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Spokane Public Library receives \$13,500 grant from Future Song Foundation to expand music education program

(SPOKANE, WASH) – Spokane Public Library recently received a generous grant of \$13,500 from the Future Song Foundation to hire a new Music Educator and double the number of free music lessons offered at the library.

In 2023, Spokane Public Library offered 257 free music lessons. Aspiring musicians can sign up to learn guitar, bass, ukulele, keyboard/piano, and drums, with no experience necessary. Lessons are available 60-days in advance.

With this new funding, Spokane Public Library will be able to offer additional music lessons on Saturdays and Sundays starting February 17. New 30-minute lesson slots will be available 10am-1:30pm on Saturdays and 12-4pm on Sundays, offering more availability for patrons to participate during times when they are less likely to be in school or working.

Spokane Public Library hired local musician and music teacher, Jason Perry to fill the newest Music Educator position. Perry brings a wealth of experience to the role, having taught formal guitar and voice lessons over the past 7 years. He has also showcased his talent as a musician, performing in various bands over the past decade.

Andy Rumsey, Music Education Specialist at Spokane Public Library and the driving force behind the grant effort expressed his enthusiasm for the expansion of the program, stating, "We are incredibly grateful to have support from the Future Song Foundation. Their funding goes a long way toward enriching our music education program. When we expanded to include recording studio services at Central Library, the number of lessons I was able to give every week was substantially reduced. Having Jason on board will help expand our reach in the community! We will be going from 15 to 30 lessons per week. We look forward to providing access for people to explore and cultivate their musical talents."

Myles Kennedy, President and Co-Founder of the Future Song Foundation shared his excitement about the partnership saying, "Future Song Foundation is thrilled to team up with Spokane Public Library to bring a new Music Educator on board. Both of our organizations recognize the profound effect music can have on individuals and the community alike. We look forward to similar opportunities in the future that can provide access to music education in Spokane."



The grant from the Future Song Foundation highlights the commitment of both organizations to ensure that young people in Spokane have the resources and support they need to achieve their full potential through music education.

For more information about Spokane Public Library's music education program and to sign up for lessons, visit <https://www.spokanelibrary.org/music-lessons>.



Pictured (left to right): Andy Rumsey, Selena Kennedy, Myles Kennedy

About Spokane Public Library

Spokane Public Library aims to inspire a thriving city through cultural and educational opportunities. An award-winning library that spans seven locations and houses nearly half-a million items, Spokane Public Library circulates nearly two million items and welcomes one million visitors annually. Customers can enjoy traditional library media and can also access digital downloads, databases, historical collections, art exhibits and interesting free programming. For general information about the library, please visit spokanelibrary.org or call 509.444.5300.

About Future Song Foundation

[Future Song Foundation](https://www.future-song.org) is a not-for-profit 501(c) (3) that provides funding to ensure that kids have access to musical instruction and instruments which are fundamental parts of a complete education.