

# Private Bassoon Lessons Informal Contract

## Mason Cox

### Description:

Bassoon lessons are designed according to the needs of each individual student and will cultivate the necessities of performance in bassoon. Students will learn a variety of skills related to music performance that apply to living a healthy adult life which for me include but are not limited to: critical thinking, interpretation skills, listening skills, performance skills, public speaking, time management skills, sound production, technical proficiency, and reed making skills. In order to achieve the most amount of growth in these skills, students will be working from Mason's lesson packet, etudes, excerpts, accessible and standard bassoon repertoire, listening assignments, and of course: develop a love for the instrument. Students will be expected to journal about their practice sessions and are recommended to elaborate on their progress towards their musical goals.

### Required Materials:

- Bassoon
- Reeds (please have more than one...PLEASE)
- Reed Soaker
- Tuner & Metronome (can be on your phone)
- Pencil
- Music (band music, etudes, solos, scales, audition materials, etc.)
- Notebook
- Recording device (can be your phone)

### Suggested Materials:

- Milde Scale Studies
- Milde Concert Studies
- Fox Plastic Reed Plaque
  - [https://www.forrestsmusic.com/bassoon\\_plaques.htm](https://www.forrestsmusic.com/bassoon_plaques.htm)
  - See #G-14
- Reeds n Stuff Holding Mandrel
  - <https://www.mmimports.com/product/reeds-n-stuff-bassoon-holding-mandrel/>
- "Rat tail" diamond files
  - [https://www.amazon.com/KALIM-Diamond-Needle-Length-Usable/dp/B07ZKCYXRH/ref=sr\\_1\\_5?crd=2FC3KCC4XTTMX&dib=eyJ2ljojMSJ9.YmbPL796IDGJTFWZctPR13nugWKFJQp3Ik-Yf1KbW4Jvd42V2YknkC1vTlv-vl-WctsdYuvruEBqz40ec4wqr---QqA7\\_ce7bm7t8m5X0Nd7kTWBqJKDCgAqGCYzxPyro8raQDQM1DmzlaNtpUekAhzv73NooEcDTAfIF3hTBP\\_k1qz0agsyFzwB2Oz49ALYHCqmZMMOKgeqZiSBudulw9Hrpn3sAfdSUv9qIxSOQq27BwgeqZ1wDc5UH\\_ViLEt6MEKa-wqhNB9nik-UdhhFfJxrM--80FcfH8d0q5UCT4.RR9-](https://www.amazon.com/KALIM-Diamond-Needle-Length-Usable/dp/B07ZKCYXRH/ref=sr_1_5?crd=2FC3KCC4XTTMX&dib=eyJ2ljojMSJ9.YmbPL796IDGJTFWZctPR13nugWKFJQp3Ik-Yf1KbW4Jvd42V2YknkC1vTlv-vl-WctsdYuvruEBqz40ec4wqr---QqA7_ce7bm7t8m5X0Nd7kTWBqJKDCgAqGCYzxPyro8raQDQM1DmzlaNtpUekAhzv73NooEcDTAfIF3hTBP_k1qz0agsyFzwB2Oz49ALYHCqmZMMOKgeqZiSBudulw9Hrpn3sAfdSUv9qIxSOQq27BwgeqZ1wDc5UH_ViLEt6MEKa-wqhNB9nik-UdhhFfJxrM--80FcfH8d0q5UCT4.RR9-)

[GOlbSKhGCrUZBP4KFebwhP892uYlnsrpRBcAOh0&dib\\_tag=se&keywords=rat+tail+diamond+files&qid=1722289969&sprefix=rat+tail+diamond+files%2Caps%2C157&sr=8-5](https://www.forrestsmusic.com/pliers.htm)

- Rieger forming pliers
  - <https://www.forrestsmusic.com/pliers.htm>
  - See #E-29

### **Scheduling Lessons:**

Lessons consist of 30 or 50-minute private lessons (parents are **always** encouraged to sit in and observe the lesson!). Lessons will be scheduled at least a week in advance. The lesson location and time will be set in a group chat with the student, the student's parent/guardian, and myself.

Tardiness to lessons, while not ideal, is acceptable so long as the student or parent(s) lets me know. If I do not hear anything from the student or parent(s) **15 minutes** past the lesson start time I will cancel the lesson and leave.

Lesson cancellations must be discussed and I must be notified at least **48 hours** prior to the scheduled lesson. Any instances where I am not notified of lesson cancellations 48 hours in advance will result in the **full lesson fee being paid**. Exceptions to this include sickness and family emergencies.

### **During Lessons:**

In lessons, I expect for the student to come in prepared to play assigned work. For your first lesson, please come in with anything to play: scale(s), band music, honor band etudes, etc. I HIGHLY recommend that at the start of your lesson you **press record** in your voice memos app so that you can play back any comments I give you that you may forget until our next lesson. **At the start** of your lesson, I will ask to see the student's practice journal. As much as I often times dislike journaling about my practicing, it is a necessary tool to not only reflect on your work outside of lessons, but it also helps me see how you've progressed in your work outside of lessons and how I can better help you during lessons.

Should any student not be prepared for our lesson, I reserve the right to send out students to go practice and come back with more prepared material or **dismiss** the student entirely until our next lesson. In this event, the lesson fee should still be **fully covered** as I have blocked out my time for the lesson.

### **Payments:**

- My lesson rates are \$40 for 50-minute lessons and \$30 for 30-minute lessons.
- I accept Venmo, Apple Pay, Zelle, and cash.
- I prefer to receive a prepaid payment for 4 lessons (either \$160 for four 50-minute lessons or \$120 for four 30-minute lessons).
- I will accept payments a la carte if desired as well.

**Scholarships:**

Growing up in a rural town with not a lot of money (but with a **strong** desire to improve my own skills) I understand that lessons can be a financial hardship for families. Growing up I had to drive an hour both ways after school during peak traffic hours or on the weekend, pay for parking, and then pay a teacher. I strongly believe that knowledge is sacred, but never inaccessible to those that truly desire it. I reserve the right to offer scholarships to **any** student. These scholarships may include specific duties that I would expect the student to complete which may include having lessons filmed for my professional portfolio, performing in various recitals with me, assisting me in classes, attending LSU recitals and concerts, etc. Should a scholarship student not be able to fulfill their duties, I reserve the right to charge the full lesson price.

**Acknowledgment:**

**By signing below you are stating that you have read the above paragraphs and agree to the terms and conditions stated above.**

**Parent:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student:** \_\_\_\_\_