

## Anya Thakar Student Teacher

Music has always brought me happiness. From relaxing to the CDs my parents bought when I was young, to messing around on the keyboard with my sisters, I have always loved being around music.

When I joined the Phoenix Feather “Kids and Keyboard” Program, I felt nervous and even cried on the first day of class, but my nerves disappeared when I began to sing and play with my class in the subsequent weeks. The group setting and specific home assignments allowed me to grow with my classmates and gave me a strong background in playing technique and music theory. Although my musical journey had a bumpy beginning, I developed a love of piano! I watched myself grow from playing snowman chords to more complicated melodies and rhythms. The “piggy chunks” were not just random notes anymore, but sounded like music. Five and a half years later, I graduated from the Phoenix Feather program and started private lessons where I began learning to sing and play pop songs and explore other genres such as jazz and film scores from popular movies.



This love of music led me to join my middle school orchestra and the THHS orchestra in high school where I learned to play the violin. The passion that grew from the Kids and Keyboard program has become so much more than just a skill, as I continue to play for fun at home and with college friends in my free time.



While practicing and learning music theory can sometimes be daunting, I’m here to encourage Phoenix Feather students and guide them along their musical journey. My Phoenix Feather experience will allow me to support students who want help with their playing or theory assignments. I am excited to help young musicians find their musical passion!

