

# *Welcome To Little Ukers!*

## *2017 | 2018*

**\*\*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 our fourteenth season!

The “Little Ukers” method books will now be available from Empire Music ([empire-music.com](http://empire-music.com)) and through Island Ukuleles. Please specify “D tuning” if you are purchasing from a retailer. 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 2017-2018 are: 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 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.

\*\*\$60 – per term (\$55 for second child in Island Ukuleles).

\*\*\*Term 1 cheque should be post dated September 15, 2017.

**Cheques should be made payable to: Island Ukuleles A Music Society**

\*\*\*\*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 2017-2018 season, please let Melissa know by email (mckmel435@gmail.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 2017-2018 season. Directions will be emailed out prior to the start of the term.

\*The *Little Ukers* scheduling has been set to accommodate the various ages, skills and dinner times within the class. **Kindergarten and Grade 1 students** will meet Monday nights from 6:15-7:00 p.m. **Grade 2 and Grade 3 students** will meet Monday nights 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 18 students. If possible, we will aim to work in small groups with a teacher:student ratio of 1:3.

\*Grade 2/3 students will be limited to 20 students. Students will likely work in small groups with a 1:4 ratio (staffing permitting).

**REGISTRATION:** Please note that due to a high level of interest in our *Little Ukers* program, 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 8th, at which time registrants will be accepted on a first come first serve basis.

## **GENERAL SCHEDULING INFORMATION:**

\*The program will run for two 8 or 9-week terms (depending on stat holidays). Each term will include seven or eight lessons and a wrap-up concert.

\*\*Term 1 runs from October 16 to December 11, 2017

\*\*\*Term 2 runs from January 8 to March 12, 2018

## **2). Materials:**

\*“Little Ukers Level 1” and “Little Ukers Level 2” (Music Reading Books) are available through Island Ukuleles (\$13) or Empire Music ([empire-music.com](http://empire-music.com)). 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 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-\$200. 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. T-shirts are available to be purchased through Island Ukuleles for \$7.

## **4). General Information on *Island Ukuleles***

\*General information about the *Island Ukuleles* program can be accessed on our website: [www.islandukulele.org](http://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.

\*\*\*A website specific to Little Ukers will be available for the duration of the term. This website will include information related to home practise, upcoming performances, fundraisers, etc. **[www.littleukers.weebly.com](http://www.littleukers.weebly.com)**

# *Schedule*

## **Term 1 – 7 rehearsals and 1 performance**

October 16	First Rehearsal
October 23	Regular Rehearsal
October 30	Regular Rehearsal
November 6	Regular Rehearsal
November 13	NO Rehearsal – stat holiday in lieu of Remembrance Day
November 20	Regular Rehearsal
November 27	Regular Rehearsal
December 4	Regular Rehearsal
December 11	Island Ukuleles “Poinsettia” Performance – 7 p.m. at Oak Bay

## **Term 2 – 8 rehearsals and 1 performance**

January 8	First Rehearsal
January 15	Regular Rehearsal
January 22	Regular Rehearsal
January 29	Regular Rehearsal
February 5	Regular Rehearsal
February 12	NO Rehearsal – Family Day
February 19	Regular Rehearsal
February 26	Regular Rehearsal or Performance*
March 5	Regular Rehearsal or Performance*
March 12	Regular Rehearsal – teach your parents day and wind up

\*The term performance will be part of the Greater Victoria School District’s “Ukuleles Unlimited” performance (date TBD) which features ukulele classes from around the school district.

## **Contact Information:**

Little Ukers Program Director: Melissa McKnight 250-592-2378 [mckmel435@gmail.com](mailto:mckmel435@gmail.com)  
Island Ukuleles Musical Director: Tina Horwood 250-592-2800 [tinahorwood@yahoo.ca](mailto:tinahorwood@yahoo.ca)