

# Dean Johanesen - M.I. Music Classes



**BACKGROUND** - Hello, My name is Dean Johanesen. I am a Long Island, NY native who now resides in Sarasota, FL. My wife Penny and I have been married since October of 1996 and we have a son born Feb of 1998 named Said who is currently serving in the US Army.

I am the oldest of 4 with 2 children adopted into our family by my mother and I grew up in a home that fostered a number of children over the years. Little did I know this would be somewhat of a training period in my life for teaching and working with kids.

I started playing the guitar at the age of 14, took lessons a couple of years after being self taught, performed in Jazz Band and Pop Group through high school as well as playing with friends in bands and went on to a music college in Dix Hills NY called Five Towns College of Music.

Both my family experience and my music experience were propelling me toward a career that I had no idea about until a few years after my son was born.

When my son reached Pre-school age, I began volunteering to go in and sing songs at his school. Singing songs lead to bringing in instruments from home for the children to play and from there I was offered a weekly spot that inspired me to establish my own music program for pre-school aged children.



**MUSIC PROGRAM** - I call this program M.I. Music Classes, the M.I. stands for Music is Instrumental. I also felt the ownership (M.I. or My) was an important part for the title to give ownership of the class to each child. The program focuses on giving children a "hands on" experience with instruments at an early age and teaching some of the basic building blocks of music such as tempo, dynamics, rhythm etc.

I am currently teaching this program throughout Bradenton and Sarasota at privately owned and operated preschools. I started teaching and developing this program 13 years ago, thanks to my son, and I continue to love my work in hopefully educating and inspiring the children I work with as much as they educate and inspire me.

**CLASS SCHEDULE** - Class times are typically 15 - 30 minutes long depending on the age range of the room. Every class starts with a sing along that incorporates a mix of songs to encourage music and movement as well as learning the basic principles taught in pre-school - rhyming, counting, colors etc.

After the sing along portion of class, we learn about the instrument of the week. We talk about the parts and every child gets to take a turn playing or holding the instrument.

The page to follow lists the instruments I have for the music classes. If you have any other questions in regards to M.I. Music Classes, feel free to call 941-730-5322 or email me at [djohanesen@yahoo.com](mailto:djohanesen@yahoo.com).

Many thanks for your time and interest in the program and in supporting music education.



Sincerely, Dean Johanesen

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## Instrument List for classes

Each year it is my goal to add a couple to a few new instruments to the list for the children to experience. I will be repeating the instruments through the year after a cycle of going through all that I have, but I hope to at some point be able to only repeat 2 times through the year maximum with a long list of new instruments to experience each week.

I do own most of the instruments on this list, but I have had great help from a local music store Keyboards and More based out of Bradenton and Sarasota. Keyboards and More helps me with short term rentals on instruments I do not currently own. The majority of those instruments are the woodwind and brass wind instruments.

**The Following is a list of instruments that will be utilized in teaching the M.I. Music Program:**

### **\* \* \* STRING \* \* \***

\* Lap harp \* Violin \* Cello \*  
\* Ukulele \* \* Guitarron \* Mandolin \*  
\* Electric guitar \* Autoharp \* Banjo \*  
\* Dulcimer \* Balalaika \* Bass Guitar \*  
\* Gypsy Jazz Guitar \* Harp \* Cuatro \*

### **\* \* \* PERCUSSION \* \* \***

\* Cajon \* Marimba \* Djembe \*  
\* Bahdran \* Bongos \* Darbuka \*  
\* Drum Set \* Steel Drum \* Kachi Dohl \*  
Marching Snare \* Talking Drum \*  
\* Percussion Bag \*

(maracas, shaker, vibra-slap, Tic-Tac drum, jingle bells, cowbell, triangle, etc.)

\* Boomwhackers \*

\* Piano / Keyboard \*

### **\* \* \* WIND \* \* \***

\* Trombone \* Accordion \*  
\* Trumpet \* \* French horn \*  
\* Flute \* Clarinet \*  
\* Saxophone \* Tuba \*