

By Donna Johnston



NUVO Music School Inc. From Rachmaninoff to Rock Bands



Ask any group of South Surrey/ White Rock parents about music lessons for children and you can bet at least one or two of them will mention NUVO Music School.

Saskatchewan native and the director of NUVO Music School is Lesley MacTavish. She has always loved music. She started her music journey in piano and thought at first to be a performer. She held a music degree and was a Western Canada Competition winner, but teaching really resonated with her and seeing a love of music grow in students was quickly becoming a passion. She taught in several schools, added an education degree to her talents, and been a successful music teacher in the South Surrey/White Rock Area. Consequently, she took the leap and established NUVO Music School around eight years ago. Today, they have approximately 25 dedicated and talented teachers and hundreds of satisfied students and families.

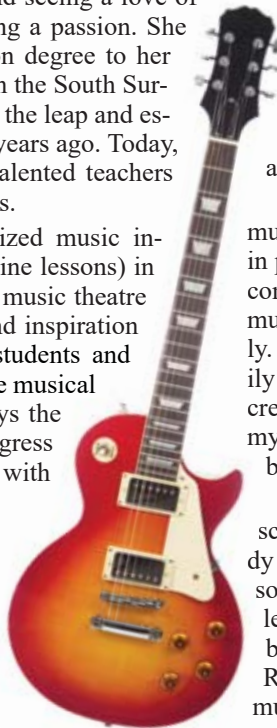
NUVO provides high quality individualized music instruction in your home (and now offering online lessons) in piano, voice, guitar, drums, bass, saxophone, music theatre and song writing. Lesley takes great pride and inspiration in placing the right teacher with the right students and spends time getting to know the family and the musical goals of the student. But the thing she enjoys the most about her work is seeing her students progress and gain a love of music that they can carry with them throughout their lives.

Right now, all lessons are being presented online. This is not only because of the social distancing guidelines, but some courses can also be offered to those in remote communities or those outside of our community. Lesley is pleasantly surprised by how well the online lessons are going and says the children really seem to respond to this type of learning. “Even when social distancing is no longer needed, I think that we will continue to offer some form of video classes. Kids love it,” Lesley smiles, “I spoke to a teacher during a staff meeting who told me that one of the children, during the lesson, accidentally knocked her iPad off the piano, and all the teacher heard was her student saying, “Oh, no! Are you okay?” “It really is a proper lesson.” She affirms, “Some students focus better during an online lesson, and practise more as well.”

One of the most popular aspects of the NUVO School is community involvement and the opportunity for students to perform in public. NUVO students perform not only at recitals, but also in community venues such as coffee shops or seniors centres. Community is also about the relationship with the student and the family. The structure of the lessons, by welcoming a teacher into a family’s home, they establish a personal rapport and this encourages creativity and growth. “That’s one of the things I enjoy most about my work,” Lesley says thoughtfully, “the ability and challenge to be able to match a student to the right teacher.”

Lesley did not expect to be the director of a successful music school, but anyone can tell that this soft spoken lady with melody in her voice truly adores sharing her love of music. “We offer something for everyone, not just children, anyone who wants to learn and get better. The most popular starting lesson is piano but students can work on other instruments, voice training, their RCM levels, performance skills, learn a group activity such as musical theatre, or even learn how to be in a rock band.”

From Rachmaninoff to Rock Band Training, there really is something for everyone at NUVO Music School. ●



Nurturing a Love of Music That Will Last a Lifetime.

ON-LINE MUSIC LESSONS

Virtual Lessons available via **Facetime, Skype, Zoom, & WhatsApp** for piano, guitar, drums and voice.

- Highly Qualified Teachers
- Music Lessons for all Ages and Levels
- Classical, Jazz, Rock, & Popular Styles Taught
- Preparation for RCM Exams
- Song Writing

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