Katie Farmer*Private Piano Instructor

2021-2022 Business Policies

Purpose of Business Policies

The purpose of these business policies is to provide an understanding of the responsibilities of both the teacher and the student.

Financial Information

- Tuition is based on a rate of \$15 per ½ hour lesson. Lessons are given weekly.
- Discounts: Students taking an hour lesson receive a discounted rate of \$25. Families with multiple children are charged regular price for the first child, \$14 for the second, and \$13 for any other children after that. If you choose to pay for an entire semester or the whole year you will receive one free lesson per semester.

 Only one discount per family (ex: if you receive an hour lesson discount you do not receive a free lesson by paying for semester, etc.)
- Tuition is charged monthly and due at the first lesson of each month. (A statement will be provided the week before.) A late fee of \$15 will be charged for each late tuition payment. A recital fee of \$5 will be added in the month of the recital.
- Students must provide and bring a spiral-bound notebook (preferably 5"x7" or 8"x10") to their lesson.
- I generally purchase music for my students, since I know exactly what they need and can sometimes get a teacher's discount. The total for any music needed will be added to the next invoice.
- You have two weeks from the start of the school year to change your mind about lessons, or to change scheduling. After that, you

will be committed to pay for the whole school year's scheduled lessons.

Cancellation Policy

As part of my contract with Peachtree Learning Center, I am required to support the following cancellation policies:

In the event of a missed lesson, please note the following:

- Tuition is not refunded unless the missed lesson is a result of the instructor's absence and a make-up lesson cannot be scheduled.
- If you know in advance (a minimum of 24 hours' notice) that you will be absent, your instructor may be able to schedule a make-up lesson. However, your instructor is not required to offer this service as providing instruction to other students who are in attendance is a priority. Make-up lessons will not be offered for last minute cancellations.
- If your child becomes sick and needs to be absent, please notify your instructor as soon as possible. Your instructor will try to schedule a make-up lesson if possible.

Per Insurance, if Peachtree Learning Center has to close due to inclement weather, every activity held in the building that day must be cancelled. If a make-up lesson cannot be provided, the student will be credited for that lesson. If there is stormy weather (possible tornados), Peachtree may not have time to make a call on cancellation. This would be left up to the teacher & parent. If a teacher or parent feels unsafe travelling, a make-up lesson should be offered.

Practice Requirements

All students will be required to practice 4-7 days a week. The length of this practice time will vary dependent upon the student's academic level. Taking private music lessons is both a privilege and a responsibility. A lack of practice results in a lack of motivation, and makes it difficult for me to do my job properly. Please respect my time and your child's education by encouraging a regular routine of practice in your home.

Students must have a good quality instrument to practice on. I highly recommend an acoustic piano, especially for more advanced students. Full sized keyboards with weighted keys will also work well. Anyone searching for a good instrument feel free to ask me questions, I will do my best to try to help you choose a good instrument that fits your student's needs.

Special Activities

Students are strongly encouraged to participate in Peachtree's Spring Recital. These recitals are essential to the development of musicianship skills as they provide an incentive for practice and memory work. The spring recital is formal (not black-tie, just "Sunday Best").

I also work with students who have opportunities to perform in talent shows at their schools or in worship services at their churches.

GUILD

GUILD is a program for pianists, in which students prepare a minimum of four pieces to play for a judge and receive feedback about areas in which they are doing well and areas in which they could use more focus

for improvement. It is wonderful for both the students and the teacher, in that it gives students a goal to work towards and teachers some extra support and outside opinions. Students receive a detailed report card, certificate, and pin when they pass. GUILD auditions are held in April/May at either Mt. Juliet, Nashville, or Murfreesboro. There are extra fees to participate in this. Fees vary depending on the level of the student, but are generally around \$40/student. As a teacher, I also pay for membership to participate in GUILD. I would encourage all my students to consider participating in this program. There is a deadline to register and students need plenty of time to choose and prepare pieces, so if you want your student to participate I need to know by the end of September. If you want more info about this please feel free to talk to me about it! Due to COVID auditions have been online the past two years, so I have decided to hold off on continuing my membership until they return to in person. If you are interested in this program please let me know though and I will consider how to move forward in the future.

Teacher's Pledge

I promise to teach each student to the best of my abilities. I promise to be fair and professional in all my dealings with the student. I promise to network with other teachers and to continue educating myself in the field of piano studies so that my teaching methods do not become stale or outdated. I promise to discover what motivates and encourages each student in order to meet his/her individual needs. I promise to be available to each of my students and his/her parents – feel free to call, text, or email at any time with any question.

Student/Parent Pledge

Once you have read and agree to these policies and procedures, please sign the Business Policies Pledge on your student's application, and retain this information for your personal records.

Thank you.

Call: (931) 761-5654

Text: (931) 256-5711

Email: pianopraises4Him.psalm150@gmail.com