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June 9, 2021 - Letter to Families

Dear Encore Families and Friends:

Re-imagining Encore over the past fifteen months has been a challenge for us all, and we are grateful to each and every one of you who chose to travel these uncharted waters together with us, who put faith in us, and who believed in us and our mission to ensure that music lessons and classes would continue and that, despite the trials and tribulations that the pandemic incurred, our students would still experience the joy of music.

And now, we are re-imagining Encore again, this time with new and innovative approaches to learning. Beginning in September with the Fall trimester, **Encore will return to in-person learning**, with all classes and lessons back up and running, but there is a twist! We will **also** be continuing to offer lessons and some classes via our virtual Encore Zoom platform!

Families who still feel uncomfortable sending their children into Encore for in-person lessons will have the opportunity to choose to remain online. Students who live far away from Encore can choose to do the same. Students who are sick on their lesson day and are unable to travel will have the opportunity to do the day's lesson online rather than miss it altogether; we would just need notice by 9:00 a.m. that morning if that will be the case.

It is our belief that in-person lessons are always preferable; however, as the needs of our families and the times we live in are changing, so must we. We encourage in-person lessons whenever possible, but offer the option and opportunity for online substitutions when necessary. When you register for the Fall, be sure to indicate whether you will be studying online or in-person.

Now some announcements:

SUMMER LESSONS and CLASSES

Registration for summer lessons and classes is ongoing. The summer session begins on **Monday, July 5**, and runs for eight weeks. Encore's hours change for the summer: We are open Monday through Thursday, 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

During the summer time, we encourage as many lessons as possible in order to maintain technique, but understand that families travel and schedules vary. For this reason, you can choose as many lessons or as few lessons as fits your schedule, and they can be at different times each week. To sign up for summer lessons, please call the office at: (508) 533-7700 x101.

FALL REGISTRATION

Registration for the Fall opens on **Monday, July 19**, at **12:00 p.m.** and is on a first-come, first-served basis. We will accept registration via phone only, so please call the office at: (508) 533-7700. When registering, please indicate whether you will be studying online or in-person.

COVID POLICY

We continue to monitor the ever-changing CDC Guidelines and will modify our COVID policies accordingly. At this point in time, we will be requesting proof of vaccination for all students, ages 12 and up. If your child has been vaccinated, please forward a scan of their vaccination card to the office where it will be placed in their file. We are not requiring students to be vaccinated; however, those who are not vaccinated will be required to wear a mask when on Encore's premises.

Faculty and staff who are not vaccinated will wear masks at all times in order to protect our students.

Vaccinated faculty, staff, and students do not need to wear masks.

We are requesting that students be dropped off for lessons and classes. Parents may not wait in the building for the time being, and we will update you when this changes. All scheduling will continue to be accomplished over the phone or via email, even when we return to in-person in September. Payments can be made over the phone, or through your QuickBooks invoice, your bank or via mailed check.

Parents of MYC® students who must participate in the classes need to provide proof of vaccination to the office, or must remain masked at all times.

We have truly missed all of our students and families and can not wait until we can see you again, in-person at last!! If you have questions or need clarification, please contact the office at: (508) 533-7700 x101, or email encoremusicacademy1@gmail.com and we will get back to you as quickly as possible.

Thank you for your continued support and we wish you a fun-filled, fun-packed summer with friends and family at long last!

Sincerely,

Lisa Ostrow and Patrick Dreier

Co-Owners, Encore Music Academy and Recording Studios



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