****Elite Piano Studioof Tatyana Lantos

 **Studio Policy***Please read this policy, sign and return to me.* **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The goal of this studio is to create a musical environment at each lesson so that every student's individual potential can become realized. This is not only for the purpose of playing piano, but also so that every student can become a better, more confident independent learner of any subject matter.

The piano studio is located inside my house. Instruction consists of private lessons once or twice a week, in which repertoire, note-reading, theory knowledge, piano technique, practice skills, and musical literacy are emphasized. Lessons are generally thirty minutes in length, with forty-five and sixty minute lessons available for intermediate and advanced students, as well as motivated elementary students. There are three semesters during the school year: Fall semester (September – December), Spring semester (January – May) and Summer semester (June – August). Lessons are available Monday through Saturday. During the fall and spring, lesson schedule must be consistent every week. During the summer, lessons are scheduled on an appointment basis. Continuing students are expected to take at least 6 lessons in the summer session.

**PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

It cannot be overstated that parental involvement, support, and assistance are crucial to your child’s success in studying music. At the very least, most parents need to help children establish regular practice schedules, and assist them in managing that schedule when exceptional events interrupt the routine. You may need to simply remind your child that “it is time to practice now”; this is normal and is sometimes necessary with even highly motivated students. Or, you may need to get more involved if regular effective practice is not taking place. Parents may also have to help make sure that the student arrives at lessons with all required materials ready to go, such as assignment books, music books, etc. An important byproduct of learning to play an instrument is the fun and pride in sharing that music with family and friends. Since most children enjoy sharing their musical accomplishments with people close to them, parents can be a main source of motivation. The more interest that is shown and communicated to your children about their practice and playing, the better. Ask to hear their finished pieces, encourage them to play for their friends, at school, or at church when possible, and even play the teacher duets along with them in their finished pieces if you know how
to play.

**PRACTICE AT HOME**

Consistency is important in learning, especially in music study. Successful piano study requires consistent daily practice, from week to week, and month to month. Regular practice assures steady improvement of musicianship and skills. Students are enrolled with the understanding that they have access to a piano or an appropriate electronic keyboard in their home on which to practice. The practice environment at home should be quiet and free from the sounds of a TV, video game, or any other distracting sounds. Students usually get the most out of their practice if it is scheduled ahead of time, and is at the same time each day.

*Suggested daily practice for five or six days a week:*

*• students in K & grade 1: at least 20 minutes a day (or 10 minutes twice a day)*

*• students in grades 2-5: at least 46-60 minutes a day (or 30 minutes twice a day)*

*• students in grades 6-9: at least 60-90 minutes a day*

*• students in grades 10-12: at least 2 hours a day or more, till its done !*

*THE MORE YOU PRACTICE, THE BETTER YOU GET! ☺*

**MISSED LESSONS & MAKE-UP LESSON POLICY**

One of the goals of this studio is for each student to experience the excitement of progress from week to week; the key to that is consistent practice and consistent attendance. If you must miss a lesson due to illness or another unavoidable emergency, please call or e-mail me 24 hours in advance.

If such notice is given, the lesson will be made-up when it is missed for reasons of illness or personal emergency, but for no other reasons. If at any point I must miss a lesson, and it is not already taken into consideration in the yearly schedule, it would be made-up. For families with more than one child registered for lessons, if one child has an excused absence, that child's lesson can either be made-up, or the time can be added to another child's lesson that day. Please let me know when you cancel how you would like it to be handled.

Make-up lessons occur during especially designated days during each semester. Make-up lessons must be done in the same semester the original lessons were missed; they do not carry over to another semester. Please notice that missed lessons will not be made up for any other reasons except mentioned above. For example, lessons missed because of sports activities, family vacations, school vacations, or lessons that are cancelled at the last minute for any reason, are not eligible to be made-up.

**SEMI-ANNUAL RECITALS**

 Our recitals are held on Saturdays at a local auditorium or church. The Fall semester recital is in mid-December and the Spring semester recital is in mid-May. There is a $20 Recital Fee per student per event, which is charged in the month of the recital to all enrolled students, regardless of whether they choose to participate in the Recital or not (most usually do). This fee covers the cost of renting the auditorium, having the auditorium piano tuned, programs, etc.

 Both of these performance opportunities are an important part of your child’s learning experience. Children develop increasing self-confidence when they perform well, and when they hear other children their age performing well. I encourage you to plan ahead in your calendar so that your child can attend and participate. Most students are usually well prepared for studio recitals. However, I reserve the right to not allow a student to perform in a studio event if I judge that he/she is not sufficiently prepared with adequate lead-time before the event.

**TUITION**

Monthly payments are due by the first lesson of the month.

Student/Parent Signature Teacher Signature

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Date Date

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**RATES**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Lesson Duration** | **30 min** | **45 min** | **60 min**  |
| **Lesson Rate** | **$30** | **$45** | **$60** |