

The Arizona Music Scene

Written by Arizona Foothills Magazine

When you think of emerging musical artists, Arizona may not be the location that primarily pops into the majority of people's minds. But those of us from Arizona know differently! There is a rich musical scene here that is broad and boundless like the variety of our deserts. There are plenty of fresh jams and variation in musical milieus to keep your ears begging for more. Not to mention the original sounds that gifted musicians are eager to share with an enthusiastic audience. Here are a few bands you should probably check out now!



- *Celebration Guns* - An indie-pop group of four that tantalizes your ear buds with zingy guitars and busy drumming all whilst accompanied by unique and unexpected toy piano and xylophone styling.

- *Factories*- With sounds akin to Blonde Redhead and Tycho, Factories balances upbeat with downbeat through a somber solitude. However the best way to see this group of three is in live concert as colorful light strategically enhances the composition, aura, and experience of each song.

- *No Volcano*- One of the younger music groups on the scene, No Volcano is sure to make a lasting impression. The group collectively oozes talent and experience, however their humble demeanor and love of Mexico bring the zest to this group that makes them unforgettable. The music is dark, heavy, and gritty; think Rolling Stones and add a bit of Flaming Lip.

- *Phoenix Afrobeat Orchestra*- A fourteen member powerhouse, Phoenix Afrobeat Orchestra defies odds to bring a melting pot of sounds from around the world. These guys collaborate to infuse an exotic blend of funk, electronic dance tunes, samba, prog rock, and of course, Afrobeat!

Check now to see if any of these amazing artists will be playing in your city this year!

Why learn to play an Instrument?

What is great about so many young talented new artists is that the community can expand its musical interests and awareness. You can be playing in your garage one day and before you know it, an EP is released and then you get a gig! However learning to excel in an instrument has to begin somewhere. The essential element, like any creative process is to play. When one plays, they open up their mind to all kinds of creative potential. So as you read further think about enrolling in some classes like those found at LessonRating.com.

Research has shown that [early exposure](#) of children to music's can improve their verbal intelligence in as little as 20 days of instruction. This exposure can be focused on the strengths or interests of each child. For example, for older children perhaps the music instrument is a violin or guitar, but for the pre-school aged children simply playing with them and encouraging the exploration of imagination and curiosity will ignite many of the neural pathways. Improvements in childhood exposure to music were seen in language, attention, creativity, as well as building emotional intelligence and resiliency.

Music has always been an integral part of the human psyche and connection; it is as basic a skill as walking or talking. Music is an alternative means of communication that activates multiple senses at many levels. Music provides an opportunity for children to create spontaneous adventures, safely explore surroundings, in addition to facilitating successful completion of early developmental stages. Like many inborn skills, music can atrophy without stimulation. Negative influences may inhibit the child's potential for musical growth should the child be deprived of musical stimulation at a young age.

Additional Benefits to Continued Playing

The benefits span numerous areas of cognitive development and overall well-being and health. Some of the benefits of playing an instrument include:

1. Increase your memory capacity
2. Refines time management and organizational skills
3. Boosts team skills
4. Teaches perseverance
5. Enhances coordination
6. Betters mathematical ability
7. Improves reading and comprehension skills

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8. Increase responsibility
9. Exposure to cultural history
10. Sharpens concentration
11. Fosters self-expression and relives stress
12. Creates a sense of achievement
13. Promotes social skills
14. Boosts listening skills
15. Teaches discipline
16. Elevates performance skills and reduces stage fright
17. With certain instruments can enhance respiratory system
18. Promotes happiness in your life and the life of those around you