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Kids

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Why it's important

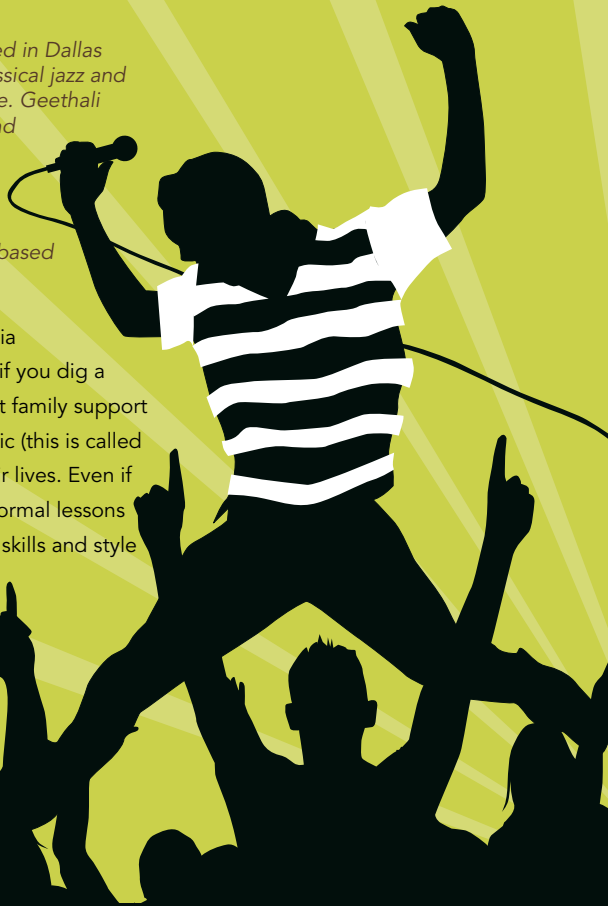
Easter Egg-Stravaganza

A Rock Star in the Making Overnight Sensation?

Does your child sing and dance around the house? Constantly?
Do they have the "moves"? Is every spoon handle a microphone?
Is all the world their "Stage"?

A 4-year old girl named Geethali lived in Dallas with her mother. Her mom loved classical jazz and always had music playing everywhere. Geethali sang around the house constantly and could sing entire albums word for word. She started taking piano lessons and even briefly tried the alto saxophone, attended summer music camps and eventually an arts-based high school.

Our children are surrounded by media created "overnight sensations." But if you dig a little deeper, you will usually find that family support and years of passion for making music (this is called practice) were there throughout their lives. Even if your favorite rock star did not have formal lessons or training, developing their musical skills and style



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happened over decades, not just overnight. Having the skills to be truly musical takes time. Being able to sell the musical performance takes a special personality and sparkle that is unique in your child.

Stick with Music Study and Be Patient

How do you know if your child really has this passion for a life long journey to stardom, or if this is just one of their passing interests?

Experts say just stick with it. Start with some piano basics and add voice lessons along the way. Or choose guitar, and you can easily take your instrument with you and sing along! Learning to make music is a skill everyone can be proud of for a lifetime, while you are waiting for your "big break." Consider these "Rock Star" basics:

- Surround your family with a variety of musical styles for listening
- Provide quality home instruments for creativity and discovery over the years
- First step for lessons: piano class for music reading basics

- Focus on learning about music and theatre standards – not just the latest fad
- Join groups and camps with performance opportunities lead by qualified instructors

At the age of 16, Geethali changed her name to Norah Jones. She majored in Jazz Piano at the University of North Texas. In 1999, Norah left for New York City. Her debut album "Come Along with Me", and single "Don't Know Why" hit number one. In 2003, Jones walked away with eight Grammy Awards receiving "Record of the Year", "Album of the Year", "Song of the Year", and "Best New Artist" honors.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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