



Damaris Piano Studio

Congratulations and welcome! We're thrilled to have you join our studio and become part of our growing family of budding musicians. Let's make some beautiful music together!

Classically trained pianist Damaris Morales with a Bachelor and Master's degree of Music in Piano Performance, and extensive experience teaching and performing across the US, Europe and Latin America, offers private lessons in piano, theory, pedagogy and composition. She plays an important leadership role in Nevada's music community as past president of the LVMTA and president elect of the Nevada Music Teachers Association. She is piano faculty of the Nevada School of the Arts and piano chair of the National Guild of Piano Teachers.

Studio Philosophy

With over 30 years of experience, Damaris Morales focuses primarily on the student's development and sense of self. Dedicated to helping students discover their unique talents, she guides them on a journey of self-discovery, helping them become independent and self-reliant learners. She believes in teaching with dedication and passion, giving students a strong foundation in piano technique, theory, and repertoire. She creates a personalized curriculum for every student, focusing on individual goals and aspirations. Her teaching philosophy is rooted in the belief that music is a powerful tool to develop life skills, innate talents and personal growth. We encourage all students to participate in a variety of events throughout the year to gain experience, create fun memories, and achieve a real sense of accomplishment with the guidance of a dedicated and respected professional.





Lesson Structure and

Rates: Private piano lessons are offered weekly in durations of 30, 45, 60, 90 or 120 minutes, based on the Student's needs and availability. Rates are determined individually and will be provided upon registration. Tuition covers instruction time, preparation, and teaching resources.

Tuition and Payment

- **Payment Schedule:** Tuition is billed monthly and must be received by the 1st week of each month for the upcoming month's lessons. Payments can be made via check, bank transfer, or online payment via Zelle, or in cash. For Zelle transfers please use my email: damaris@damarismorales.com
- **Late Payments:** We appreciate your promptness in submitting lesson payments during the first week of each month.
- **Additional Fees:** Additionally to the lesson fees other fees may apply for music books, recital participation, or other events, which will be communicated in advance.
- **Tuition Adjustments:** Tuition rates are based on a standard academic year calendar and major holidays such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Spring Break—specific dates will be discussed in advanced annually so tuition remains consistent each month, regardless of the number of lessons in that month, to account for the yearly average.

Attendance and Make-Up Lessons

- **Importance of Attendance:** Regular attendance is essential for progress. Students are expected to arrive on time, prepared, and ready to learn.
- **Student Absences:** If a Student misses a lesson without prior notification, the full tuition for that lesson still applies. Please notify the teacher in advanced to properly arrange a make-up lesson or for a credit to be provided. This policy respects the Teacher's reserved time and preparation.

- **Notification for Absences:** To qualify for a make-up lesson, you must notify the Teacher as soon as possible, preferably at least 24 hours in advance of the scheduled lesson. In such cases, the Teacher will make every effort to reschedule the lesson at a mutually convenient time, potentially freeing the original slot for another student. Make-up lessons must be completed within 30 days of the missed lesson or they will be forfeited.
- **Emergencies:** The Teacher understands that true emergencies (e.g., sudden illness or family crises) may occur with little notice. In these situations, please contact the Teacher immediately before the lesson. The Teacher will work with you on a case-by-case basis to arrange a make-up lesson if possible, though it is not guaranteed.
- **Teacher Absences:** If the Teacher must cancel a lesson due to illness, emergency, or professional development, a make-up lesson will be scheduled at no additional cost, or a credit will be applied to the next month's tuition.



Communication

- **Primary Contact:** Since Parents/Guardians are ultimately responsible for payments, scheduling, and any issues that arise, all communications regarding lessons, absences, payments, or concerns must come from the Parent/Guardian. Students (especially minors) should not handle these

matters directly. Please use email at damaris@pianolessons.com or phone text me at (702) 884-1932 for all inquiries and I will respond to messages within 24-48 hours during business days (Monday-Friday). For urgent matters, please call or text.

- **Parent Involvement:** Parents/Guardians are welcome to observe lessons occasionally but are encouraged to allow the Student independent focus during instruction. Regular updates on progress will be regularly provided via text or in direct parent-teacher conversations as needed.

Practice Expectations and Performance Participation

- **Daily Practice:** To ensure steady progress, Students are expected to practice at least 5 days per week. Practice times vary by lesson length and skill level (e.g., 20-30 minutes for beginners, up to 60 minutes for advanced Students). A practice log may be required to track efforts.
- **Independent Practice:** Over time, students often develop a strong sense of commitment and love for their piano practice, dedicating more time than the minimum recommendation to their independent preparation.
- **Instrument and Materials:** Students must have access to a well-maintained acoustic or digital piano at home for daily practice. Required music books and materials will be specified by the Teacher and are the responsibility of the Parent/Guardian to purchase promptly.
- **Performance Participation:** Performing is an essential part of a student's musical development. Our studio encourages students to participate in at least one studio recital, one music festival, and a yearly piano and theory exam. We are proud that our students have a high success rate in local and international competitions and gain valuable experience through a variety of opportunities, including competitions, masterclasses, and festivals.

