

May 22, 2022

To Whom it May Concern,

Over the past two years, we have come to discover Brenda's creativity and endurance as a musician and a teacher and found her to be a true inspiration. My daughter Gwen has been studying with Brenda through the Victoria Conservatory for two years now. After the first several months of voice lessons, Brenda inspired my daughter, who typically never wants to continue her extra-curricular activities for more than a few months, to not only continue her voice lessons but to ask for a guitar and add learning guitar to her lessons. Brenda quickly gave her a sense of success and a desire to do more.

Now Gwen is able to not only accompany her own vocals, but can play and sing a variety of songs that she enjoys. Listening to her practice, I am ever amazed at the skills and repertoire that she has acquired in two short years.

Brenda has always been able to accommodate sudden changes in plans and makes herself available for make up lessons. When the pandemic hit last March, she truly shone. Brenda pivoted to online lessons without batting an eye – an accommodation that at best has its own unique challenges for teachers and at many times must be downright frustrating when teaching a subject that requires clear sound quality with no delay or echo – hard to achieve online as all of us know who have been part of any virtual meeting ever!

Throughout these challenges, Brenda taught Gwen how to protect her voice and learn vocal scale warm ups and breathing exercises to strengthen and protect her voice and develop her ear training. Brenda instilled the confidence needed to learn a string instrument while singing at the same time. Now Gwen knows finger picking styles, a multitude of chords, a variety of rhythmic strums and has built up a repertoire of her own selection.

As a former piano player of many years, I always hoped that my daughter would one day find her way towards a love and appreciation of music. Although we struggled through some piano lessons, it was clear that she was not motivated to continue. When Gwen suggested voice lessons, I jumped at the chance to engage her in any form of music, but it is Brenda who captivated her attention and gave her the courage to acquire some (likely) lifelong skills. I would recommend Brenda as a teacher to anyone hoping to enter the world of music. Thank you Brenda for bringing the wonder of music to my daughter and to our family!

Sincerely,

Mary Hendrixson