

Jessica Olson Piano Studio

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Studio Policy

Thank you for studying piano with me! I am so grateful for the opportunity to share my love of music with you!

Weekly Lessons:

Weekly lessons are held from the second full week in September until the last full week in May. A complete calendar of lessons and events will be provided at the beginning of each school year. Thirty minute lessons are recommended for young beginners, and 45-minute lessons will be required for nearly all students in their second year of study and beyond as scheduling allows. I may recommend additional increases in time as students advance based on their personal goals.

Group Classes:

Group classes are typically held 2-3 times per school year on Saturday mornings. These casual classes are included in tuition fees. **In order for students to reap the benefits of group classes, attendance is important and will be considered mandatory.**

Tuition Policy:

Tuition for the 2018-2019 school year includes 32 weekly lessons, two group classes, one studio recital, and one free make up week. Students may choose to finance the total cost of their annual tuition fee into two semester payments or nine monthly payments. **Tuition payments are considered a financing option, and monthly payments are equal regardless of the number of lessons scheduled during the month.**

Semester tuition payments are due at the first lesson in September and January, and monthly payments are due at the first lesson of each month. If required, invoice reminders will be emailed during the second week of each month. **Unused tuition fees are non-refundable so please plan accordingly.** Special tuition pricing is available for families enrolling more than one student. Online payments may be made by clicking the link located inside each emailed invoice or from the payment portal located in the parent resources section of the studio website. A 3% convenience fee will be automatically added to online payments to cover the cost of credit card processing.

Due to the studio's lengthy waiting list, students who wish to take a break or delay the start of lessons will be required to pay their usual tuition fee during

the break if they wish to hold their place. If they choose to make their slot available to another student during their break in study, they will go back on the waiting list for the next available lesson time.

Summer lessons are available in blocks of 4, 6, or 8 lessons in June, July, and August, and a special project or exploratory unit is often offered. Scheduling is done week by week to allow for flexible vacation and camp schedules.

Absence Policy:

In the rare case of teacher cancellation due to illness or unforeseen events, students will receive their choice of a make-up session that can be scheduled within 30 days or a credit on their next tuition payment equivalent to the value of the missed lesson.

Absolutely no discounts are given for student absences. A make-up session may be scheduled within 30 days of the absence. I set aside one Saturday each month for make-up lessons, and I maintain a “will call” list for open slots during the week. I request 24 hour notice of an absence when possible, and lessons missed without prior notice will be automatically considered forfeited. Students who arrive late for lessons will be given the remainder of their scheduled time. I do my best to accommodate unforeseen conflicts with sporting events and school functions, but I ask that families plan ahead as much as possible when setting up their lesson time for the year since time changes are usually not possible.

Home Practice:

Piano lessons are different from sports and other extra-curricular activities in that a significant part of a student's musical growth occurs outside of lesson time. For this reason, **regular home practice is essential for progress and will be expected.**

The length of daily practice required varies and will be discussed with each student and their parents based on their individual needs. A significant part of our weekly lesson will be devoted to showing students how and what to work on at home, and detailed practice instructions are sent home weekly.

Materials and Fees:

Each student will need: a spiral bound notebook; a small 3-ring binder; a set of highlighters for use at home; pencils, crayons and colored pencils for use at home; a bag for transporting books and materials; a home instrument in good repair; and online access for completing work assigned on Google classroom.

Please bring all music books and worksheets, your notebook, and your binder to each lesson. The binder will be used to organize practice instructions, worksheets, and other lesson materials.

All students will need a piano for home practice. **Home instruments need to be well tuned with weighted keys, full keyboard size, and working pedals.** A good quality digital piano can be a serviceable instrument for beginners, as long as it mimics the touch of a quality acoustic piano.

Each family is required to pay a non-refundable \$50.00 deposit at enrollment which will be used to cover the cost of materials and event fees. At the end of each school year the deposit account must be brought up to the \$50.00 level to serve as confirmation of re-enrollment for the following year.

Performances:

Students in my studio have many opportunities to perform at school functions, group classes, recitals, fundraisers, festivals, and on our studio YouTube channel.

Most students will be asked to participate in at least one piano festival and one recital each year. Modest, dressy attire is required for these events. With parental consent, I regularly video record polished pieces for the studio's YouTube channel, website, and Facebook page. Exceptionally prepared students may receive the honor of being selected to participate in Southwest Montana Music Teachers Association recitals and festivals, the Montana State Music Teachers Association Fall Festival, or MTNA competitions.

I am aware that performing is overwhelming for some students. Discretion will be used in requiring participation in formal recitals and festivals.

Payment Agreement

I have read and I agree to abide by the payment terms and policies outlined in the attached Studio Policy.

I affirm that any loss or injury suffered by me, my child, or my property because of participation in any activity or use of equipment or facilities during lessons or any studio-related event is my sole responsibility, and I will not hold Jessica Olson Piano Studio or Jessica Olson liable for any such loss or injury.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Media Release

I give permission to Jessica Olson Piano Studio and Jessica Olson to create and post photographs, audio, and video recordings of my child using his/her first name and last initial on the studio's Facebook page, website, blog, YouTube channel, or in printed promotional materials.

I understand that some competitions or events may require publication or disclosure of my child's full name and address. I consent to this publication or disclosure as it relates to entry into these competitions or special events.

Signed: _____

Date: _____