

4 Things To Consider When Looking For A Music Teacher

By: Brandon Goodwin

Looking for the right music teacher can be a daunting task. There are so many things to consider and if it's your first time looking into music lessons you might not know exactly what to look for. For example, try typing *Drum Lessons Montreal* into a Google search and you'll quickly see how many drum lessons pop up. You want to make sure to find the best instructor for you or your child.

Here are some things to consider when looking for the right music teacher:

1. What Do They Offer

A teacher is someone who should be an expert in their field. But what field is it? Is it jazz saxophone or classical saxophone? Is it orchestral percussion or rock drums? Do they teach complete beginners or are they known as a mentor for seasoned professionals? Make sure that the teacher you are considering is going to give you the type of lessons you are looking for. Ask them if they teach the age group and playing level you need.

2. Resume

Make sure the teacher has the necessary experience. A teacher without adequate training is not someone you'll want to learn from in the long-term. Ask them to send you a website link, Facebook page, YouTube channel, Spotify page, whatever. Just make sure to look them up to see what they do. Some teachers have almost no experience other than taking lessons on their instrument, which is always a red flag. Teachers with no real-world experience tend to teach rigidly and often put focus on the wrong topics that aren't necessarily the most important. You want a teacher with some experience at least in performing professionally in their field.

Don't be afraid to ask for references

3. Be Open-Minded

It can take some time before the teacher finds the student's style of learning. So even if you're not sure after one or two classes, consider waiting a few more to see if it will work. Don't quit and look elsewhere before you are sure it's not happening. You might be missing out on a great teacher! Some of my students who today I would consider my best pupils had rocky starts where we had to go through a number of awkward classes until we found our footing.

4. Price

I saved this one for last because although it is important to find someone who fits your budget, don't make this your only consideration. If you're really serious about proper education then consider paying the extra dollars for a quality instructor. If you really can't afford to pay extra then consider taking lessons every second week.

Quality over quantity

When looking into the classes also make sure to ask when the classes need to be paid (in advance, weekly, monthly, per sessions etc....), and ask about their cancellation/refund policy

Conclusion

Be diligent and thorough in your search for the right teacher. Make phone calls, look online, ask for referrals from people you trust, and then jump in! Music is a beautiful art, and with the right help, you can achieve all of your goals!

***By: Brandon Goodwin
Montreal, QC, Canada
438-837-6428
studiodrummtl@gmail.com***

*See the next page for Brandon's Bio, as well as information about his drum school

Brandon Goodwin Bio

Brandon is the owner of Studio Drum MTL, one of Montreal's top drum schools. He has taught masterclasses at high schools and universities in Canada, South-east Asia, and the U.S.

Based out of Verdun QC, Studio Drum MTL services Greater Montreal, Lasalle, Lachine, NDG, Westmount, and Cote St Luc with its high quality drum lessons.

www.studiodrummontreal.com

To **book a lesson** at the studio then please call (438)837-6428, or email studiodrummtl@gmail.com

Brandon has worked with renowned jazz musicians such as Braxton Cook, Grammy-award winning artists Delfeayo Marsalis, and Kebbi Williams, as well as some of Canada's top talent, including Dave Turner, Fraser Hollins, and Blues Legend Carolyn Fe.

He has studied with some of Canada's top drummers, including, Nasyr Abdul Al-Kabyr (Dizzy Gillespie), Dave Laing, and Dave Robbins, and has also studied privately with internationally acclaimed drummers Ari Hoenig, Dafnis Prieto and Dan Weiss.

Brandon's group B's Bees has performed concerts in North America and in Asia, at major jazz festivals and in some of the best jazz clubs in the world. The group has also performed masterclasses at high schools and in universities in Canada, the U.S. and in Asia.

www.bs-bees.com