

Studio Policy

Overview

Hello, and thank you for your interest in having me as your instructor. The world of music is an exciting one, but it is not easy. Music is an ancient art—beautiful, captivating, and infinitely expressive. But as with any art, this comes with a price: time and dedication. It is a lifelong journey, and though it is an uphill climb, the view grows increasingly magnificent.

I have been teaching for over ten years and playing for almost 20. I have played alongside many people from the most novice of players to extraordinary, world-class musicians, and all of them (including myself) have had one thing in common: we are all students of music. Though I am still learning, I feel confident in saying that over the years, through dedicated practice, learning from great players, and by teaching others, I have learned and solidified the skills necessary to excel in music, and if my students do exactly what I prescribe to them, they will become solid, wonderful players.

Expectations

I know that the price of private instruction is not cheap, whether it be music or martial arts or painting. But these kinds of skill can bring immense satisfaction to the life of the student and those they associate with. But if the student does not develop the skills, the money is simply being wasted, and I would hate for anyone to be wasting their money. My job is not to make the student a great musician. My job is to teach the student the skills to practice effectively, offer a critical and trained ear to provide valuable feedback and tips, and to show them the path on which they can become a great, well-rounded musician.

That having been said, I expect students to practice consistently and properly. A student who simply plays through their music repeatedly or otherwise practices inefficiently does not progress. A student must practice hard, listen, and diagnose and fix problems, and eventually, all their time and effort will pay off.

Students should practice at least 5 times per week, and record their practice times in a practice log. It is important that I know how much time a student is spending practicing so that I can properly assess them.

If a student is not practicing enough, or if a student misses an excessive number of lessons, I reserve the right to terminate lessons.

Tuition and Length

The price for month-to-month lessons in person is \$60 per hour. Lessons taught over Skype are discounted by \$10. For the 3-month package, the price for in-person or Skype lessons is discounted by \$5 per lesson and includes 12 lessons.

Lessons are a minimum of 1 hour in length, but may continue however long is needed to sufficiently cover what needs to be covered. Half hour lessons are available (but not required) only for students 9 years old and younger. No exceptions. If lessons are to be held in person in the student's home, there will be a \$5 fee added to each lesson for gas and travel time.

Lessons can be paid for in person in cash, or by check or credit card. Students taking lessons via Skype or those who would simply prefer, may make arrangements for other payment methods such as PayPal. For first-time students, tuition for the month or program is due on or before the first lesson. For returning students, if payment is not received by the second lesson of the month or program, lessons will be put on hold until payment is received.

Free Consultation

It is important that the student, the client (whoever is paying for the lessons), and myself are comfortable working together before beginning lessons. If desired, the student can request a free, half-hour consultation (via Skype), during which we can get to know each other and ask any questions that need to be answered.

Attendance

Lessons will be held weekly at a consistent day and time. Day and time are subject to change depending on the changing availability of either student or teacher. Missed lessons can be made up at another time if an alternate time can be agreed upon. If a lesson needs to be rescheduled, please let me know at least 24 hours in advance. Location of lessons will be agreed upon by teacher and student.

Books and Fees

When necessary, the client (the person paying for lessons, whether that is the student, a parent, or other) may be required to purchase books and music. Less advanced students will likely be asked to buy one Suzuki book (level depending on my

assessment) and a scale book. Also, students are expected to buy necessary items such as rosin, a shoulder rest, a metronome (may be downloaded onto a smartphone for free), and a simple notebook for writing notes about each lesson as well as keeping a practice log.

Referrals

If you refer a student to my studio and they pay for lessons, you will get a free lesson. Refer a 2nd student and you will receive 2 free lessons for that student. Your 3rd referral will be worth 3 free lessons. Your 4th referral and any thereafter will be worth a free month of lessons (4 lessons).

Consent

By signing below, you are stating that you understand and agree to the above, and would like to proceed with your musical education!

Signature:_____ Date:_____