

The following information shows when lessons will be held during the coming school year. Known conflicts are also listed for each week. Students will receive a total of 28 lessons for the year. Two makeup lessons will be given for excused absences each semester. Makeup lessons will most likely take place in December and May/June, but may be made at the discretion of the lesson instructor. Unexcused absences will not be made up. After-school lesson students will have the option of continuing through the end of the year for an additional charge. Parents will be contacted in April regarding this option. Please note that Friday lessons will be prorated as there are only 26 available Friday's. Any questions, please contact Lisa Coleman, Director of Fine Arts, at 978-535-7100 x510 or lisa.coleman@ccamail.org

WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9/8	1	1	1	1	1
9/15	2	2	2	2	2
9/22	3	3	3	3	3
9/29	4	4	4	4	4
10/6	5	5	5	Grandparents Day No Lessons	No School
10/13	No School	6	6	5	5
10/20	6	7	7	6	6
10/27	7	8	8	7	7
11/3	8	9	9	8	8
11/10	No School	No School	10	9	9
11/17	9	10	11	10	10
11/24	10	11	No School	No School	No School
12/1	11	12	12	11	11
12/8	12	13	13	12	No School
12/15	13	14	14 (GS Concert)	13 (USLR Concert)	Early Release- No Lessons
12/22	Vacation				
12/29	Vacation				

1/5	14	15	15	14	12
1/12	15	16	16	15	13
1/19	No School	17	17	16	14
1/26	16	18	18	17	15
2/2	17	19	19	18	16
2/9	18	20	20	19	No School
2/16	VACATION				
2/23	19	21	21	20	17
3/2	20	22	22	21	18
3/9	21	23	23	22	20
3/16	22	24	24 (No 5th/6th graders)	23 (No 5th/6th graders)	21 (No 5th/6th graders)
3/23	23	25	25	24	22
3/30	24	26	26	25	No School
4/6	25	27	27	26	23
4/13	26	28	28	27	No lessons - Symposium Day
4/20	VACATION				
4/27	27	Makeup Lessons	Makeup Lessons	28	24
5/4	28	Makeup Lessons	Makeup Lessons	Makeup Lessons	25
5/11	Makeup Lessons	Makeup Lessons	Makeup Lessons	Makeup Lessons	26
5/18	Makeup Lessons	Makeup Lessons	Makeup Lessons (GS Concert)	Makeup Lessons (USLR Concert)	Field Day - No Lessons
5/25	No School	Makeup Lessons	Makeup Lessons	Makeup Lessons	Makeup Lessons
6/1	Makeup Lessons	Makeup Lessons	Makeup Lessons	Makeup Lessons	Last Day of School