

Wallingford Musical Arts

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 2017.

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 during the school year and **one** during the summer session. 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 may be possible to arrange an alternative lesson time with at least one week's notice (this is done as a courtesy to the student and we cannot guarantee that a spot will be available). A swap list with lesson times and contact information for all studio students will be provided at the beginning of the school year. The list can be used to arrange lesson swaps. Teacher absences will either be made up or will not count toward the 46 year total.

If you wish to discontinue lessons, two weeks' notice is required. A deposit equivalent to two weeks of lessons will be required of all new students as of June 1, 2018. The deposit will be refunded upon receipt of two weeks notice for discontinuing lessons minus the difference between the actual number lessons taken and the prorated monthly total.

We reserve the right to terminate lessons due to chronic late payment, a consistent lack of preparation for lessons and disciplinary issues.

Summer Session:

Summer break is a great opportunity to concentrate on the study of music. Taking the entire summer off will not only hinder a student's progress but will also undo much of what was accomplished during the school year.

Consequently, all students are required to take a minimum of six lessons during the summer session. Students who do not fulfill this requirement cannot be guaranteed their spot in the fall schedule.

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 Thanksgiving (Thursday and Friday), between Christmas Eve and New Year's Day, Labor Day, Halloween, Memorial Day and spring break.

Tuition:

Payment for lessons is due on the 1st of each with a grace period until the 5th. A \$25 late fee will be added to any late tuition payment.

Tuition is based on 46 lessons per academic year (September to September) and divided into 12 equal payments. This includes the 6 week summer minimum. Additional lessons can be added during the summer session in a separate payment.

A registration fee of \$40 per family will be due at the beginning of every academic year.

Payments can be made via Venmo, Zelle, cash or check.

Recitals:

Wallingford Musical Arts holds two studio recitals each year, one in December and one in June. **A recital fee of \$25 will be required for each participating family. This fee is non-refundable.**

Tatyana is a member of the National Music Teachers Association and the organization committee for the Bösendorfer Youth Music Festival. The MTNA organizes many competitive and non-competitive performance opportunities for students throughout the year. While participation in recitals 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.