

Updated April 2008

Teacher Studio

The Teacher

Teacher, NCTM has been teaching piano for over thirty years. *Teacher* is a state and nationally certified teacher of music (NCTM), and is member of the National Federation of Music Clubs and the Oregon Music Teachers Association, serving as State President of OMTA from 2008-2010. *Teacher* holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Wichita State University in Kansas.

Instruction

Piano students enrolled in The *Teacher* Music Studio are offered a well-rounded program of instruction with training in repertoire, theory, musicianship, ear training, technique, music history, improvisation, sight-reading and ensemble playing.

Piano Prep students will have Group Lessons as the core of instruction. We will work to develop a good piano technique, strong music-reading skills, clear understanding of music theory as applied to the pieces at this level of study, and explore a variety of music styles and forms. Group size for Piano Prep students will be two to four children.

For elementary and junior high students, the Private Lesson is the core of instruction, supplemented with a 15-minute Lab Session. In Computer Lab, students use up-to-date as well as established music education software to reinforce and expand learning. In Listening Lab, students gain a broader appreciation of the many styles of music.

For high school students, Private Lessons are 45 minutes for beginners through intermediate, and 60 minutes for late intermediate and above. Students are welcome to use the lab for further theory or composition work for a modest quarterly fee.

Group Classes and Recital Performance Classes will be offered several times during the school-year season. These are usually held in lieu of the regular lesson that week, and attendance is expected. We will focus primarily on performance and informed listening skills, and may also include some time for lessons in music history, ensemble playing or games.

Tuition and Fees

Tuition may be paid in four quarterly or twelve monthly installments. Tuition is due the first lesson of each month or quarter. A \$25 late payment fee is added to accounts not paid within 15 days. Returned check fee is \$30.

Enrolling students are reserving their placement in the studio for the entire year. The Enrollment Agreement is a firm commitment, and guarantees your place in the studio. A \$100 enrollment, materials and library fee is due upon enrollment. This is non-refundable and is to be enclosed with your enrollment form. \$50 of this fee goes into your Materials Account.

Materials accounts are maintained at \$50 per student, to be replenished each quarter. Any damaged music will be charged at current replacement cost. The cost of music you keep is deducted from your materials account. Sheet music kept more than four weeks and books or CDs kept more than four months becomes the property of the student and is charged to the materials account.

Studio Calendar

Our Enrollment Agreement Year begins June 1 with summer schedule lessons. Students should plan to take six summer lessons, may have one bonus lesson if the schedule allows. Students may also purchase additional summer lesson time as desired. Sign-up online or in the studio. School Year

Lessons commence the second week of the school year. The Studio Calendar is posted in the studio and on the Studio Website.

Attendance and Practicing

Regular attendance is necessary for consistent progress. No tuition credits or make-up lessons are given. The schedule includes one bonus week, which covers teacher or student absences and/or weather-related studio closures.

Please provide a well-tuned and cared-for acoustic piano, placed in a location conducive to concentration (not necessarily isolated). Help your child by working with them to establish a regular time for the daily practice. Pianos keep their tuning best when tuned twice each year. *Teacher* recommends Concord Pianos, 503-648-5247, for tuning services.

Students are to complete and abide by a practice agreement, which is updated each fall. A commitment to consistent, uninterrupted practice time is important for the best progress. All students are expected to practice at least five days per week. The lesson does not count as a practice, but it is VERY GOOD to have at least a short practice directly after the lesson. The emphasis needs to be on mind spent, not only time spent. Although the student is primarily responsible, parents must accept their responsibility in seeing to it that the student has time to practice regularly.

The Parent's Role

Praise and encouragement are the parents' greatest tools in helping your young musicians. Sit down and listen to your child's practice immediately following their lesson, then listen again just before the next lesson and comment upon the improvement you hear. Your involvement and encouragement will let your child know how much you really enjoy their music.

Talk to me about any questions you or your child may have. Communication is important to a good learning relationship! Parents are welcome to attend any lesson, or wait in the adjoining room. Parent-Teacher Conferences are available upon request. Please do not attempt to engage the teacher in conference about your student during another student's lesson time.

More Music—Recitals & Festivals

There are many performance opportunities available to students here. Students in the Teacher Music Studio may participate in festivals and adjudications for performance, composition, and ensemble. A listing of many of the possible extra activities is attached, along with approximate fees. Exact entry fees will be announced closer to enrollment time for each activity. All event enrollment fees are non-refundable after the stated enrollment deadline.

Referral Bonus

When a student you have referred enrolls in my piano program, your account will be credited with a \$25 referral bonus.

Enjoy!

Thank you for enrolling your child in my studio. I look forward to sharing the joy of music with your child. There are many other cultural activities available in our area, some at no cost. Enjoy these with your entire family!

More Music—Recitals & Festivals

Recitals

Our Studio Recitals will be held in October and April. All students are encouraged to participate, but are not required to do so. The October recital will feature duets and other ensembles and the April

recital will feature music prepared for Syllabus and Junior Festival. Students may also participate in recitals sponsored by the West Side Recitals Club. These are held four or five times during the school year season. Current fee for recital participation is \$6. For ease of bookkeeping, the recital fees are deducted from your materials accounts. We also have occasional opportunities to entertain in the community at area care homes. There is no additional fee for community service performances.

Syllabus

Oregon Music Teachers Association sponsors these student evaluations. Students may participate in the fall, spring or both. Students prepare 3 memorized pieces (4 for upper division) plus an extensive technical and theoretical skill base for evaluation by a trained judge. Students receive judge's comments and a certificate. Evaluations are held in private studios in Hillsboro or Beaverton. Fees range from \$35-100.

Ensemble Festival

Teams of two or more students may participate in the OMTA Ensemble Festival in late January. Students perform in competitive or non-competitive recitals, and receive judge's comments and a nice certificate. Fee for 2008 was \$20 per student.

Composition Celebration

For the composers in the studio, this pleasant, non-competitive spring-time festival allows students to present polished compositions for evaluation by a professional composer. A recital features the student compositions. Fee for 2009 will be \$35 for grades 2-6, \$55 for grades 7-12. This includes score and recording preparation.

Junior Festival

Students in this festival participate in small recitals, receive the judge's verbal and written comments, a certificate and ribbon, and can accumulate points towards a gold trophy cup (this accumulation takes about four years to complete.) Students prepare two memorized pieces for this spring event held at a church in Portland. Fee for 2009 will be \$28 (\$23 for additional event entries or for additional students in same family).

Baroque, Classical and Romantic Festivals

These OMTA festivals feature recital/master-class sessions for advancing pianists, with a focus on a certain period's repertoire. Some have non-competitive options. Fees for 2009 will be \$35.

SPT Conferences and Mini-Recitals

This is an in-studio event for continuing students. Students, Parents and Teacher confer regarding the year's progress and make plans for the coming year. Between one conference and the next, two students give a short recital for both families.

Study Plans for June 1, 2008 – May 31, 2009

Study Plan	Level & Grade	Lesson Conformation	Tuition
<i>Piano Prep</i>	<i>Beginners, Ages 7- 8 ½</i>	Summer Lessons conformation: Year One: Four 60-minute lessons Year Two: Six 60-minute lessons School-year (31 weeks of instruction): Most weeks: 45-min. group lessons 3-4 weeks: 60-min. recital prep or group session	Year 1: \$\$\$ Year 2: \$\$\$

Grades 3-8	Beginner to Intermediate	Summer Lessons conformation: Six 60-minute private lessons School-year (31 weeks of instruction): Most weeks: 45-min. private lessons plus 15-min. computer or listening lab 3-4 weeks: 60-min. recital prep or group session	\$\$\$
Grades 4-8	Late Intermediate to Early-Advanced	Summer Lessons conformation: Six 60-minute private lessons School-year (31 weeks of instruction): Most weeks: 60-minute private lessons plus 15-minute computer or listening lab 3-4 weeks: 60-min. recital prep or group session	\$\$\$
High School	Beginner to Intermediate	45-minute private lesson only Lab usage available \$25 per school-year quarter	\$\$ / hour
High School	Late Intermediate to Early-Advanced	60-minute private lesson only Lab usage available \$25 per school-year quarter	\$\$ / hour

Additional Summer Lesson time may be purchased at the rate of \$\$/hour.