STUDIO POLICY

Morgan Weisenburger Piano Studio

Morgan Weisenburger ◆ (801) 860-3302 ◆ morgan.pianist@gmail.com
4606 South 785 East, Millcreek, UT 84107
www.MorgansPiano.com

Enrollment & Tuition

Morgan Weisenburger Piano Studio is run much like a private school, with tuition rates based on enrollment—not attendance—for the entire semester. Tuition for the semester is divided into equal monthly installments (see *Tuition Rates,* p. 4) and is paid via automatic credit/debit card withdrawal. Monthly payments begin on the first of the month prior to each semester. Tuition does not cover the cost of books.

Accepted Payment Methods for Books: Cash | Chase QuickPay | Venmo | Apple Pay Cash

Enrollment in Morgan Weisenburger Piano Studio is a full-semester commitment and all payments are nonrefundable.

Attendance

All students are expected to attend their lessons every week, on time. The teacher is not responsible for any time lost due to tardiness. A student who does not attend a lesson will simply miss the benefit of that lesson. Your tuition reserves you a weekly time slot and benefits within the studio (see *What Tuition Covers*, p. 4). Please contact the teacher if you will be missing a lesson. In the rare event that the teacher should cancel, the lesson will be made up at a mutually determined time.

Parking: You may park anywhere on the driveway or at the curb *outside* the cul-de-sac. No parking is allowed along the fence on the north side of the cul-de-sac. Please let yourself in to the house when you arrive.

Drop-off/Pick-up: Parents who drop off their child for a lesson must be on time for pick-up. The lesson will end at the scheduled time, regardless of the student's arrival time. It is recommended that you arrive five minutes before the end of the lesson to go over your child's progress and practice assignment with the teacher.

Zoom Lessons: If a student is unable to attend their private lesson due to illness, weather, or any other reason, they may choose to have a lesson via Zoom.

Holidays: The only holidays observed are Thanksgiving and Christmas. All other holidays will follow standard attendance policy.

Practice & Preparation

All students must practice at least five days a week, although six is highly encouraged. The minimum daily practice requirements will vary based on skill level and capability.

Assignment sheets should be followed each day of practice, making sure to cover all topics equally throughout the week. All aspects of the *current* assignment—including theory and flashcards—qualify as practice time. However, previous assignments that have already been passed off, or any other piano playing which does not relate to your weekly assignment, do not count as practice time. **Practice records and assignment sheet bubbles should be filled out *daily,* rather than at the end of the week.**

Students are expected to practice with the books' accompanying audio files, usually with the use of the Anytune app. To pass off a piece, you must be able to play it with the recording. Those who use the recordings diligently always show results far beyond those who do not use them.

Fingernail Maintenance: Fingernails must be clipped ***at least once a week*** to maintain proper hand position.

Piano Maintenance: Pianos must be kept in tune and in working condition. Depending on the piano, it will need to be tuned once or twice annually. Repairs, if needed, should be taken care of as soon as possible.

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Parent Participation

Parent participation is crucial to a child's success at the piano. ***Parents are highly encouraged to attend lessons with their child each week.*** This will ensure proper practicing at home, and will also allow inexperienced parents to learn the material along with their child. Parents should sit with their children at the piano at home and help them with their practice assignments. To facilitate focused and effective practice, schedule your practice at times during which there will be minimal distractions (such as TV or radio noise, other people being in the room, etc.).

No phone calls shall be answered during lessons. If you absolutely must answer your phone, please go outside and away from the front door.

Required Materials

- Books: some books are kept in stock and may be purchased directly from the teacher. Otherwise, the student/parent is responsible for obtaining the book in a timely manner.
- Student Notebook
- Book Bag (recommended)

***Please bring all the above materials with you to every lesson.**

Required at-home materials:

- Acoustic piano
- Footstool and/or cushion (or other means of achieving appropriate bench height), if necessary
- Practice Aids: Sticky notes, erasable colored pencils, and any other recommended materials to fit the students' needs
- iPad and apps suggested by the teacher

Bach Bucks Incentive Program

Students will be rewarded with "Bach Bucks" each week for such things as practicing, completing assignments, achieving personal goals, etc. They can then be used to buy prizes from the Bach Bucks Store. This motivates children to work on specific instructions given by the teacher and therefore enhances the learning process.

Recitals

Students are given the opportunity to participate in two recitals each year. Studio recitals are held semiannually, in the spring and the fall. Performers should wear their Sunday best, unless otherwise specified.

All music must be memorized and all preparation requirements must be met in order to perform in the recital.

Recital Attendance: All participants and their guests are required to stay for the entire recital.

Recital Preparation

All participants are required to do at least five (5) performances ***from memory*** before the recital. Each of these performances must be video recorded and evaluated, using the evaluation forms provided by the teacher.

Practice Performances: In preparation for recitals, four (4) practice performances are required of each student. These practice performances are done on your own and may be for anybody other than household members. See the *Practice Performance Guidelines* handout for specific instructions and requirements.

Performance Classes: Before each recital, there will be scheduled performance classes at the studio. The purpose of these classes is to gain experience performing in front of an audience, as well as giving the teacher an opportunity to preview your performance. Every student must participate in at least one (1) Performance Class in order to play in the recital. Students who are preparing for their first recital within the studio are required to participate in two (2) Performance Classes.

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Media Release

Photos of students and video/audio recordings of lessons and/or performances may be posted online and used by the instructor for showcasing, cataloging, reference, promotion, or any other reason relating to the piano studio. Identifying information will be excluded or limited to first names only. Adult students or parents wishing to exempt themselves or their children from any published media may do so by checking the appropriate box on the Enrollment Agreement form.

YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/MWPianoStudio

Discontinuation of Lessons

Enrollment in lessons is a full-semester commitment. The student and/or parent for any reason may terminate lessons. However, a refund will not be given for any scheduled lessons within the semester, regardless of the reason for termination, and ***the student or parent will be responsible for all payments agreed to upon enrollment.*** The teacher may terminate lessons for any reason, in which case the tuition will be pro-rated up to the last lesson taken by the student, and any necessary refunds will be issued.

Students who do not wish to continue lessons for the following semester must notify the teacher in writing at least five days prior to the tuition due date, and should be sure they receive confirmation from the teacher. Because tuition is due the month before the start of the semester, this means that notification must be given by May 26 if the student does not wish to enroll in Fall Semester, or by November 25 if the student does not wish to enroll in Spring Semester.

Tuition Rates

See next page for tuition rates.

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Tuition Rates

Lesson Length	Semester Rate	Installments
45 minutes	$1,410	$235/mo.
60 minutes	$1,770	$295/mo.

Spring Semester: January – June
Payments Due: December - May

Fall Semester: July – December
Payments Due: June - November

What Tuition Covers

- Designated weekly time slot
- Recital participation
- Performance Classes
- Student access to apps & websites via teacher subscriptions/memberships
- Research and exploration of ideas for new and innovative practice strategies which accommodate the specific needs of each student
- Development of teaching materials: assignment sheets, worksheets, games, etc.
- Incentive programs
- Piano maintenance (tuning, regulation, and repairs)
- Studio expenses such as printing, computer software, Internet access, teacher and student resources, iPad/apps, etc.
- Property rental, maintenance, and utilities
- Recital costs, preparation, and repertoire planning
- Video recording & uploading to YouTube
- Lending library
- University education, training, and experience
- Professional organization memberships
- Continuing education (meetings, workshops, master classes, and conferences)

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