

Welcome To Little Ukers!

2011 | 2012

****If you are not planning on participating in the program this year, please disregard this package.****

Welcome to Island Ukuleles and the Little Ukers program. We are excited to be able to continue to offer Little Ukers for the 2011-2012 season.

The “Little Ukers” method books continue to be available from Larsen Music and from Island Ukuleles. These are custom designed books geared toward primary age students. The books focus on music reading skills, ukulele playing skills, and basic music theory. The books include many graphics and learning tips to help the students achieve each skill.

Program directors for 2011-2012 will include: Melissa McKnight and Matthew Martin. Many more staff members and volunteers will be added soon. We are all looking forward to meeting you and sharing in music. Enjoy the rest of the summer and we will see you in October!

Enclosed please find a:

1). **“Most Important” Information**

*Includes information on program location and times, session dates, class size limit, uniforms, materials, etc.

2). **Year Schedule**

*Term 1 and Term 2 Schedule

3). **Registration Form**

*There is a registration form enclosed. Registration Fees are due at the beginning of September and January. Spaces are limited. Please register early.

**\$40 – per term (\$35 for second child in Island Ukuleles).

***Term 1 cheque should be post dated September 15, 2011. Term 2 cheque should be post dated January 1, 2012.

****Please complete and return to:

Island Ukuleles, c/o Melissa McKnight, 3816 Mildred St, Victoria, B.C. V8Z 7G1

Most Important!!

***If you will be registering for the 2011-2012 season, please let Melissa know by email (melmck@valleyis.com) or by phone (250-592-2378) ASAP so that a place will be held!**

1). Location / Time / Class Size:

**Little Ukers* will be offered at Oak Bay High School for the 2011-2012 season. The class will meet in the WEST building in Studio B.

*The *Little Ukers* scheduling has been modified to accommodate the various ages, skills and dinner times within the class. **Kindergarten and Grade 1 students** will meet from 6:15-7:00 p.m. **Grade 2 and Grade 3 students** will meet from 6:15-7:15 p.m. Students are asked to please arrive a few minutes early for tuning of instruments. The classroom will be open at 6:00 p.m.

*Kindergarten/Grade 1 students will be limited to 20 students. If possible, we will aim to work in small groups with a teacher:student ratio of 1:4.

*Grade 2/3 students will be limited to 16 students. Students will likely work in small groups with a 1:6 ratio (staffing permitting).

REGISTRATION: Please note that due to a high level of interest in our *Little Ukers* program this term, we will require pre-registration (forms and payments received) prior to the start of the program in order to guarantee your child a space in the class. Priority will be given to returning families until August 19th, at which time registrants will be accepted on a first come first serve basis. We anticipate our class to be at full capacity, so register early!

GENERAL SCHEDULING INFORMATION:

*The program will run for two 9-week terms. Each term will include eight lessons and a wrap-up concert.

**Term 1 runs from October 3 to December 5 (no class during Thanksgiving - October 10)

**Term 2 runs from January 9 to March 5

2). Materials:

*“Little Ukers Level 1” and “Little Ukers Level 2” (Music Reading Books) are available through Island Ukuleles (\$13) or Larsen Music. All students will require a level 1 book unless special instructions are given by your teacher. *Siblings are NOT required to each have their own book; we will provide a second book for use during class time.*

**Ukulele: can be purchased from Larsen Music, Long & McQuade, or Tom Lee Music. Prices range from \$25-\$70. Kindergarten and grade 1 students are best with a soprano size ukulele. Grade 2 and 3 students may prefer a concert size ukulele (a bit bigger size). Please have the music store re-string the “A” string to a “low A”. If you are looking for an inexpensive colored ukulele that will last for a couple of years only, “EMUS” and “MAKALA” are the preferred brands. If you are looking for a slightly higher quality ukulele that will last through the Little Ukers and junior programs, please consider a “MAKALA” (not the colored ones), “KALA” or “LANIKAI”. Prices range from \$50-\$110. For more advanced ukuleles that will last right through into high school, please speak to one of the *Island Ukuleles* directors.

*** Ukuleles are available for students to use if they do not have their own. Priority will be given to first time students.

3). Uniform

*Black pants or skirts and a *Little Ukers* t-shirt (will be available in October and January at a cost of \$13).

4). General Information on *Island Ukuleles*

*General information about the *Island Ukuleles* program can be accessed on our website: www.islandukulele.org

**The website includes information about the history of Island Ukuleles, our purpose, our credits, the programs we offer, past trips and concerts, newsletters, upcoming dates, etc.

Schedule

Term 1 – 8 rehearsals and 1 performance

October 3	First rehearsal
October 10	NO REHEARSAL (Thanksgiving)
October 17	Regular Rehearsal
October 24	Regular Rehearsal
October 31	Regular Rehearsal (may be rescheduled due to Halloween)
November 7	Regular Rehearsal
November 14	Regular Rehearsal
November 21	Regular Rehearsal (yes, this is a Dist. 61 pro-d day)
November 28	Regular Rehearsal (part of the rehearsal will be a massed rehearsal with all <i>Island Ukuleles</i> ensembles)
December 5	Island Ukuleles “Poinsettia” Performance – 7 p.m. at Oak Bay

Term 2 – 8 rehearsals and 1 performance

January 9	First rehearsal
January 16	Regular Rehearsal
January 23	Regular Rehearsal
January 30	Regular Rehearsal
February 6	Regular Rehearsal
February 13	Regular Rehearsal
February 20	Regular Rehearsal
February 27	Regular Rehearsal
March 5/6	Ukes Unlimited Performance – 7:30 p.m. at Uvic *(date and time to be confirmed)

Contact Information:

Little Ukers Program Director: Melissa McKnight 250-592-2378 melmck@valleyis.com

Island Ukuleles Musical Director: Tina Horwood 250-592-2800 tinahorwood@yahoo.ca

Executive: Loralee Bergeron (President) 250-920-7899