



Lindenbaum Outreach Guitar Class Syllabus 2025-2026

Instructor: Michael Keplinger, M.M. Contact Info: mkeplinger@tlu.edu 956-433-6170

Rehearsal Time and Location: See calendar posted at www.tlucma.org for specific dates.

- Thursdays, Guitar Level 1: 4:30-5:30 PM
- Thursdays, Guitar Ensemble: 5:30-6:30 PM
- Texas Lutheran University Schuech Fine Arts Building Band Hall

Course Description: Group instruction in beginning guitar. One 50-minute lesson per week.

Required Materials: Instrument, footstool, assigned music and technique materials, practice journal.

LEVEL 1 GUITAR CLASS: (GUITAR ENSEMBLE WILL DEVELOP THESE SKILLS FURTHER)

Course Objectives: Applied study of the Guitar based on these Suzuki Method philosophies:

- Suzuki teachers believe that musical ability can be developed in all children.
- Students begin at young ages.
- Parents play an active role in the learning process.
- Children become comfortable with the instrument before learning to read music.
- Technique is taught in a musical context rather than through technical exercises.
- Skills and musicality are refined through constant review of past repertoire.

Through these Suzuki teaching elements the following student goals and objectives will be taught:

- To play with a balanced and relaxed posture, conducive to ease of performance at all times.
- To acquire technical proficiency in areas including, but not limited to:
 - * Beautiful and varied tone colors
 - * Facility and organization of the left hand leading to accurate and consistent intonation
- To learn and perform repertoire with both technical proficiency and musical expression, as well as to reflect on successes and areas for improvement in performance.
- To gain a knowledge and appreciation for a range of repertoire for the instrument both through performance and listening.

- To be encouraged to continue lessons and performance at Texas Lutheran University upon graduation from High School.

Minimum Practice Requirements: Daily practice requirements and suggestions for organizing your practice will be discussed between the instructor, students, and parents during class. A practice journal will be an essential tool in practicing effectively.

Attendance Policy:

- A parent/guardian is asked to attend every class with the student.
- If you must miss a lesson for any reason, please inform the instructor at least 24 hours in advance.
- Students are required to participate in the end of the semester recitals.
- Missing more than three classes per semester, for any reason, may result in dismissal from the class and require the return of any rented instruments.

Required Performance Dates:

December 9, 2025 - Lindenbaum Outreach Program and Youth Orchestra Recital
TLU Jackson Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
May 5, 2026 - Lindenbaum Outreach Program and Youth Orchestra Recital
TLU Jackson Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.