Sitting in a circle with their eyes focused on the teacher, the children wait for the next instruction.

These one and a half to three year olds can identify colors, sounds, animals and use hand and foot motions to coordinate with the music.

Children from the age of six months to seven years old participate in Kindermusik, a developmental program on Union’s campus.

The program is designed to foster language development, symbolic thinking, social interaction, both fine and gross motor skills and to build a solid foundation for future vocal or instrumental instruction.

Kindermusik is just one of the programs that the Community Center of the Arts, housed in Jennings Hall, offers to children and adults of all ages.

For appropriate curriculums, classes are divided into age groups. “Village” - birth to 18-months; “Our Time” - 18 to 36 months; “Growing Kindermusik” - 3 to 5 years old and “Kindermusik for the Young Child” - 5 to 7 years old.

The creation of Kindermusik can be traced back to the late 1960s in the former West Germany. Co-founder and chairman of Kindermusik International, Daniel Pratt discovered this early childhood music education program that was published and taught by music educators.

In the early 1970s the program was translated into English and adapted to American families.

Kinney was honored as one of Kindermusik International’s “Fast Starters.” The program recognizes, rewards and encourages those educators who have quickly established a successful Kindermusik program.

For more information about Kindermusik, contact the Community Center for the Arts at 661-5234.