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## Cape Coral kids enjoy music together

### Local parents delighted with fun program

By Britt Monroe  
Special to The News-Press  
Originally posted on November 03, 2007

Toddlers around the country have enjoyed the popular Music Together program since 1987. And the talented and experienced LouAnn Dunfee teaches two Music Together classes right here in Cape Coral.

Music Together is an internationally recognized music and movement program designed to develop music in infants, toddlers, preschoolers and kindergarten children as well as their parents or caregivers. It was the first program of its kind to offer a developmentally appropriate musical curriculum that strongly emphasizes adult involvement.

The building blocks gained through Music Together classes help children to enjoy music activities, be successful in school music programs and to study an instrument later in life.

"During the early years it is extremely important that parents and caregivers be the ones to create a nurturing environment," Dunfee said. "Children are biologically wired to respond most to those with whom they have close bonds. Music Together classes help you build that bond."

"Best of all, it's fun."

Local parents are delighted with the program. Connie Kantor drives her son Jack from Punta Gorda to Cape Coral every Tuesday for the class. Jack has been coming since he was eight months old and is now three and a half.

"It's a quality exposure to music and a technically sound program," Kantor said.

Music Together classes run for 10 weeks. Each class runs for 45 minutes and includes songs, rhythmic rhymes, movement and instrument play. The activities are informal and not performance oriented. Classes usually have between six and 10 students.

Students also receive two compact discs and an illustrated songbook with their enrollment. Families are encouraged to use these to create music at home. First-time students also receive a comprehensive guide entitled "Music and Your Child: A Guide for Parents and Caregivers."

Parents and caregivers don't need to worry about their own lack of music skills or tone deafness. The atmosphere in class is light and fun and no one notices



Britt Monroe/Special to news-press.com

Lauren Ruble enjoys dancing with some scarves during a recent Cape Coral Music Together class.

[Order Picture](#)

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**  
General Program Information:  
[www.musictogether.com](http://www.musictogether.com)

Local Information:  
• Director LouAnne Dunfee  
Call 671-5693  
[www.familymusictime.com](http://www.familymusictime.com)

• Four Freedoms Park  
4818 Tarpon Ct.  
Cape Coral, FL 33904  
574-0804  
[www.capeparks.org](http://www.capeparks.org)

• Marantha Dance Studio  
1578 SE 8th Terrace  
Cape Coral, FL 33990  
772-3309

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if you can't carry a tune in a bag.

Music Together classes are at Four Freedoms Park and the Marantha Dance Studios. The winter session begins at four Freedoms Park on Nov. 28. The winter session begins at Marantha Dance Studios on Dec. 3.

Parents can register for the Four Freedoms class directly through the park. Registration for the Marantha or any other class is through the local Music Together Web site at [www.familymusictime.com](http://www.familymusictime.com) or by calling Dunfee.

Classes will not meet for the two weeks of public school holiday break. The cost for the 10-week session is \$140 for one child, \$90 for the second child and \$50 for the third. Infants under 8 months get in free with their siblings' enrollment. Preview sessions are available.



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