

APRIL'S PIANO STUDIO
PAYMENT PLAN & POLICY SHEET
WINTER/SPRING 2011

TUITION

This covers a payment plan with a commitment to complete each semester. For new students, there is a one-month prepaid trial period of \$160 (for four 45 minute lessons) or \$200 (for 4 one-hour lessons). After that time, the semester contract goes into effect and I will just pro-rate the remainder of the semester.

There will be no deductions, refunds or credit for missed lessons or lessons terminated within the semester. Also, it is very difficult to juggle schedules so please reserve your allotted time for the entire semester. (The first month of each semester may take some juggling due to sport's schedules.) My fees not only include the weekly lessons, but also include lesson planning and scheduling, supplies, group lesson & recital preparation and continued teacher education.

There are two payment plans:

Plan A is a one-time fee for the complete semester.

Plan B allows you to pay monthly. There is a \$20 late fee if payment is not received by the 7th of each month.

Please make checks out to April Seawell.

WINTER/SPRING SEMESTER 2011(16 lessons)

Begins: Monday, August 15, 2011

Ends: Friday, December 16, 2011

Plan A: (which includes the \$10 recital fee) \$650 for 45 minutes or \$810 for 60 minutes (**due by Thursday, September 1, 2011**)
minus the \$150 deposit if you paid one

Plan B: Please pay for each month by the 7th of that month in order to avoid the \$20 late fee. (reminder emails will be sent out). **The \$10 recital fee is due along with the September payment.**

DAYS OFF:

Monday, September 5, 2011-Labor Day

*Tuesday, November 22 - Friday, November 25, 2011-
Thanksgiving Break*

MAKE-UPS:

The last week of the semester (Monday, December 12 through Friday, December 16, 2011) will be reserved for a **single** make-up for one missed lesson of your choice within that semester. Unless we agree to another day and/or time, this make-up will be given at your regularly scheduled lesson time. If you didn't miss any lessons over the semester you have this week off! For all other cases (such as illness, birthday parties, etc please use the exchange list).

I will provide a make-up if I need to cancel or if the weather is unsafe to drive in.

EXCHANGE LIST:

I will email you updated exchange lists with my student's names, phone numbers and email addresses. (Please let me know if you'd rather not take part in this.) It is your responsibility to try to switch your lesson with another student's if a conflict arises with your schedule. Every student reserves the right not to trade if it

is inconvenient for them. Please be courteous and get back to those who contact you. Please let me know as soon as possible of any exchange or cancellation.

RECITALS:

Recitals are very important because they prove to be beneficial in a student's sense of dedication, presentation, and accomplishment. There will be 2 mandatory recitals for ages 5 through 17 during the school year, one per semester. ***The ten dollar recital fee is included in the Payment Plan A & due with the September payment of Plan B.***

Those students having to miss the recital due to illness, travels or some other emergency will be asked to prepare some other musically creative assignment, such as a paper, artwork, etc. Parents are asked to bring snacks or light-colored drinks to share for the reception that follows each recital. Dates, times and a map to the location of the recitals will be given a couple of weeks before the recital.

LESSON BEHAVIOR:

Good behavior is important for a successful piano lesson. I have found that this is more easily achieved when I am able to work one-on-one with the student. This is why for most cases I ask parents to simply drop their child off for their lesson. You may contact me by phone or email if you need to discuss something or please let me know if you'd like to speak with me at your child's lesson. Parents will be made aware of behavioral problems and the lesson may need to be ended early or the student dismissed if the problem persists.

Please try to arrive no earlier or later than 5 minutes of the start and end of the lesson time.

I ask that parents not park in my driveway.

PREPARATION:

Practicing is crucial to the study of and advancement at the piano. I strongly encourage consistent, everyday practice. This produces quicker results than irregular, unscheduled practice.

The parent's participation in this process is so important.

Please confirm every week that your child has prepared their entire week's lesson and is bringing all their books and materials to each lesson. Please help younger children with theory assignments and song-playing. All children/teenagers should be listened to regularly to give them a sense of pride and achievement in their progress. A grade using a system of smiley faces will be written in each student's notebook after their lesson which will let parents see their child's preparedness level and/or behavior for that lesson.

All students need to keep their nails trimmed to facilitate their technique at the piano.

Also, please keep your piano in tune and working properly. (Tuners usually suggest once a year.) This is important in a student's ear training and also makes playing much more enjoyable!

GROUP LESSONS:

Group lessons provide an important opportunity for students to interact with other children in learning about musical theory and history by performing for one another, playing musical games, learning about classical composers, listening to musical C.D.'s and watching educational videos. These hour and a half long group lessons will usually occur every 6th week **in place** of the private lesson for that week.

I will ask for your daily schedules for that week a couple of weeks in advance and email you their designated day & time the week before the group lesson.

PERFORMANCE GROUPS:

The older teenager/adult performance group in which we share in a pot luck is a fun chance to meet other students, perform for each other and learn about a composer, instrument or other musical theme. These meetings generally last about 2 ½ hours and will occur about every 6th week.

Please try to arrive no earlier or later than 5 minutes of the start and end of the lesson time. Rather than ringing the door bell or knocking, please come in quietly in case another lesson is in progress.

Thank you for choosing me to help you and/or your child uncover the wonderful gifts of music.

Sincerely,
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