

# Carol Hibbard Piano Studio

## STUDIO POLICY 2011-2012

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**TEACHING PHILOSOPHY:** My goal is to meet each student's personal musical needs, with each lesson being both technically valuable and enjoyable, while nurturing the student's interest in music.

**LESSONS:** Students are to arrive on time for each lesson, well-prepared with all music, assignment notebook, and fingernails trimmed. Students have a private lesson each week, except one week of most months, when all have a longer group lesson with up to 8. Group lessons include theory study, ear training, ensemble playing, performance, and music history and appreciation. Since students in their first three years make double the progress when a parent *actively* observes their lessons, parents are strongly encouraged to attend lessons to promote optimum progress.

**PRACTICING:** Parents *share* the responsibility with the student to set aside a regular time for accurate practicing at least 6 days a week, and to cheerfully enforce this habit. For at least the first few years of lessons, a parent must be attentive during practice times to encourage the student and to help them stay on track in developing effective practice habits. Lesson time does not count as practice time; in fact, the most vital practice is the one immediately following the lesson, ideally on the same day. Please provide an atmosphere conducive to focused learning for practice time: no television in the piano room; do provide good lighting, a metronome, and regular words of encouragement. Tune your piano at least once a year to help develop an accurate ear and to make practice time more enjoyable for all. Listen to good music, attend concerts, and sing together to advance musical development.

*Minimum* Practice, 6 days each week, for Steady, Encouraging Progress should be at least equal to the length of the student's lesson. For example, a student taking a 45 minute lesson should practice 45 minutes each day, perhaps divided into two or three smaller sessions.

**TUITION:** There will be 33 lessons in the school term (September to early June), with tuition divided into 10 equal monthly payments. Statements will be sent home on the last week of each month. Tuition and charges for new music will be due on the first lesson day of each month for that month's lessons, with a \$10 late fee charged after that date. Lessons missed will not be made up, as my calendar provides for 36 lessons, so a student may miss 3 lessons for illness or emergencies and still receive the 33-lesson commitment. In case of a schedule conflict, you may trade lesson times with another student, but please email to inform me of the change.

2011-2012 TUITION: Pre-K 30-minute private lessons -- \$110 per month  
45-minute lessons -- \$155 per month (appropriate for elementary age)  
60-minute lessons -- \$195 per month (best for advancing elementary and older)  
75-minute lessons -- \$240 per month (for advancing middle and high schoolers)

**RECITALS AND EVENTS:** Sharing our music (performing) is essential, teaching how to effectively set and reach goals, increasing self confidence, motivating students to practice, and generally improving all areas of musicianship. Each of these events is a vital part of the overall program: the Thanksgiving and Spring Recitals, the March WSMTA Adjudications and the NFMC Festival; students are required to participate in each, as appropriate to each student's age and level. The Carnegie Hall Royal Conservatory Achievement is encouraged for qualified students, as well.

**CREDENTIALS:** BA in Music Education; Nationally Certified Teacher of Music (NCTM); 30+ years of teaching experience. Professional affiliations: *National Music Teachers' Association, Washington State Music Teachers' Assoc., Eastside Chapter WSMTA, National Federation of Music Clubs, Washington State FMC, Greater Newcastle FMC.*