

# Taylor Piano Studio

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This STUDIO has adopted the following guidelines from the Music Teachers' Association of California (MTAC) as a means of clarifying the professional relationships between teacher, student and parents:

## New Student Tuition

Length of Lesson	Monthly Tuition (Due at 1 <sup>st</sup> Lesson of Each Month)	Payment Methods
30 Minutes	\$180.00 (young beginners only)	Zelle (preferred),
45 Minutes	\$270.00	Venmo, Personal Check,
1 Hour	\$360.00	or BillPay

*(Students planning to take the Certificate of Merit (CM) Exam must take at least a 45-minute lesson.)*

## Tuition, Attendance, And Absence Policy

- 43 scheduled lessons this year - September 8 through July 31 – tuition is divided into 11 equal monthly payments due before the first lesson of each month.
- No lessons or tuition in August.
- You will not receive credit for missed lessons.
  - However, if you have called 24 hours ahead, so that another student might be arranged to use the lesson time, your absence will be honored with a makeup.
  - Please do not come if you are sick. You won't accomplish much if you don't feel well anyway. I reserve the right to send you home if you show symptoms. Let me know ASAP when you become ill and we will reschedule.
- Time changes should be used only in an emergency.
  - Please schedule other appointments accordingly.
- Please do not ask to take a leave of absence for any length of time.
  - Your time cannot be reserved.
  - It is very important to maintain a regular schedule of lessons for consistent progress.
- Forgotten lessons or cancellations due to other activities will receive no refund, credit or makeup. Time, effort and preparation are lost.
- Tardy students will receive only the remaining time of their scheduled lesson.
- As a courtesy, please drop me a text if you will miss your lesson so I don't wait for you or imagine the worst.

## Holidays - No Classes

Winter Break (2 Weeks), Thanksgiving (1 Week) and Spring Break (1 Week) there are NO Classes. The tuition fee remains the same for these months. Holidays have been accounted for in your 43 lessons. The studio will also be closed on Memorial Day and July 4<sup>th</sup> (These lessons may be rescheduled). I teach on all other Monday Holidays.

## Daily Practice Requirements – *Daily Home Practice Is the Most Critical Aspect of Piano Study*

**MINIMUM PRACTICE – 1 HOUR EVERY DAY – 6 DAYS A WEEK**

**I WILL NOT TEACH ANYONE UNWILLING TO PRACTICE EVERY DAY!**

## New Music

Most books I will ask you to purchase online. There are numerous on-line stores that sell sheet music in addition to Amazon. Please purchase the items promptly, as delay interrupts progress. Occasionally, I will purchase special music for you or share my personal library with a student.

## Metronome

A metronome is an important practice tool. Each student must have one in good working order at the piano during all practice and lesson times.

## Piano Maintenance

Every student must have a well-maintained piano in their home for daily practice. The piano should be tuned at least once a year. The technician can also repair sticking keys and faulty pedals. Playing on a poorly tuned or defective piano is a detriment to learning good skills and developing the ear. I can provide you with names of some reputable tuners/technicians. Not all piano tuners are qualified.

## Fingernails

Fingernails must be kept short in order to develop a correct hand position and to avoid clicking on the keys.

## Parent Guidelines - Getting the Most from Your Investment in Lessons

- Be Organized – Bring all books (including theory) and materials and a pencil with eraser to every lesson. Check on new assignments at the beginning of the practice week.
- It is the parents' responsibility to enforce a strict daily practice schedule at home and to provide a quiet, distraction-free environment during practice time (*consistent and productive daily practice is the most critical aspect of piano study.*)
- Parents are encouraged to attend occasional lessons.
- Avoid sugary drinks and snacks before lessons and home practice times to improve concentration and alertness.
- Listen to good Classical music every week (KUSC 91.5 FM) (KMozart 105.1 streaming only) and attend live concerts
- Feel free to contact me. The communication triangle between parent, student and teacher is extremely important. Email or text is best.

## Studio Performance Opportunities

- **Recitals:** Two All-Student Recitals per year (December and June)
- **Performance Workshops:** Students only, ad hoc sessions at my home (Students highly encouraged to participate to gain comfort performing in front of others and to build studio camaraderie).

## Students Wishing to Pursue a More Ambitious Program of Study May Enroll In:

*(Additional Registration fees are required for each of these events)*

- **Certificate of Merit:** Performance, Theory, Technique, Sight-reading and Ear Training Exam
- **Southern California Junior Bach Festival: Competitive** performance of the music of J.S. Bach
- **MTAC Sonata-Sonatina Festival:** Solo competition (trophies top percentages) (November)
- **MTAC Winter Solo Festival:** Solo competition (trophies to top percentages) (January)
- **SYMF:** Usually, the last two weekends in July – Highly competitive (trophies 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> places)
- **Fullerton College Ensemble Competition:** Duet Competition – Trophies - Cash to Grand Prize Winners  
*(There are many competitions open to students in Southern California beyond those listed above, however, most will require 2-3 hours of practice per day to attain the competitive level of these competitions.)*

## Respecting Other Students Time

Please pick up your child on time and exit the studio in a timely fashion. Each private lesson time is a special time devoted to helping that student “focus” on challenging technical skills, artistry, and productive practice 🎵 🎵 habits.

**Please respect other students by not infringing on their lesson times.**

## Guests and Siblings

If siblings must come together, each must have something to **sit and do quietly** while they wait – not wandering around. Younger siblings can be disruptive at lessons, making teaching and concentration very difficult. Please do not bring friends along to lessons. My goal is to give your children my very best and for them to experience satisfaction and enjoyment in giving their best to gain the skills and artistry for a lifetime of piano enjoyment

**Please respect my neighbors** by staying on my property (and children off my neighbors retaining wall) and not blocking driveways. Park in front of my house if possible. Please do not block my driveway. We have an active Neighborhood Watch.



## Piano Student Information Form

### Student Information

- Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_
- Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_
- School Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ School Grade: \_\_\_\_\_
- School Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ School Attending: \_\_\_\_\_
- Certificate of Merit Level: \_\_\_\_\_ Certificate of Merit Level: \_\_\_\_\_

### Contact Information

- Address: \_\_\_\_\_
- Student Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_
- Student Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent/Guardian Information

#### Mother/Guardian

- Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_
- Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_
- Email: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Father/Guardian

- Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_
- Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_
- Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Signature & Date

I have read and agree with the above studio policy.

- Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_
- Date: \_\_\_\_\_