



The Music Settlement

CENTER FOR  
**early childhood**

Prospective Parents Guidebook

**UNIVERSITY CIRCLE (UC)**

11125 Magnolia Drive, Cleveland, Ohio 44106

**OHIO CITY (OC)**

2610 Detroit Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44113



## WELCOME TO THE MUSIC SETTLEMENT (TMS)

Since 1955, TMS's **Center for Early Childhood** has been committed to providing a high-quality early childhood experience for children ages three to five that nurtures the individual, supports the family, and enhances a child's development through involvement in the arts.

- 5-Star Award from Ohio's Step Up to Quality rating program
- Licensed provider for Ohio Department of Job & Family Services (ODJFS)
- Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) site of Cuyahoga County's Invest in Children
- Partner of Cleveland's PRE4CLE initiative

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### ABOUT TMS

Our Center for Early Childhood is part of The Music Settlement, a century-plus old community music school in Cleveland's University Circle neighborhood, forged out of the Settlement Movement, with the goal of bringing the rich and the poor of society together in both physical proximity and social interconnectedness. Built on the ideals of inclusiveness and opportunity for all using music as the common language, TMS has grown from our foundation of music instruction (1912), to also offering early childhood education (1955) and music therapy services (1966).

In 2018, we expanded our mission with the construction of a second campus in Cleveland's near west side Ohio City neighborhood. We are literally and figuratively bridging our past to our future while connecting Cleveland's east and west sides. Providing life-enhancing experiences to all members of our community through music and the arts has been, and continues to be, our guiding mission. Through our three Centers - Music, Early Childhood, and Music Therapy - and our Bop Stop performance venue, TMS caters to a diverse clientele that spans a lifetime. From children as young as three-weeks-old to retired adults and seniors, TMS is improving the quality of life for all those we serve.

For more information about our early childhood program, including how to apply, costs, and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), visit [www.TheMusicSettlement.org](http://www.TheMusicSettlement.org).

# OUR PHILOSOPHY

We believe young children learn best by doing. Our programs encourage and promote students' freedom to experiment, explore, and experience the world around them. While our daily curriculum aligns to the Ohio state standards for early childhood, we use a child-centered approach to learning built on *The Creative Curriculum*. For preschoolers, Creative Curriculum promotes exploration and discovery as a way of learning, enabling children to develop confidence, creativity, and lifelong critical thinking skills.

The Creative Curriculum includes developmentally appropriate goals and objectives for children within four main categories of interest: social/emotional, physical, cognitive, and language. Learning centers are carefully designed to allow children to develop at their own pace. With Creative Curriculum, teachers are engaged in an ongoing cycle of observing, guiding learning, and assessing children's progress. Teachers interact with children continuously and make decisions about when and how to respond to meet individual and group needs.

## OUR GOALS INCLUDE...

- Making the transition from home to school one of security and confidence
- Providing an integrated program that enhances and facilitates development in all domains: cognitive, social, language, emotional, and physical
- Allowing children an opportunity to identify and organize their evolving knowledge

## THE TMS DIFFERENCE

We give your child all the vital learning experiences for educational success, including the richness of music and the arts. For more than half a century, TMS faculty and staff have made a sincere commitment to help each child appreciate his/her uniqueness and self-worth, and to interact successfully with his/her peers and adults in the school environment. Our focus on the individual, engagement of the family, and the play-based, creative arts curriculum make TMS special.



# CURRICULUM

A creative curriculum is one that incorporates big ideas, varied and engaging activities, and a sense of continuity as a way to stimulate students, teachers, and even families. In a warm, nurturing environment that encourages natural curiosity, collaboration, exploration, and discovery, academic learning about shapes, colors, numbers, letters, cultures, and oneself is incorporated into our daily schedule. Our curriculum includes creative specials like music, science, drama, social and emotional learning, and more. We provide diverse, multi-cultural experiences through student participation in cooking exercises, stories, and discussion. Our courses foster brain and social development, inspire and encourage creative expression, and strengthen parent-child bonds as parents are invited and encouraged to participate in classroom activities.



"Both of our kids' educational journeys got off to a wonderful start at TMS in a highly sensory, diverse, and creative place. It set Carly on the path that will take her to Harvard next year, and we are truly grateful to the teachers and staff at the school."

- Julie & Matt Lehman  
*Former Center for Early Childhood Parents*

## OUR TEACHERS

Our expertly-trained and experienced teachers and staff blend the highest standards in early childhood education and development with nurturing care to help your child have fun while growing physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially.



**Our faculty exceed educational standards as established by the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services (ODJFS).**



**The majority of our educators have earned a Bachelor's or Master's Degree in Education or related fields.**



**The average tenure of our faculty is eight years.**



**Our educators are lifelong learners, always engaging in professional development.**

# ENROLLMENT OPTIONS

We offer multiple programs at both campuses to accommodate families' lifestyles. The following information outlines tuition and programs for the **2023-2024 school year**, and are dependent on minimum enrollment levels. Any changes in programming will be communicated as early as possible .

## PRESCHOOL

Morning and full-day programs with a child-centered, comprehensive curriculum of creative specials including music, science, social and emotional learning (SEL), and more.

### MORNING PROGRAMS

\$300 deposit + \$75 registration fee

OPTION	DAYS	DATES	TIME	AGE	TUITION
2-DAY	M/Tu	9/11/23 - 5/28/24	8:30am - 11:30am	3 years old by 12/31/23	\$2,650
3-DAY	W/Th/F	9/6/23 - 5/31/24	8:30am - 12:30pm	3 years old by 9/30/23	\$5,050
4-DAY	Tu - F	9/6/23 - 5/31/24	8:30am - 12:30pm	4 years old by 9/30/23	\$6,250
5-DAY	M - F	9/6/23 - 5/31/24	8:30am - 12:30pm	4 years old by 9/30/23	\$7,550

### FULL-DAY, FULL-WEEK, YEAR-ROUND PROGRAM

\$500 deposit + \$75 registration fee

OPTION	DAYS	DATES	TIME	AGE	TUITION
FULL-DAY	M - F	8/21/23 - 6/28/24	7:00am - 5:45pm	3 years old by 9/30/23	\$16,200
JULY CAMP	M - F	7/1/24 - 7/25/24	7:00am - 5:45pm	3 years old by 9/30/23	\$1,500



# ENROLLMENT OPTIONS

We offer multiple programs at both campuses to accommodate families' lifestyles. The following information outlines tuition and programs for the **2023-2024 school year**, and are dependent on minimum enrollment levels. Any changes in programming will be communicated as early as possible.

## KINDERGARTEN

A creative, arts-infused full-day program academically aligned to meet state standards for kindergarten. Children receive a socially supportive and enriching classroom experience and enjoy music, drama, and field trips to enhance individualized learning.

This program is licensed by the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services (ODJFS).



\$500 deposit + \$75 registration fee

OPTION	DAYS	DATES	TIME	AGE	TUITION
Kindergarten	M - F	8/21/23 - 5/31/24	8:30am - 3:30pm	5 years old by 9/30/23	\$13,000
Kindergarten +	M - F	8/28/23 - 5/31/24	7:00am - 5:30pm	5 years old by 9/30/23	\$16,350

*Kindergarten + provides wrap around care (before/after school) for TMS Kindergarten students.*

## ENRICHMENT OPTIONS

### EARLY DROP-OFF

Children enrolled in Preschool programs have the option to begin their school day early.

**Time:** 8:00am - 8:30am    **Days:** T-F    **Fee:** \$10 per child / day

### EXTENDED DAY

This afternoon enrichment option gives children the opportunity to enjoy lunch, creative play, cooking, and additional STEAM programming featuring early childhood specialists and faculty. Open enrollment in this program is available throughout the year as days and space allow. Drop-in / occasional attendance is available as space allows and with advance notice. (\$50 deposit / day)

**Time:** 12:45pm - 3:30pm    **Days:** T-F    **Fee:** \$1,285 (1 day / week for the school year)  
\$2,570 (2 days / week for the school year)



# SAMPLE DAILY SCHEDULE

## FULL-DAY PRESCHOOL

(times are approximate)

**7:00am - 9:00am**

### Arrival

Breakfast is available until 8:15 am.  
Children engage in select personal choice activities in the classroom.

**9:00am - 9:30am**

### Large Group Time

Welcome and discussion of the day's activities and choices.

**9:30am - 11:30am**

### Play Choice Time/Specials/Snack

Children make work/play choices in the various classroom centers.  
Music, Science, Drama, and Library are also scheduled during this time.  
Open snack is available.

**11:30am - Noon**

### Gross Motor Play

Weather permitting children will go outside to play.  
On inclement days, classrooms are scheduled for time in the Large Muscle Room.

**Noon - 1:00pm**

### Lunch/Story

Children and teachers eat lunch together in the classroom.  
This is followed by clean-up, bathroom breaks, and a story.

**1:00pm - 3:00pm**

### Naptime

Relaxing music or stories are played and teachers circulate among the children, helping children get comfortable and rest from the morning's activities. *(Children who do not fall asleep are given a book after relaxing on their cots for a period of time.)* Children will remain on their cots for the duration of rest time for classroom safety.

**3:00pm- 4:00pm**

### Transition Time/Snack/Playtime

After waking, children use the restroom and put their cots away. Learning centers are open for play. Snack is available.

**4:00pm - 4:30pm**

### Group Time

Group story and songs, then preparation to go outdoors.

**4:30pm - 5:15pm**

### Gross Motor Play

Weather permitting, children will play outside. On inclement days, classrooms are scheduled for time in the Large Muscle Room.

**5:15pm - 5:45pm**

### Table Time

Remaining children work with table toys or read stories until all children are picked up.

# FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE



## OUR EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS ARE ACCESSIBLE TO ALL

One of the founding principles of The Music Settlement was to ensure that our programs and services are available to everyone, regardless of personal circumstances. We are proud to offer financial assistance options that help make TMS affordable to all families. We work with qualifying families to provide the financial support option that best fits their needs.

### ABOUT OUR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:

- Any family participating in one of our early childhood programs may apply.
- Depending on the need, families may be eligible for up to 50% off the total cost of tuition.
- Need-based assistance is funded by TMS and through programs of the Ohio Department of Education (Early Childhood Education Expansion (ECEE) scholarships) and Invest in Children (Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) scholarships).
- Total tuition costs can be divided into equal monthly payments over the course of the program.

For more information about our financial assistance program, or to apply visit [www.TheMusicSettlement.org/aid](http://www.TheMusicSettlement.org/aid). For questions, contact our Center for Early Childhood offices at:

- **University Circle:** (216) 421 – 5806 ext. 160 or [kgrau@themusicsettlement.org](mailto:kgrau@themusicsettlement.org)
- **Ohio City:** (216) 377 – 1410 ext. 4161 or [draynovak@themusicsettlement.org](mailto:draynovak@themusicsettlement.org)

"The Music Settlement has been, and continues to be, an anchor for my family."

- Maureen Mcenery  
*Center for Early Childhood Parent*

# ADMISSIONS PROCESS (CHECK LIST)

We have created a comprehensive admissions process that provides prospective families the opportunity to learn our program, philosophy, and values before joining our community. To speak to someone about admission and enrollment, please call (216) 421-5806 ext. 160.

## ☐ **STEP ONE: ATTEND AN OPEN HOUSE** *(optional)*

Prior to, or after submitting an online application, families are encouraged to register for and attend a virtual open house or one of our scheduled open house events offered on-site. Our open houses include a tour of our classrooms and facilities, a detailed overview of our programs and services, and introductions to our teachers. While attending an open house is not required prior to enrollment, it is strongly encouraged.

**Please email [earlychildhood@themusicsettlement.org](mailto:earlychildhood@themusicsettlement.org) to register for an upcoming open house.**

## ☐ **STEP TWO: SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION**

Applications are available online. Submitting an application requires a non-refundable \$25 processing fee. To access the application, please visit [www.themusicsettlement.org/apply](http://www.themusicsettlement.org/apply).

## ☐ **STEP THREE: ATTEND A PARENT AND CHILD VISIT**

After submitting an application, schedule and attend a **required** Parent and Child Visit. To schedule a visit at our University Circle campus, please call (216) 421-5806 ext. 160. To schedule a visit at our Ohio City campus, please call (216) 377-1410 ext. 4161.

## ☐ **STEP FOUR: SELECTION CONFIRMATION**

If an immediate opening is available, our Center will make an enrollment offer (by mail) . Within two (2) weeks, families must notify TMS by mail of their decision to either to (A) continue with enrollment, or (B) withdraw their application. Once an application has been withdrawn, the space and application processing fee is forfeited.

## ☐ **STEP FIVE: OFFICIAL ENROLLMENT**

If accepting our enrollment offer, parents have two (2) weeks to respond by mail to secure their placement for the school year. Along with acceptance of enrollment, parents must also provide the annual registration fee and initial down payment. These payments are non-refundable or transferrable, as they guarantee placement for the contracted period. Once all of the above are provided, your student is considered officially enrolled.

### **ADMISSIONS ELIGIBILITY, REQUIREMENTS, AND FEES:**

- Children must be toilet trained.
- All programs are dependent on minimum enrollment levels. Any changes to programming will be communicated as early as possible.
- Deposits and registration fees apply. Registration fees are non-refundable. A one-time Activity Fee applies to confirmed enrollees.



# The Music Settlement

OHIO CITY • UNIVERSITY CIRCLE

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**THEMUSICSETTLEMENT.ORG**

earlychildhood@themusicsettlement.org

Our Mission:

**To welcome all to our music and arts community to  
learn, create, inspire and heal.**

Our Vision:

**To unlock the potential in everyone.**

Our programs are  
generously funded by:



We are a UPK site funded by Invest in Children.