



## **Conservatory Policies and Lesson Contract**

### **Philosophy and Mission**

- \* To nurture the artistic spirit in each student and instill a lifelong love of music and learning
- \* To develop sound technical and creative skills in an energetic and inspiring environment
- \* To enrich lives through music

Musical Minds Conservatory believes that Music is for Everyone! We're completely committed to offering all students a well-rounded, educational, and positive music experience. We provide an enthusiastic atmosphere for learning and encourage success and motivation through each student's individual learning style. Students are instructed in classical and popular repertoire, theory, technique, sight reading, ensemble, creative keyboard skills, and more. Students are also instructed regarding poise and confidence at their instrument.

**Performances:** We offer many performance opportunities throughout the year. Formal recitals, community outreach events, master classes, and competitions including Federation and RCM (Royal Conservatory of Music), help students excel and provide students the forum to share their talents!

### **PARENT**

Parental support and involvement are a vital and necessary part of music study. Your child's progress is directly related to the following:

- \* Help your child develop a schedule that includes **daily practice time**. Reinforce this schedule to develop consistent practice habits throughout the year. Show support by arriving on time at each lesson with ALL books and materials, and the practice log filled in and signed. Encourage students to practice with specific goals ~ especially for recitals, competitions, and other performance events.
- \* Check the lesson binder for newsletters, calendars, lesson assignments, resources and other communication.
- \* Provide a quiet environment for students to practice. Keep a pencil nearby to write notes in the music and fill in practice time. Provide a metronome to increase fluency and rhythm. Calling/ texting hours are 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

**For piano lessons:** Keep your piano tuned and in good working order. A full size (88-key) acoustic piano is recommended but an electric piano (at least 76-key WITH a pedal and an appropriate bench) will suffice for the first year of study.

### **STUDENT**

- \* Students should bring the following to all lessons: Lesson binder with practice days correctly filled in and signed, all music books and sheet music, and flashcards if applicable.
- \* Students agree to show a positive attitude, willingness to learn, and goal oriented practice.

### **YEARLY REGISTRATION FEE**

A **\$49.00** per student (**\$89/** family), non-refundable, non-transferrable registration fee is due by **June 15** to reserve your lesson slot for the coming academic year. This fee covers all studio and recital expenses throughout the year. It also includes a Premium Piano Maestro membership (iPad app), check out privileges from the music book lending library and the CD lending library, lesson binder and accessories, and note flashcards. It is the students' responsibility to replace any lending library book or CD that is lost or ruined.

## **TUITION**

Tuition is based on the academic year from August through July each year. You may pay in 2 equal semester payments (due July 23, December 23) for a discount, or you may choose the monthly auto debit option to pay in equal monthly installments. Payment for summer term is due on or before May 23.

Families choosing monthly payments are required to set up automatic payments through a credit or debit card to be billed the 23rd of each month for the following month's tuition. There is a **\$20 fee** for any declined payment or NSF from your account. Please ensure your payment information stays current in our records. Any account not paid by the 1st of the month will receive a courtesy reminder email and a 48-hour grace period before lesson termination.

Tuition includes much more than weekly lesson time. It also includes all performance events and competitions, all time spent researching repertoire, developing personalized lesson plans and studying the latest techniques for each student. As with University tuition, music lesson tuition is payable whether the student attends or not. There are no tuition credits given. Students may sign up for 30, 45, or 60-minute weekly private lessons. We also offer 45-minute weekly group piano lessons.

**Please Note:** other expenses throughout the year may include entrance fees for festivals & competitions, music books, and additional lesson materials.

## **ENROLLMENT AGREEMENT**

The enrollment agreement guarantees your continued place in the studio for the day and time you have scheduled. Tuition payment covers the student's whole course of music study, payable in advance.

We sincerely hope you will be part of our music family long term! However, if you wish to discontinue lessons we simply require a 30-day written and paid tuition notice.

There may be video/audio recordings of participants in MMC events that may be used for educational or promotional purposes.

## **MISSED LESSONS**

Your weekly lesson time is reserved exclusively for you. If you can't make it to your lesson, two alternatives are offered. A minimum of 48 hours notice is required. First, you can set up with your teacher to Skype or FaceTime from wherever you will be. Second, you can record yourself playing your lesson assignments and send the teacher a YouTube link (or equivalent platform). Your teacher will watch and email you feedback. There are NO makeup lessons given for last minute cancellations or no-shows. Group classes and masterclasses cannot be made up. If you do not arrive within the first 15 minutes of your lesson time, the lesson is considered forfeited.

If your instructor cancels a lesson, you will be given a lesson credit to be redeemed at any time during the semester agreed upon by the student and the teacher.

In the case of a true emergency, please contact your instructor as soon as possible. Please understand that make-up lessons cannot be guaranteed due to studio scheduling and individual teachers schedules.

## **SUMMER TERM**

Summer term runs from the first week of June through the first week of August. We offer flexibility of lesson scheduling in the summer to accommodate your schedule. Mini-workshops, piano camps, classes, private lessons, and 2 lessons/week allow for a few weeks of vacation while still participating in summer lessons.