

## ♪ Piano Studio Policy ♪

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I welcome you to my piano studio – a place where children ages 7 and up can explore the awesome joy of making music! First, some laundry...

**As I like to say, the parent - child - teacher relationship is like a tripod. In order for your child to flourish each leg of the tripod needs to be strong in its role.**

My responsibility as the **teacher** includes:

- *being ready* to start on time and having a clear plan for each lesson;
- establishing a *safe learning environment* where kids can be themselves;
- *getting to know your child* and finding a suitable teaching approach for her learning style;
- maintaining *regular communication* with you about your child's progress and addressing any issues of concern;
- teaching your child effective *practice habits*;
- and *challenging him musically* by choosing grade-appropriate repertoire and building skills in technique, theory, and ear training.

**Students** also have responsibilities in the lesson tripod, which include:

- *being prepared* and ready to start on time for each lesson, including muting cellphones, and having assigned homework ready to hand in;
- *practicing* 6 days a week, for around 30 minutes each day depending on level;
- *communicating* to me what they want out of lessons, i.e. Do they want to perform? Do they want to do a Royal Conservatory of Music exam? Do they want to do it "just" for fun?;
- *being respectful* of the space and equipment. Refrain from swearing and inappropriate behavior. Please no gum chewing. Children should wash their hands before each lesson to keep the keyboard clean and mitigate the spread of germs. **Abuse of equipment, i.e. banging on the keyboard will not be tolerated. There is a zero tolerance policy; students must understand that equipment is expensive and fragile.**

As a **parent** you also play a very important role in your child's musical development...(continue on reverse)

- Provide a *quality instrument* for your child to practice on. An acoustic piano (non-electronic) is ideal because the student can experience the natural weight and function of the keyboard from the get-go – not to mention the sound!
- If, due to cost or space, an acoustic piano is an unrealistic purchase then find an electronic keyboard with 88 weighted keys and at least a sustain pedal. Suitable keyboards can be purchased for under \$800.00.
- Be willing to *invest in music books*. Like textbooks they're not always cheap, but they're an essential part of the course.
- Also provide your child with a well-lit space to practice. The student should have a bench of the proper height to sit on.
- *Stay in the loop* with what your child is doing. Read her lesson notebook that I write in so you know what she needs to be practicing. I welcome parents to join us at *the last 5 minutes* of each lesson and watch what their child is learning.
- *Communicate* questions and concerns to me by phone, text and email. If your son or daughter is going through something stressful at home or school it helps me a great deal to know about it.

## Payment

- Rates for piano lessons as of February 2020:
  - 30 min. lesson: **\$26.00**
  - 45 min. lesson: **\$39.00**
  - 60 min. lesson: **\$52.00**

## Semester System

- **Winter Semester:** (normally begins first week of January) this year it will be February 3 – March 31. See below re: March Break
- **Spring Semester:** April 1 through June 19
- **Fall Semester:** September 7 through December 4

*For the holiday/vacation period between June 22 and September 4 as well as December 7-18, payment will be done as you've always done it via Pay-As-You-Go method but at the new hourly rate for all students.*

## **Winter Semester: February 3 - March 31, 2020**

Day of lesson	How many of this day Feb – Mar	Holidays/teacher absences*	Total lesson days in Winter Term	Semester Fee for 30 min. lessons	Semester Fee for 45 min. lessons	Semester Fee for 60 min. lessons
<b>MON</b>	9	-1 (Family Day)	8	<b>8 x \$26 \$208</b>	<b>8 x \$39 \$312</b>	<b>8 x \$52 \$416</b>
<b>TUES</b>	9	none	9	<b>\$234</b>	<b>\$351</b>	<b>\$468</b>
<b>WED</b>	8	none	8	<b>\$208</b>	<b>\$312</b>	<b>\$416</b>
<b>THURS</b>	8	none	8	<b>\$208</b>	<b>\$312</b>	<b>\$416</b>
<b>FRI</b>	8	-1 day away in Toronto	7	<b>\$182</b>	<b>\$273</b>	<b>\$364</b>

**\*Please give advanced notice by Feb. 1 if you will be away for March Break. If notice is given there will be no charge for the planned absence. Failure to provide notice of vacation related absence during March Break will result in a charge for that lesson. Lessons will otherwise continue through the break.**

For every Semester payment will be received on the *first lesson of the term* OR in monthly installments paid on the *first lesson of each month*. Please note that paying for each semester is a commitment and refunds will not be given should the student discontinue in the middle of the term.

*Stay up-to-date* with payment. Payment is made in quarterly installments. Cash, cheques, and e-transfer are accepted.

### **Absence**

All students will be allowed one make-up lesson per term. As long as 24 hours notice is provided the student will get a lesson credit. Make-up lessons can happen during the term whenever there's an opening in the schedule or during the non-semester period between June 22 and September 4 and December 7-18. I will contact students by email and the first to respond gets the time. Lessons missed by me will be issued a credit and made up as soon as possible. Lesson fees are non-refundable unless I have to cancel.

### **Illness**

Missed lessons due to illness will no longer be refunded. Anyone who is sick should refrain from coming to the studio. Sick students who come to the studio will be asked to return home. Students who wish to still have a lesson can do so over Skype at their scheduled time.



**Parent Consent Form for Audio Recording of Piano Lessons  
Piano Studio of Darryl Cremasco**

**Section 1 – Student Information**

\*Name \_\_\_\_\_

\*Name(s) of parent/guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

\*Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Cellphone \_\_\_\_\_

\*Email \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_

*\*required*

**Section 2 – Consent to be recorded**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (name of parent/guardian), hereby authorize the audio recording of \_\_\_\_\_'s (student name(s)) piano lessons under the instruction of Darryl Cremasco. I understand that these audio recordings will be used for the teacher's educational purposes and no one but Darryl Cremasco and myself will have access to them.

Recordings will be kept on a hard drive in a secure location, and can be made available to the student/parent/guardian for practice purposes on request.

Signature of Parent(s)/Guardian(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_