

MUSIC FROM THE HEART 305

Studio Tuition, Attendance & Commitment Policy

Effective on the 1st of the month following your first lesson

Why This Policy Is Being Implemented

Having been named to the **MTNA Honor Roll** and recognized by a student for the **second consecutive year** for the impact I have had on their musical journey is an honor I hold with deep gratitude and responsibility. It caused me to reflect on the direction and standards of Music From The Heart 305.

My background in performance, theory, history and pedagogy and professional affiliations have allowed me to build meaningful relationships with students and families while supporting substantial musical growth. One teaching accomplishment that stood out to me was that I prepared students for 21 events with the National Federation of Music Clubs (where I am a Club President) and outcomes were 20 superiors and 1 excellent. Seeing this level of progress in committed students prompted me to thoughtfully refine my teaching philosophy so I can continue growing personally and professionally while providing the highest-quality instruction possible.

As the studio grew, it became clear that enrollment alone does not create a strong learning environment. A pay-per-lesson structure no longer supported the level of professionalism, consistency and respect required for serious musical development. Ongoing challenges have included:

- Students attending lessons inconsistently or only when convenient
- Late arrivals or missed lessons without notice
- Limited or inconsistent practice outside of lessons
- Enrollment motivated by access to events rather than commitment to study

This policy ensures that instructional time is respected, studio standards are upheld and dedicated students are surrounded by peers who share similar values.

Monthly Tuition

- **\$360 per month for all enrolled students**
- Includes:
 - Weekly private lessons
 - **All studio recitals** (*there is a performance requirement: students are required to perform in at least 3 per year)
 - Supplemental instructional materials, not including books
 - My day off (Tuesday) open to competitive track students in need
 - Teacher accessibility for performance video feedback and to answer any questions
 - Community performances based on ability
 - Audition and competition prep
- This is **not** a lesson rate increase

Professional Studio Structure

- Ensures **consistent, on-time payments**
- Eliminates the need to chase payments
- Instructional time is reserved exclusively for each student
- Creates clarity, fairness and consistency across the studio

Attendance & Makeup Lesson Policy

- **Makeup lessons will be offered** when:
 - A student is ill
 - An unforeseen circumstance arises
 - The instructor is performing, traveling or ill
- For vacations, planned absences, or non-emergency situations:
 - 7 days' notice is required and an absence of more than 14 days requires a \$150 fee to stay in the studio per month
- Missed lessons without proper notice are forfeited
- If you arrive more than 15 minutes late you forfeit your lesson that week

Student Expectations

- Consistent weekly attendance
- On-time arrival and preparedness
- Practice expected **a minimum of the lesson length on most days of the week**
- Respect for studio policies and instructional time

Studio Philosophy

- **Hobbyist students** will always be welcome
- My primary instructional time, mentorship and advanced opportunities are devoted to students who demonstrate:
 - Commitment
 - Consistency
 - Musical progress

To ensure that all students are supported appropriately, my husband and studio manager serves as an instructor for students in the early, pre-Level 1 stages. He works with students who are discovering the joy of music, developing readiness skills and determining whether they wish to pursue formal study more seriously. This structure allows each student to be placed in an environment best suited to their goals and level of commitment.

This approach creates a focused, high-quality studio culture where motivated students are able to thrive together.

New Student Policy

- New students may purchase **individual lessons during their first month only**
- After the first month, families must decide whether to continue under the tuition model

Looking Ahead

This policy allows Music From The Heart 305 to move forward with intention, integrity and clear expectations while honoring both accessibility and excellence in music education. I remain deeply committed to serving students who value growth, consistency and artistry and I look forward to a focused and inspired journey with you.

Jamie Lober-Baker Studio Owner **Music From The Heart 305** Steinway Educational Partner