



Albert Einstein was once asked how he discovered the Theory Of Relativity. He said, " I didn't discover it. I was listening to music and the whole thing dropped in."

Studio Contract 2019-2020

Parents, please review these Studio Policies *with* your student. Both of you should sign and then keep this for policy reference if needed during the year.

STUDENT & PARENT GUIDELINES (4 yrs. to 9yrs.)

1. **Parents** should help the student set up a regular **daily** practice schedule.
2. Parents, please review teacher notes with your student before each daily practice.
3. Students, please ask questions if you are unsure of anything. (Parents please email the teacher, if **you** are unsure of anything)

STUDENT & PARENT GUIDELINES (10 years and up)

1. Parents should still help the student set up a regular **daily** practice schedule. The student should have input in this process, however.
2. Students, please review the teacher notes in your notebook before each daily practice.
3. Students create daily, reasonable goals for yourself and be responsible for completing assignments before the next lesson.

PARENTS

1. Make sure your child is well rested, fed and hydrated.
2. Provide a quality, **regularly tuned** instrument. **Tune at least twice per year.**
3. Provide a quiet, **cheerful** practice area at home. (A dark basement may be quiet but it's definitely NOT cheerful!)
4. Encourage your student to review teacher notes after each lesson and to be responsible for the material brought to lessons.
5. Assist your student, age 4 - 9 years, with home practice. Be encouraging and playful.
6. Age 10 and up, help your student create a practice plan and be there to encourage when things are difficult. **Parental support is just as valuable with your advancing student!**

PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

1. Solo performance and ensemble opportunities are available to established students. Ensemble practice times will be coordinated between participating students.
2. Opportunities to perform and hear guest musicians give demonstrations and speak at St Cecilia are available to students who are interested in enrolling in the Junior Music Clubs (\$15 fee requirement for the season) Being a member of the music club also avails you of entry into the Concerto Competition, Summer Camp Scholarship competitions and National Federation of Music Club Gold Cup Festival in March.
3. GVSU has a 20th Century Music Festival in October and an Ensemble Festival in April that interested students can participate in. Piano recitals at GVSU are a wonderful way to expand the student's awareness of piano literature and also observe other accomplished student musicians. The studio will post dates as they are made available.
4. Scheduled Piano In Action studio performances include the S.T.A.R. recital in the fall, Christmas Dinner Music for Seniors at Pilgrim manor in December, Feeding America Benefit Recital in March, Music in the Market benefit for Kids Food Basket in the summer.

ATTENDANCE & CANCELLATIONS

1. Your lesson time is reserved **exclusively** for you. Attendance is expected.
2. If you know of a conflict ahead of time, another studio parent can be contacted to switch lesson times. **At least 48 hours** is needed for a lesson switch to be implemented.
3. If your student is a "no show" to your reserved lesson, that lesson is lost.
4. For emergencies or illness, lessons can be made up. **Please call or text 616-690-6887.**
5. Missed lessons must be made up **before** the summer session begins or the lesson is forfeited.

VACATIONS

1. Vacation periods are incorporated into the schedule for the year.
2. If your vacation does not correspond with the studio schedule, **arrangements must be made before the 1st of the month** of your vacation.

TUITION & PAYMENTS 2019-2020

1. A non-refundable **\$38 per student** registration fee is due upon registration each school year. If you are a current student, the registration fee can be paid at the lesson or on the Piano in Action website. Mailed payments should be sent to: Sherry VanOveren, 6660 5 Mile Rd. NE, Ada, MI 49301
2. **Tuition is a set fee** due the 1st of each month, from September through June, **based on 33 lessons per school year**. \$125/month for 40 minute lessons and \$184/month for 60 minute lessons.
3. **Tuition is due the 1st** of each month in cash or check made out to: Sherry VanOveren.
4. A **\$15 late fee** is added **after the 10th** of each month.
5. Monthly tuition, paid in cash (not check) before the 1st of each month, receives a discount. \$122/mo. for 40 minute lessons and \$180/mo. for 60 minutes.
6. Books and materials are purchased separately as needed.

SUMMER LESSONS

1. Lessons are taught year round.
2. **Summer lessons are calculated on a per lesson** basis of \$38 per 40 min. or \$58 per 60 minute lesson with vacation days not charged.
3. A minimum of 6 summer lessons is required for students to keep their place in the studio the following school year. Discuss with teacher if there will be difficulty achieving this requirement. **Regular weekly summer lessons are recommended** to keep piano/voice skills from diminishing. The goal is to continue to improve skills and musicianship.

PARENT & STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT*

I have read these policies with my student and understand and agree to abide by them as long as we are studying music at the Sherry VanOveren "*Piano in Action*" Music Studio.

Students, thank your parents for this opportunity to study music. Lessons are a wonderful gift!

Dated: _____

Parent Signature

Student Signature

"The study by the University of Vermont College of Medicine found the more a child trained on an instrument, the more it accelerated cortical organization in attention skill, anxiety management and emotional control." (Washington Post January 8, 2015)