

Ksenia's Piano Studio Policy 2017-2018

There are a total of 3 sessions in a year:

1. Fall Session (September 4-December 23)
2. Spring Session (January 4-June 2)
3. Summer Session (June 6-August 31)

- During the school year, there are limited spaces of lessons times due to time constraints.
- During the summer, scheduling naturally becomes more flexible and lessons times can be accommodated to fit your child's summer activity schedules and family vacation times.

Holidays

There will be no lessons during the major holidays unless requested: New Years Eve/Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve/Day. As for the other holidays, lessons will continue unless cancellations are pre-arranged with the student (parent) and teacher.

Missed Lessons

•Excused

Cancellation of lessons due to sudden illnesses are considered excused – as long as notifications are given before 4am on the lesson day. If a lesson is cancelled due to my illness or inclement weather, the lesson will be rescheduled. All make-up lessons will be taught either early in the morning before the school hours, on weekends or made up during the summer session.

•Unexcused

Cancellation of lessons less than 24 hours of notice count as unexcused. For all "unexcused cancellation", the student will be charged for the lesson and no make-up lesson will be given.

If a student wishes to stop taking lessons, I require at least a one month advanced notice so that I can open the spot for another student on the waiting list.

Requirements

I require all of my students to have a metronome and have an eighty-eight weighted key piano at home. An electronic keyboard is only acceptable if the keys are "hammer" weighted. Acquiring a good acoustic piano is important to build up strength in the fingers and acquire good control over the sound of the piano by using the intricacies of finger touch. A student also must be provided with a notebook to record weekly homework and a set of coloring pencils. Books will either be purchased by me and reimbursed by the parents upon receiving the books, or I will suggest the source for purchasing the books.

Performance Opportunities

There is an annual recital I encourage all of my students to perform. This will be time of celebration and a time to share with everyone their achievements and more importantly provide a higher level of stage experience. Parents can also use this time to gauge their child's progress. There are also other competitive and uncompetitive recitals/festivals/competitions I also encourage my students to partake. Group classes are held once in the Fall, Spring and Summer session in the form of a recital.

Parental Participation

A benefit in having a traveling piano teacher provide in home piano lessons is that parents can actively participate in their child's learning (recommended from ages 5~9) of the piano. Parents are always welcome to sit in their child's piano lesson. Involvement will allow parents to take a more active role in your child's practice session and help facilitate faster learning of concepts learned through the lessons.

However after 1~2 years I encourage independent learning/practice and recommend parents not to sit in after a certain level is achieved.

Most students who start piano lessons are very excited and eager to learn. After a few months the child will realize that playing the piano is sometimes not all fun but more practice and hard work. It is during these times the role of a teacher and parent becomes important. Parents should encourage the students to keep working at it as with any hurdles in life they must overcome. With small steps students will realize that they can play a whole piece by themselves and have a sense of accomplishment and pride. Playing at recitals and other public places will further instill a sense of confidence and serve as a motive to take on harder pieces while enjoying the challenge.

Establishing good practicing habits from the beginning is important. It will provide a good foundation of discipline and a sense of responsibility. Although it cannot be forced, both the student and parents along with the teacher can work out and find a good solution to make piano more enjoyable.