

Dear Parents and Students,

The study of music is a wonderful endeavor that can not only have academic and professional benefits but also provide a lifetime of enjoyment and cultural awareness. In order to provide an effective learning environment for you and to help us run the studio smoothly, we have created the following studio policy. The policy will be effective starting September 2025.

### Practice:

Effective, regular and supervised practice is essential for progress in the student's piano, violin or viola skills as well as for their enjoyment of the instrument in particular and classical music in general. Practice should be treated as you would treat school homework. A regular schedule needs to be set up and followed with parental supervision. Lesson time should be used to refine existing skills and learn new ones, not to practice last week's assignment. The proper approach to practice will be taught at lessons and we expect it to be applied during home practice sessions.

### Missed Lessons:

**Your lesson time is reserved in the teachers' schedule exclusively for you, therefore missed lessons will not be refunded, nor will any credits be given in the following month's tuition.**

**Each student is allowed two make-up classes for missed lessons. Any additional absences will not be made up. If a make-up time has been scheduled and subsequently missed (either entirely or partially), the lesson will be forfeited. Lessons missed without notice will not be made up or credited.**

- The school year will start on the Tuesday after Labor Day and run through the last week of school for the Wallingford-Swarthmore and surrounding school districts.

If you have a schedule conflict due to vacation, school activities etc. it is possible to swap lesson times with another student (this is done as a courtesy to the students and we cannot guarantee that a spot will be available). We rarely cancel lessons and will either schedule a make up or give a credit for any classes that we do miss. Teachers' vacations will be announced as soon as possible.

**If you wish to discontinue lessons, two weeks' notice is required.** We reserve the right to terminate lessons due to chronic late payment, a consistent lack of preparation for lessons and disciplinary issues.

## Summer Session:

The summer session will start on the Monday after students are out of school in the Wallingford-Swarthmore and surrounding school districts and last until Labor Day.

## Holidays:

We will not be teaching on Halloween, Thanksgiving, between Christmas Eve and New Year's Day, Labor Day, Memorial Day, spring break and one week in the summer. These holidays are not included in the 46 yearly total.

## Tuition:

**All students who begin lessons after Labor Day will receive 46 lessons by the Labor Day of the following year. The monthly tuition is based on the base rate of the lesson multiplied by 46 and divided into 12 equal payments. These payments are due on the 1st of each month. Any payments received after the 5th of the month are subject to a \$45 late fee.**

**Monthly payment totals remain the same regardless of the actual number of lessons in any given month except in the case of those added beyond the 46.**

Once the 46 lesson total is reached, students may add extra lessons during the summer session pending teacher availability. These lessons will be billed at the single lesson rate and added on to the regular monthly tuition.

## Deposits and Administrative Fees:

**A deposit equal to two weeks of lessons is required at the time of registration. These deposits are refundable upon discontinuation of lessons as long as two weeks notice has been given.**

**An administrative fee of \$45 is required of each family (not each student) annually billed in September.** This fee covers scheduling, billing and supplies for copies as well as the maintenance of the studio piano and space.

## Recitals:

Wallingford Musical Arts presents two studio recitals each year, one in December and one in June. Tatyana is a member of the National Music Teachers Association and both she and Serban are committee members for the Bösendorfer Youth Music Festival. The MTNA holds both competitive and non-competitive performance opportunities for students throughout the year. The BYMF is an annual competitive event.

While participation in recitals and festivals is not required, it is highly encouraged. In our experience, students benefit greatly from having a goal to work toward as well as from hearing their peers perform. Piano students are responsible for any registration fees that are required for participation in an MTNA or BYMF activity. Violin students are asked to pay for the services of an accompanist should they require one for a recital or competition.

**By taking regular lessons, you have read and agreed to the terms of the studio policy.**