



HOMESCHOOL CLASSES - POLICIES AND PROCEDURES 2016 - 2017

Upon signing up for instruction and/or lessons, the student/parent will be asked to thoroughly read the Studio Policies & Procedures, sign/date the document, and agree to respect and abide by the studio's current policies.

GENERAL INFORMATION: Homeschool classes are offered in sessions of 9 Weekly classes:

Music Appreciation: Guided Listening, Background on Pieces, In-Depth Composer Study, plus fun theory games & activities. One Hour Class. \$225/Session

Music Maker: A Music Appreciation Class, plus a group piano lesson directly afterwards! One and a Half-Hour Class. \$450/Session

Piano Class: A group piano lesson, just for Homeschoolers! 30 and 45 minute weekly lessons available. \$225/\$280 Session.

AT THE STUDIO: Students are expected to arrive with all their materials and/or music. During the student's instruction time, parents and siblings may quietly enjoy the waiting area, wait in their vehicle, or run errands so long as they return to pick up the student by the time the instruction is due to be finished.

PRACTICE AND INSTRUMENT: If students are enrolled in piano instruction, they are expected to practice five times per week, at a minimum, in order to ensure progress and be prepared for every lesson. Successful students establish good practice routines early on and many practice every day, multiple times. Consistency and quality, and not quantity, are the most crucial aspects for practicing. Particular amounts of minutes of practice are not required from students, nor are students asked to track how many minutes they are practicing. Instead, daily, focused practice is the goal. Preferably, the student has daily access to a well-maintained acoustic piano. Tuning twice a year is recommended (January and June are the best times) to allow children to correctly develop their ear for pitch, harmony and expression. For the first year or two, a keyboard is acceptable, if it has weighted keys that are touch-sensitive (play loud and soft without adjusting the volume). As the student progresses and attains a higher skill level, an acoustic piano becomes more critical for the path of true piano musicianship and is necessary for the student's aural training and to work on expressing emotions through music.

MATERIALS: All materials, including customized worksheets and music books will be provided. Students are expected to carry them to and from every class.

CALENDAR AND SCHEDULE: Homeschool classes are scheduled for 3 Sessions each year and consist of 9 classes for each session. The 2016 class schedule is as follows:

Fall Session: Wednesdays, September 14 through November 9

Winter Session: Wednesdays, November 30 through February 8 (no class Dec 28, Jan 4)

Spring Session: Wednesdays, March 1 through May 10 (no class Mar 22, Apr 12)

CANCELLING AND VIDEO LESSONS: In the event not enough students are enrolled, the instructor reserves the right to cancel the class and will refund all fees. If student or student's parent cancels within 30 days of class commencement, all fees, except \$50 will be refunded. If, for any reason, the instructor asks your child to cease participating in the class, she will refund the prorated fee amount representing the unused portion of the session. No refunds / makeups can be given for student-missed classes. Like most sports, classes, and other extra-curricular activities, tuition at the studio is based on enrollment, not attendance, and make-ups, refunds and/or credits cannot be scheduled or issued for missed lessons. We respectfully require keeping a sick child at home, with a runny nose, sore throat, cough or other contagious symptoms, so as not to cause the instructor or other students to get sick. Course materials for that day, if possible, will be emailed to you, so your child can easily join in upon returning to class.

If the student is enrolled in piano instruction: to keep progressing, when a student misses a lesson, and if requested by the student or a student's parent with at least 24 hours' notice, a Recorded Video Lesson will be provided and posted online. If a student is contagiously ill but feels well enough to play, or if on extended vacation, a FaceTime or Skype lesson can be a great solution.

PAYMENT OF TUITION: Tuition for homeschool classes may be paid by cash, check or Paypal and is due before the beginning of each Session.

DISCONTINUING INSTRUCTION / LESSONS: Please notify the instructor if you plan on not enrolling in the next session, at least 3 weeks prior to the session beginning. Note: At the discretion of the teacher, students may be dismissed at any time if they have late/unpaid tuition, an excess amount of absences/unprepared lessons, or a lack of interest is shown.

PHOTO RELEASE: During lessons, classes, student and group gatherings, and performances, the teacher reserves the right to use video recording or to take photographs of students for use in the studio scrapbook, advertising materials, lesson demonstration and studio websites/platforms. Photos taken by the teacher OR that are shared with the teacher by other parents or students of gatherings or performances become the property of the studio and can be used at the discretion of the teacher in regards to the studio. The studio follows online safety rules in this matter.

COMMUNICATION: The best way to contact the teacher is via email or text, which will be promptly returned. If you need to cancel instruction or a lesson at the last minute, please text. I check my email several times a day. I let the voicemail take calls during lessons. Emails or text messages are always welcome from students during the week if they have questions regarding their repertoire or other matters.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY: Marin Piano Studio and Mae McLean are released from any liabilities, accidents or injuries that may incur from the enrolled student with the participation of piano lessons, group classes, or piano events.

I acknowledge and agree to abide by the Studio Policies:

Printed Name: _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____