



**Music Educator**

520-405-3313

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**Private Lessons:**

30 minutes, 45 minutes, or 1 hour lessons are scheduled once a week. Additional lessons can be scheduled (as time is available) to help prepare for an important audition or show. Lessons are taught during the school year and during the summer.

**Preparedness:**

Students are expected to prepare their lesson material to the best of their ability. This is your homework!

***Practice Time***

Students are expected to practice their warm-ups everyday and to practice their repertoire for the amount of time that I determine for you on your practice log. Practice time may be split up throughout the week. Remember, daily practice will yield the best results. This is the only way you will improve!

***Quality Practice***

Sometimes students should be playing/singing through a piece from beginning to end, but more often students need to isolate problem spots within a piece and work on those, always remembering to "put the music back together" in the end.

Practice time should take place in a quiet, well-lit, and comfortable area. Practice time should be interruption-free (i.e.: no phone calls, no TV, no computer, etc). Ideally, practice time should be at a consistent time each day.

*"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit".* Aristotle

**Attendance:**

Expected! Students are also expected to arrive at their lesson on time and ready to go. Your lesson time will not be extended because you are late.

If you know you have a conflict with a specific lesson date coming up, let me know as soon as possible. The amount of notice given and the reason for missing the lesson will play a role in whether you are charged or not for that lesson. If I *am not* notified **1 day in advance** about a lesson to be missed, the student WILL BE CHARGED for the lesson and the teacher is not obligated to make up the lesson.

If your lesson starts late due to me running behind with students, your full lesson time will be given to you either that week or the next.

**Make-up Lessons:**

I am not obligated to make-up an unexcused lesson you missed. If I must miss a lesson, a make-up lesson will be given.

### **Payment:**

Payment is expected at the first lesson of a 4 lesson series, or on a lesson by lesson basis. **Lessons must be paid for in a timely manner. If the balance is not paid by the time agreed upon, lessons will stop.**

**If you know you have a conflict with a lesson within the month you are paying for, please discuss it with me at the time of payment & accommodations may be made.**

It is not usually acceptable to cancel lessons because of a birthday party, sporting event or other social activity. Hiring a private music teacher means devoting time to that weekly lesson and keeping absenteeism to a bare minimum.

### **Student's Responsibility to the Teacher:**

1. Be fully prepared for each lesson. (Practice the material you have been assigned to work on.)
2. Follow guidelines pertaining to absenteeism. (Give appropriate notice.)
3. Provide documentation (calendar) of practice time each week (*initialed by parent if under 18*)
4. Provide & bring a 3-ring binder with you to **each** lesson for handouts and sheet music. (Note: online students do not need this)
5. Take notes in a notebook or on the music as new ideas, songs, and/or assignments are introduced.

### **Music:**

I will provide most vocal and piano music. Students are always encouraged to bring in any music they would like to work on. However, I reserve the right to decide whether or not the music is appropriate for the student's age and ability level.

### **Instrument Care:**

*For piano students:* Pianos must be kept in good working order and tuned to ensure optimal progress, including a properly working sustain pedal. Remember the training of a student's "ear" is as important as the training of the fingers! Digital pianos preferably need to have weighted keys, be on a stand, and have a sustain pedal. A music stand is also essential for students working on digital pianos.

*For voice students:* Your voice is your instrument. Do your best to take good care of it, which means taking good care of yourself. Get plenty of rest. Avoid smoke. Do not strain your voice. Before your scheduled lesson: avoid ice cold beverages as well as beverages that contain milk or heavy cream.

### **Parent Responsibility:**

All children/students need help with discipline. *Expect* to have to remind, encourage, even badger your children to practice from time to time. Students and parents both need to be accountable for consistent, quality practice. After good practice habits are established, if your student consistently doesn't want to practice, then call me to talk about it. And don't forget to call me if there is something that your child does not understand.