# HOW MUSIC EDUCATION BENEFITS ADULTS

#### Music reduces stress and anxiety.

According to a survey by the National Poll on Healthy Aging, nearly all older adults stated they get some health-related benefit from music, most often stress relief or relaxation.

#### Music promotes teamwork.

The Chorus Impact Study found choral singers are more likely to be team players, a skill which they attribute to their participation in a chorus.

#### Music can improve memory.

Cognitive reserve is the mind's resistance to age-related memory loss, according to Psychology Today. Music is cognitively stimulating and could contribute to building this reserve. Even short-term musical training strengthens cognition.

#### Music may help heart health.

Researchers in Sweden showed how regular breathing practiced while singing can produce respiratory sinus arrhythmia (RSA), a positive coordination between the respiratory system and heart rate.

#### Music can help reduce pain.

Music therapy can assist with pain management, for example, refocusing the attention during painful procedures or providing relaxation during end-of-life care.

## Music improves the quality of life for the elderly.

Research shows a music therapy program with institutionalized elderly participants will improve social interaction and creativity.

### Music opens up social connections.

According to Psychology Today, musical activities often involve social functions promoting social contact, cooperation, and a sense of belonging with others.



Classes, lessons, events 603-448-1642



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