

Yungling Piano Studio

Statement of School Policy

My Philosophy

Music should be a part of everyone's education. The diversity of experiences and myriad of challenges presented during music lessons help build skills of concentration, problem solving and critical thinking that can be used in any other endeavor requiring these skills.

Music is a physical and mental activity that presents rich opportunities to explore every human emotion. The practice of listening, synthesizing physical responses to emotional stimuli, feeling and self-expression are all explored through music. Music helps us know ourselves deeply and intimately.

Yungling Piano Studio is founded on the principle that music study is **equal** in value as any academic or recreational pursuit and is revered and respected as so by me and all who participate at the Yungling Piano Studio.

What is expected of ...

THE TEACHER

- Establishes tuition to be paid in advance by first lesson of the 4 month session
- Determines music, length of practice and schedule time for the weekly lesson
- Maintains memberships in professional organizations and continues own musical growth
- Terminates lessons when student is irregular in attendance, repeatedly fails to prepare assigned material, is very disruptive in class, or does not possess the maturity and/or discipline to focus and behave for the duration of the lesson.
- Maintains close and personal contact with students and parents to ensure he/she/student is getting most from their lessons
- Makes learning a pleasure and an educational experience so students learn different aspects of music, not just the notes

THE STUDENT

- Arrives on time and is ready for weekly lessons, and is well prepared with all necessary materials and books
- Respects the contract and the teacher by providing at least 2 days advanced notice for cancellations that are non-emergency.
- Schedules DAILY practice at the same time each day, without distractions
- Takes advantage of performance opportunities provided by teacher as well as in the community
- **Acknowledges the study of music and must be willing to make it an undisputed place among all interests and hobbies**

THE PARENT

- Supports the fulfilling of the student's responsibilities and encourages progress
- Provides a well-tuned acoustic or a high-quality electric piano with 88 weighted keys and sustain pedal, adjustable bench and keyboard stand
- Promptly pays and shows for lessons

Requirements for Learning

I acknowledge each teacher has his or her own method of teaching. The requirements below are part of my method of teaching. Please read them carefully.

1. Acoustic pianos must be in great working condition and tuned at least two times a year. If you need a reliable piano tuner, please call or e-mail me and I'll provide a recommendation. All parts of the piano (acoustic or electric) must be in working order. Upkeep of your instrument is a must for maximum learning experience.
2. Rhythm is a very important part of music. Students may be required to purchase a metronome.
3. Proper lighting is essential for your child's musical growth. A piano lamp over the music is ideal.
4. A proper bench that allows the student to play in a comfortable position at the piano is required for development of proper technique as well as avoiding injuries that can impact the use of arms, shoulders, fingers and the back. An adjustable bench is ideal. Electric pianos that sit on tabletops require special attention as this can create unusual seating conditions. Please purchase a proper electric piano stand that is adjustable. You may ask me for guidance in such a purchase.
5. As in studying anything, a quiet room without distractions is the best way to learn. Please do not have a television, phone or other distracting device in the room where students practice.

Getting in Touch

You are welcome to contact me for any reason at 917-595-7137 preferably during the hours of 10am to 9pm. If I am unavailable, please leave the time and date you called and a detailed message and I'll return your call as soon as I am able. Calls received on Sunday will be returned on Monday. Thank you.

Missing Lessons

Lesson appointments belong solely to the student scheduled thereto. Lessons are given on a weekly basis with a specific number of lessons per semester. A 24-hour notice is required for lessons missed due to illness. **Makeup lessons will be provided at the sole discretion of the teacher. Makeup lessons are not guaranteed regardless of reason for missing a lesson.** However, if the teacher is sick or the studio is closed for vacation, you will not pay for the missed lesson if the teacher is unable or chooses not to make it up.

Refunds, Credits and Exchanges

There are no credits, exchanges or refunds given on lessons.

Re-schedule and Late arrivals

Lesson re-schedule requests will be accommodated if there is an available open slot and at the sole discretion of the teacher.

If the student is late for their lesson, they will receive whatever time is left of their allotted time. If the teacher is late, you will receive the entire lesson time. If you arrive early and the studio is empty, you may warm up your fingers and be ready to go.

Termination of Lessons

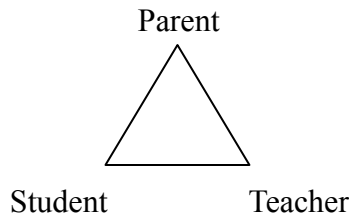
Lessons may only be terminated with at least a one month notice before the end of the semester. This must be done in writing and include a date and a reason for termination. If you are considering terminating your child's lessons, please communicate with me the reason. Usually, we can work together to help get over what might just be a hurdle. Many times it requires an adjustment of assignment or type of music to help the child break out of the problem they are having or feeling. Upon my receiving the written request for termination, the parent/student may finish out the semester or end the lessons immediately with full understanding that there is no refund of lesson money.

If there is prolonged illness or natural causes that you have no control over, you are welcome to leave and come back at a more suitable time.

The teacher has the right to terminate the student at any given time at which point a refund of the unused lessons will be given.

Learning music must be a triangle of communication between the parent, student and teacher. If one point fails, the continuity is lost. Therefore, I need to know what is going on in the child's

life as well as the family's life in order to create the best atmosphere and desire for learning. When this triangle is set solid between all of us, the child's musical experience blooms greatly.



Requirements for Performing

Students shall have opportunities to perform in studio-sponsored recitals. Recitals can be formal or informal. Formal recitals require students to dress professionally in dress shirts, dress pants and dress shoes. Girls may wear dresses. Boys should wear a tie and sports coat, sweater or vest. Parents are strongly encouraged to dress appropriately and to make the event a day of celebration for the child.

Please remember that performing is the only way to develop the strong concentration skills needed to fully learn and control a piece of music and develop themselves as musicians. This also helps in developing self-esteem, discipline, poise, posture and mind control. Students who perform build skills necessary to become self-confident, reliable and secure people who are not afraid to take on a challenge.

Practice Requirements

In order to make the progress that you would like to see, it is important that you follow the guidelines below to insure you are getting the quality education that is being offered to you or your child.

- Practice must be done every day and ideally at the same time every day.
- Student must look at her/his notebook every day to know what is being expected of them.
- No answering the phone or interruptions are allowed during the practice time.
- Parents are required to check-in on the child's practicing daily. I suggest having a Weekend in-home recital to gather family members and play your lesson for them to see how you are doing.
- **Student MUST practice the proper way that is taught to them. If not, the child/student will jeopardize taking lessons with me.**
- Every piece is to be practiced every day.
- Extra practice time is necessary when days of practice are skipped. It is not possible to cram for a piano lesson.
- There should be pencil marks in the music throughout the years of study, made by the parents and students. Blank pages means the student is not focusing well enough on details within the music.
- When taping or listening to a recording is required, parents are encouraged to sit and listen with the child and help them to hear difficult areas within a piece. It also builds a relationship and a sense of wanting to be a part of their musical experience.

Parent and Sibling Guidelines While at the Studio

Parents and siblings are welcome to sit in the studio quietly during the lesson time. Guests are expected to clean up after themselves and return any books/crayons before they leave. Siblings may not come in and out of the piano studio and should remain quietly in the studio.

Wet umbrellas and wet coats should be left outside on the provided hanging rack. Bikes should be locked appropriately and with respect to the neighbors and businesses nearby. Yungling Piano Studio is not responsible for the loss or damage of any personal property.

Everyone is welcome to use the restroom as needed. Students should wash their hands upon arriving for the piano lesson. And to prevent the spread of illness, hands should be washed immediately after the piano lesson.

Food, gum and drinks are not permitted near the piano. Please eat nourishing foods before you come to your lesson. Only students registered for piano lessons may play on the piano.

Parents should ensure that young children do not walk or climb on furniture in the Piano Studio. It is used by everyone and needs to be kept in clean and useful condition. As well, guests should respect the property of the studio and refrain from touching or playing with things on the computer desk.

The Initial Interview (Trial Piano Lesson)

I take education seriously. Therefore, I like to meet with new parents and students to get acquainted with prospective students. I ask we set up a 60-minute interview at the studio to have the parents see the facility and have a chance to ask questions. It is at this point that I will test the student for their readiness to study music with me, and listen to repertoire that transfer students are currently playing.

Interviews are billed at the regular 60-minute lesson rate. Please see my website for that information or call 917-595-7137 for rate information. I'm committed each person be well informed and satisfied with their choice. Participation in and payment for initial interview does not guarantee acceptance into Yungling Piano Studio.

Please call at least one week in advance to set up an appointment to schedule an interview. Call 917-595-7137 with any questions.

After the initial interview, I will express my opinion regarding the child's musical ability and readiness to join me. Please remember that time slots will be accommodated as best as possible, but that the first choices go to the students who are already with my studio.

Many times I do have a waiting list, but I try to accommodate new students as best as possible. If my schedule does not have any openings at that time, you are welcome to wait on my waiting list until a desirable time becomes available.