

CHAPPAQUA

# Music camp rocks area

Christine Pizzuti  
The Patent Trader

Chappaqua Rocks music day camp is no London stage, but even Jimi Hendrix had to start somewhere.

The camp, at the Music in Chappaqua music school on North Greeley Avenue, runs on a weekly basis. During that time, kids — some experienced, others not at all — pick the music they want to play, learn how to play it and finally put on a show for their fans.

"The kids love it," said Janet Angier, director of Music in Chappaqua. "Many sign up for one week and wind up coming back throughout the summer."

Chappaqua Rocks is only in its second season, yet they've had about 60 students enroll this summer, counting the overlap from students who re-enroll. The students sign up in groups of 12 and undergo intensive instruction in guitar, bass, drums, keyboards and vocals before putting on their Friday shows, which are recorded and transferred onto a television screen in the adjoining room, where parents and friends watch the concert in music video form.

"I think what makes the program so successful is the fact that the kids are playing music they can relate to," said Angier.

The set list for this past Friday's performance included Nirvana's "Smells Like Teen Spirit," Metallica's "Master of Puppets," "Dani California" by the Red Hot Chili Peppers and more. Sorry Beethoven, and shout out to Jack Black. This music camp is rock only.

"I really like that you get to choose the songs you play," said Ryan Stern, 13 of Mount Kisco. "I'll probably come back next year."

Stern, who is one of the more experienced musicians at the camp, has been playing drums for six years.

Sandi Stern, Ryan's mom, said he plays his drum set in the basement, but before he does, she has to make sure the cats aren't in the room because the loud noise makes them freak out a little. Luckily for the cats, Stern read about Chappaqua Rocks. The camp costs \$550 a session.

"Ryan loves it," she said.

"I think the parents are happy to see



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Ryan Stern, 13, is a drummer at the Chappaqua Rocks music camp.

## For your information

Chappaqua Rocks, 225 North Greeley Ave., Chappaqua, NY 10514, 914-238-3123, [www.chappaquarocks.com](http://www.chappaquarocks.com)  
Tuition fees: \$550 per weekly session

### Daily schedule (Monday to Friday)

- 10 to 11 a.m.: Instrument major
- 11 a.m. to noon: Voice elective
- Noon to 12:30 p.m.: Lunch
- 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.: Ensemble
- 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.: Instrument major
- 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.: Digital audio/recording
- 3:30 to 4 p.m.: Faculty and student performance

their kids excited about something," said Matt Dinsick, the camp's drum teacher. "It's nice for them to have an environment where it's safe and hands-on."

The music they play is only half of the experience at the camp. The other half is engineering and songwriting lessons.

"What separates this camp is we teach digital audio," said Adam Harley, head engineer and instructor of sound engineering and music production at the camp.

There is a full professional recording studio in the building that young musicians learn on, and when their week is over, they receive recordings of themselves from the beginning of the week and from the end to track their progress.

"It's really great being able to look back," Harley said.

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