



# LITTLE SCHOOL OF MUSIC

## Welcome to the Musical Ladder System!

The Musical Ladder System is a great way to help students set goals, promote practicing, and be recognized for their efforts!

It's real simple. Every 3 months, 6 months, or 12 months, (depending on the level) teachers give students an "Achievement Test". The test is completely up to teachers and will be based on student goals previously set. Students will be tested on what they are currently working on in their lessons such as scales, vocal exercises, a song, memorization, or whatever is decided by the teacher.

The MLS provides an obtainable challenge for students so they are more motivated to practice at home and feel success! Once the student has passed their "Achievement Test", teachers notify the front desk staff so they can award the student with a colorful wristband, and at certain levels, a trophy with their name on it, to celebrate their accomplishment! Check these out in the lobby! The MLS is included in the Individual Instruction Program at Little School of Music at no extra cost.





## #1 Testing Schedule

All levels of the Musical Ladder System are based on the time that has passed from the student's first lesson date at Little School of Music (per instrument). All tests for the month will take place according to the monthly testing schedule (typically the third week of the month except. December).

Students that take more than one instrument will be able to participate in EACH instrument/voice they are enrolled in.

*OPTIONAL Track Tests on the Musical Ladder Chart-* Students are going to want to collect all the wristbands and know when their next trophy is coming! The visual reminder is perfect to help them remember and keep motivated!

***ALL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN INDIVIDUAL INSTRUCTION PARTICIPATE.***

## #2 Administering the Test

Every student enrolled in the LSM Individual Instruction Programs test accordingly (even if they are not interested in the wristbands and trophies). Teachers determine what will be appropriate for each student based on their level and instructional/motivational needs. The test is conducted as part of the regular lesson and should only take about 5 minutes depending on the student and level.

### **#3 Testing Rules**

If a student is absent during the testing week, they may test the following week. If the test is postponed another week, the student will forfeit receiving a wristband/trophy for the level but may test. If the student does not test by the end of the month, they will not receive any recognition for that level, and will move on to the next level.

To help students prepare adequately, plan well in advance. This “test” should be a long-term goal (6-8 weeks), not a weekly goal. It is not necessary to coordinate testing around recitals or other events, etc. This program stands alone and should correspond with how many months the student has been attending the school.

### **#4 Awards**

Wristbands and trophies are available at the front desk. Trophies may take time to arrive once the testing is complete because they are personalized and need to be batch ordered. Trophies that have not been picked up for 2 months may be recycled for other students.

Please let the LSM front desk staff know if you have any questions! We hope you enjoy the Musical Ladder System!