

Studio Policy 2017-2018: Christine Tithecott, A.R.C.T., B.Mus., M.Mus., DMA

Member of Ontario Registered Music Teachers Association (O.R.M.T.A.)
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Piano & Metronome

All students will require a piano at home for their daily practicing. I recommend an acoustic piano (tuned once per year), however a touch-sensitive keyboard with 88 keys plus proper foot pedals will suffice for beginners. All students will need a metronome, which can be downloaded as an app on any smartphone or tablet.

Tuition

Tuition is based upon enrolment for 36 weeks (32 for Monday students) of private instruction from September through June. **Tuition guarantees a reserved time spot each week that remains consistent throughout the year. The assigned lesson time will remain the same from September through June.** Materials, such as sheet music and books are not included. Tuition fees for 2016/2017 are as listed below.

30-minute lessons: \$1105 (\$110.50/month)

45-minute lessons: \$1645 (\$164.50/month)

60-minute lessons: \$2185 (\$218.50/month)

Monday Lessons:

30-minute lessons: \$985 (\$98.50/month)

45-minute lessons: \$1465 (\$146.50/month)

60-minute lessons: \$1945 (\$194.50/month)

At these prices, the student is guaranteed that I will be prepared and present to teach 36/32 weeks per year. Tuition can be paid in full at the first lesson of the year, or can be divided into monthly installments. Monthly payments are due **on the 1st of every month**, and can be paid by post-dated cheques, or e-transfers.

Terminating Lessons

All students end lessons at some point. Ideally, this decision is made thoughtfully with plenty of time and consideration to complete the registered year of lessons. If a situation arises in which lessons must be ended mid-year (ie. moving), I require two months of written and paid tuition notice. If any problems arise throughout the year, please feel free to contact me by email or telephone so we can help navigate the ups and downs of your child's musical journey together.

Missed Lessons

Since specific times are set-aside for each student, a student who does not attend a lesson will simply miss the benefit of that lesson. Please be assured that your tuition pays for far more than the time spent with your child. This includes, but is not limited to: class recitals, teacher certification, teaching materials, lesson planning, etc. There are

no refunds, discounts or makeup lessons given unless I am unable to teach 36 lessons throughout the calendar year.

Illness: Students who are ill should not attend lessons. These students may opt for an extra lesson offered on Holiday Mondays.

Skype/Facetime Lessons: Online alternatives will be made available for students in case of illness, weather, etc.

Swap Lessons: Families of private students may trade their lesson time with another student to help avoid absences. Please use the following rules to make swaps go smoothly:

1. I must be informed prior to and after arranging a swap
2. Should 2 people arrive at once, I will teach the regularly scheduled lesson
3. Please inform me if you **do not wish to have your name included on the swap list**

Practice

Practice is necessary to prepare for each lesson by making weekly progress in all parts of the written assignment. This requires a daily practice commitment.

It is very important to spread practice out over several days of the week, even if it is only for a few minutes each day during busy weeks. Skipping several days of practice in a row will mean having to re-learn music and stall progress!

Most children achieve positive results as follows:

Beginner level: 20 minutes daily

Levels 1-3: 30 minutes daily

Levels 4-6: 45 minutes daily

Level 6+: 1 hour daily

Lesson Scheduling

Most lessons will take place on an upright Yamaha piano at my home studio, 4-301 Oxford Street East. Parking is available in the parking lot behind the house, accessed off of Waterloo or Wellington St. Lessons for late Intermediate and Advanced students have the option to make use of a Yamaha C3 piano, at 14 Exmoor Pl.

My teaching hours are:

Monday- Thursday, 8 am-10 am, 2:30 pm – 7:30 pm.

*Lunchtime lessons are available upon request

Any phone calls or emails will not be responded to during teaching hours.