



Allen Piano Studio

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## **STUDIO INFORMATION AND PROCEDURES**

### **REPERTOIRE**

I am less concerned about following a traditional method, than I am about teaching each individual student. Thus, I teach using a variety of method books which I select based on individual needs. Students are also allowed to study music of their choosing alongside the pieces I choose for them. I offer my students the opportunity to study music theory and technique in order to be well rounded musicians. Any area that a student is especially interested in (jazz, composition, hymns, accompanying, etc.) will also be included in instruction.

Recital songs are chosen to coordinate with the theme of the recital. Students can work to learn enough material to have a solo recital (depending on the difficulty of the pieces, this can be anywhere from 4 to 10 songs).

### **LESSONS**

Weekly, private lessons are 30 minutes in length. Two times a year we have studio recitals (fall and spring). These can be optional with my permission. Before each recital there will be a masterclass where all students will practice performing their recital songs in front of each other. At the beginning of each summer I offer an optional piano workshop on varied topics. Summer lessons are offered, but optional.

Parents are always welcome to observe any lesson!

## **PRACTICE**

Students are encouraged to practice for 5 days a week. I am less concerned with how long a student practices, and more concerned with what they accomplish.

Practicing is assessed by goals reached rather than by time practiced.

I give students practice sheets to outline specific goals to work towards each week and to record how well their practicing reached the expectations so I can assess any practice issues and award good practice habits. I give exciting and changing incentives to motivate students to practice. While regular practice helps students improve at a much accelerated pace, it can also produce burnout. Failure to practice is not cause for individual or total lesson cancellation.

Writing in theory books counts as practice time. Targeted practice techniques are taught during lessons.

## **I LOVE MY PIANO PARENTS!**

Please talk to me about any issues or questions you have at any time. I only see your child play once a week and often they put on their best behavior for me. You are in the trenches and can see what is really going on. Teacher/parent communication is essential for success! Hang in there through the rough times, let me know when those happen so we can work together through them, and your child will thank you for the marvelous gift of music in their life!