



2024 – 2025 Private Lesson Studio Policy

The investment made in a music education is invaluable. Instructors are experienced, dedicated musicians who teach, perform and collaborate in the Madison - Huntsville music community. The weekly lesson is a portion of the teacher's time invested in a student's education. Lesson planning, research of methods/music, and attending educational events/ conferences are other ways the teacher's time develops each student. A teacher's ongoing growth has a profound impact on all students.

REGISTRATION: Students enrolling in private lessons must pay the \$50 fee to the fine arts center prior to the first lesson. If a student discontinues lessons and tuition is not paid, the lesson time is made available to new students and re-registration (\$50) is required to return to lessons. Lesson times are not held for students not paying tuition.

TUITION: The tuition rate is listed in the registration confirmation email under "lesson Information." The monthly total will always remain the same, regardless of the number of lessons in the month (this includes studio closings due to holidays – please see calendar below). Payments are due the first lesson day of the month, paid directly to the instructor. Payments received after the 10th day of the month will be charged a \$10 late fee. Consistently late payments may result in forfeiture of the lesson time. Checks returned for insufficient funds will be charged a \$40 check fee, in addition to any late fees.

ATTENDANCE: Regular lesson attendance is vital to student progress. Lessons missed due to teacher absence will be made up. Make up lessons are not guaranteed for student absences August - May. In June and July, absences due to summer travel/ camps may be made up if at least 24-hour notice is given. In the event of weather-related closings, makeup lessons will be scheduled.

STUDIO CALENDAR:

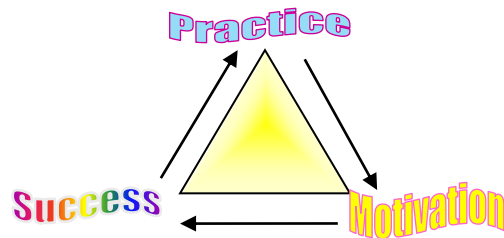
Monday, September 2nd - Closed Labor Day
Monday, September 30th - October 6th - Closed Fall Break
Saturday, October 26th - Fall Recitals, Cooper House*
Monday, November 25th - Dec. 1st - Closed Thanksgiving Break
Sat. Dec. 21st - Sun Jan. 5th - Closed Christmas Break (lessons resume Jan 6th)
Monday, March 10th - 16th - Closed Spring Break
Saturday, May 3rd - Spring Recitals, Cooper House*
Monday, May 26th - June 1st - Closed Memorial Day Week (lessons resume June 2nd)
Friday, July 4th - Closed

**Participation in recitals is not required, and at the instructor's discretion to determine preparedness.*

Student Progress & Developing Practice Skills

Consistent practice is expected and necessary for student progress. A teacher's weekly direction and encouragement includes assignments/suggestions for practice. Student skill level/rate of advancement is determined by the quality and quantity of practice. Solid habits begin with the parent and are carried on by the student as age and maturity permit. Guidelines for optimum results:

- Access to a tuned, well-maintained instrument. Keyboards should be on a stand or flat surface with a bench or chair at the proper height.
- The practice environment should be well-lit and distraction free.
- Daily practice is ideal. Students should practice at least 4 days per week.
- Practice sessions should be long enough to allow for repetition of pieces/material, both new assignments and pieces from previous weeks.
- Students should practice as soon after the week's lesson as possible. New concepts/material are increasingly difficult to recall beyond 24 hrs after a lesson.
- Young students may benefit from short, frequent practice sessions and may need help while practicing.
- Students should bring all materials to each lesson and be prepared to listen and try their best.



Most students object when it's time to practice - *it's work requiring both hemispheres of the brain!* Once habits are in place, the practice itself becomes motivational; the process feels easier and the student experiences success. Students progress at varying rates, but all accomplished students have good practice habits.



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