

## Miss Steller's letter

Dear Outschool,

I would like to let you know how much you have helped our daughter through the pandemic and the lasting relationship and success you have given her.

The pandemic struck our hometown on our daughter Maria's birthday. We had front-row tickets to see Disney on Ice, and everything shut down just moments before we left the house. Week after week, our little girl saw her school, dance school, and music schools all close, canceling end-of-school-year recitals.

It left her heart broken, and a spark inside her just seemed to die. We bought her the purple ukulele she had been begging for to replace her birthday present, but it did not get much attention.

After weeks of trying to salvage her school year while teleworking full-time from home, we found Outschool. Suddenly, Maria had a community to connect with again, as well as extra-curricular activities to take on while we worked, ranging from learning to paint to help with mathematics.

It was wonderful to have the chance to get to know instructors through their profiles and to read about the details of classes in real, published reviews that helped us better understand what classes would be a good fit for our daughter.

The best thing to come out of Outschool, though, was Siobhan's early-summer ukulele workshop. Just four days of lessons brought something to life inside our daughter that we had not seen before and went beyond adding an instrument to her repertoire.

The relationship between the music teacher and student is essential for success, and there is some sort of magic between them. We went back to Siobhan's workshops again and again, even after the world around us reopened.

Each time, we saw extraordinary change in Maria's abilities and confidence as she integrated her ukulele and singing pop songs with her other musical training. Finally, we signed up for weekly lessons. This year, Siobhan recommended we enter Maria in a music festival here in Canada to give Maria the chance to perform virtually.

Thanks to Outschool, Maria placed first in her category, singing and accompanying herself on her ukulele! Siobhan's instruction, delivered exclusively through the Outschool platform, has transformed Maria as a musician.

We would never have connected with Siobhan without Outschool, since Maria and Siobhan live in different countries.

Thank you for bringing the best the world has to offer to our child. We look forward to watching Maria's relationship with Siobhan continue to grow and thrive, and we'll continue to look to Outschool for new, high-quality learning opportunities.

- Ms. Steller