



Studio Policy 2020-2021

CONTACT INFORMATION

The best way to contact me is through the studio email, which I check Monday - Friday. Please note that it can take up to 48 hours to respond. I can also be reached at my cell during non-teaching hours or via text message.

Email: pianoplace.e@gmail.com

Phone: 206.434.5061

Website: www.the-piano-place.com

CURRICULUM

Music is a **language**--and like any language, there are many basics which must be mastered prior to advancing to more complex applications. During a course of study, I attempt to cover all areas of musicianship: theory, technique, formal analysis, harmony, ear-training, sight-reading, performance, and a comprehensive study of musical literature in a progressive fashion. I truly feel that a well-rounded musical education helps students define for themselves what music means to them.

Please bear in mind that no two students are exactly alike, and children (as well as adults) learn at different rates of speed. Even brothers and sisters within families differ radically in motivation and temperament. Therefore, I approach students as individuals and attempt to challenge each according to their own unique potential. **Music is not easy, and may not always be "fun"**. However, given sufficient time and structured practice, it can be one of the most satisfying, fulfilling, and enjoyable of artforms!

TUITION

Tuition for private lessons is a flat monthly fee, regardless of how many lessons there are in any given month. These monthly fees reserve a weekly time slot. These are **flat fees** to reserve your, or your child's, weekly time for lessons, whether you choose to attend or miss. **Fees are charged by the month, and are not lowered or refunded for missed lessons. Please note that there is an additional \$20 monthly fee for in-home lessons.**

Tuition can be paid up front for each semester (5 months of lessons) or in equal monthly payments, regardless of how many lessons there are in any given month. Tuition doesn't only cover lessons but also the following services:

- Individualized lesson planning
- Arranging, planning, and running studio/community recitals
- Music lending library
- Studio supplies

Tuition is due by the first lesson of every month or semester if paying semi-annually. Tuition may be adjusted annually. Methods of payment include:

- Cash
- Venmo: @Enna-Davydenko
- PayPal: edenisiuk1@gmail.com
- CashApp: \$EnnaDavydenko
- Zelle: Enna Davydenko
- Check: Payable to Enna Davydenko or The Piano Place
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If you choose to stop lessons, you can do so any time by providing 30 days written notice via e-mail. You must pay for your last month in full, even if you choose not to attend all the lessons that month. If you choose to pay up front for an entire semester, you are committing to 6 months of lessons and cannot receive a refund should you choose to suspend lessons earlier.

SUMMER LESSONS

Piano lessons continue as usual during the summer months, but with a little more flexibility. Makeup lessons will be allowed during the summer months. If you and/or your family will be out of town at any time during the summer, please let me know well in advance so that I may adjust my teaching schedule.

If a student will be taking the entire summer off, that student's time slot may be reserved by paying for the time slot **in full and in advance**. If the student chooses to take a month off or take the entire summer off and the time slot is not reserved, I cannot guarantee that it will remain available in the fall. Priority fall scheduling goes to students continuing lessons throughout the summer. Please understand that there is a wait list to get into the studio and when a time slot does become available, it goes to the person at the top of that list and cannot be held unless it is reserved.

CALENDAR

A tentative calendar of studio events, holidays, and non-lesson days/weeks will be provided at the beginning of each academic year. It follows the Northshore School District schedule pretty closely for breaks and holidays. Please refer to this calendar for important studio dates.

MISSED LESSONS

No payment credit or makeup lessons will be provided for students who miss lessons for any reason.

The studio shall not assume any financial responsibility for a student's absence(s). Monthly rates are flat fees, and shall not be lowered nor refunded for missed lessons. "Make-ups" simply are not possible.

Please bear in mind that some months contain an extra week for which there is no additional charge. It is highly recommended that you attend regularly during these months in order for you to compensate for absence(s) you may incur during the year.

When the student has a conflict, he or she may contact me and see if there are any cancellations or openings for that week, and I will notify them if they can swap lesson times, but I CANNOT guarantee it. If, for some reason, a lesson must be missed, please notify me at least one week (or not less than 24 hours if possible) in advance, so I can offer that time to anyone else who might need to reschedule.

If I miss a lesson due to illness or family emergency, I will either make it up or credit the cost of that lesson towards the upcoming month.

In the case of inclement weather, lessons will take place remotely, online.

PRACTICE EXPECTATIONS

Students are responsible for completing all workbook homework and practicing and preparing the lesson that has been assigned them every week. Practice times vary depending on the age and level of the student and practice goals will be set accordingly by the teacher for each student.

Guidelines to facilitate effective practicing:

- Maintain practice time at a daily minimum arranged with me.
- Give practice time the same priority as homework.
- Schedule practice at a regular time every day.
- When desired, break practicing into smaller sessions to help maintain concentration.
- When practicing, avoid distractions such as television, pets, visitors, phones, or interruptions for chores.
- Regularly review all items listed in the Assignment Journal, as it serves as a guide to weekly practice and learning.

Sufficient **scheduled** practice time on a **daily basis** is the surest guarantee that you, or your child, will experience consistent progress at the piano. Learning the necessary skills to become proficient at the keyboard will not occur by simply going to piano lessons. It takes committed practice on a daily basis during the week to put skills covered at the lesson into motion.

Parental support is an extremely important factor in musical training. Children whose parents take an **active and honest** interest in their child's progress tend to be more enthusiastic and productive. Music is not easy and can, at times, become frustrating. Adults often take for granted that children are rarely self-motivated and lack the maturity (and self-discipline) to put in that all-important practice session. With commitment to learning the art of music comes the decision to practice on a regular basis. Consistent progress results in pride, satisfaction and a sense of accomplishment.

MATERIALS

It is expected that students have a well-maintained instrument at home to practice on. An acoustic piano is not required, but strongly recommended. If an acoustic piano is not an option, a digital piano with weighted keys is an excellent alternative.

Students must remember to bring all required materials to every lesson. These include:

- Assignment Notebook
- All method books currently in use
- Flashcards

Students or parents will also need to procure the following when they become necessary:

- A physical metronome *or* metronome App on a smart phone or other electronic device
- A 3-ring binder with dividers for sheet music

STUDIO USE

- Keep fingernails **short**, as long nails impede good hand position.
- Keep hands clean and germ-free; washing hands before the lesson is required (piano will be sanitized between students).
- Please remove your shoes.
- If you arrive early and I am finishing another lesson, be respectful of their lesson time.
- Feel free to use the waiting area before/during lessons. But please **clean up after yourself/your children**. Put all coloring/drawing supplies back in its proper place and dispose of any garbage or recycle any unwanted paper.
- Lesson time must remain as focused as possible--siblings are welcome to attend **provided they remain still and quiet**.
- You can park in the driveway or you can park on the street, so long as you don't block any other driveway. Please be mindful of other vehicles and leave room for easy maneuvering both in and out of the parking areas.

TERMINATION OF LESSONS

I reserve the right to terminate lessons due to negative behavior, failure to practice, an excess amount of absences/unprepared lessons, consistently late payments, or failure to comply with studio policy/etiquette.

Student Name: _____

LIABILITY/MEDIA RELEASE

I (the parent and/or student) release any and all rights and claims for damages against The Piano Place and/or its educators in the unlikely event of injury sustained by myself, my child(ren), or assigned caregivers during the course of or as a result of the activities in such classes or on premises. I understand that it is my duty to inform any caregiver assigned to bring my child to class of such waiver.

I understand that photo and/or video may be taken during classes. My enrollment and acceptance of this agreement provides permission for The Piano Place to post said images on its website and social media outlets, without any identifying information. If I do NOT grant permission, it is up to me to provide separate, written refusal of this policy.

I have read and agree to the terms of the current Piano Place 2020-2021 Policy Statement.

Parent, Guardian, or Adult Student Signature

Date

Parent or Guardian Name (Printed)

Date