



Michelle's Music Studio

September 2023 - May 2024 Studio Policies

Thank you for the opportunity to teach your family music. As those who have been with me previously know, I **love** my job and strive to make student lessons a highlight of their week. I am continually creating and purchasing new games/activities to reinforce our music theory concepts and keep us challenged. I am a life-long learner-my students are great teachers! Teaching music is my passion.

My students and I work hard and we have fun! I strive to create a safe learning environment where students feel comfortable to take risks. I empower students to push through challenges and move them forward on their musical learning continuum. We make mistakes and learn from them.

Professional Development is something I value so I intentionally network with colleagues several times a month in addition to attending workshops in person and online honing my pedagogy. I have been teaching for over 30 years. I am an experienced teacher who loves learning and I love music theory! I operate a boutique music studio in Kelowna, BC who operates from 7:45 am - 4:45 pm. Many of my students are retirees, working professionals, university students and teens. I also teach many children.

Practice is essential for progress. 😊 I ask that students commit to a practice routine of 5* times / week. This ensures that they have a practice routine and sets them up for success. I understand there are weeks that practice routines change (holiday, illness, visitors, etc.) and remain supportive, gracious and encouraging, though I like us to strive for a regular practice schedule as students grow in confidence and in musicianship best with routine. The length is dependent on the student. You get out of piano lessons what you put into them. *For those learning by ear / music appreciation this may differ.

2023-2024 Lesson Tuition & Registration

Lesson Tuition is **\$110/month** (for 30 minute lessons) or **\$165/month** (for 45 minute lessons)

Payments can be made **monthly** (due by the 1st of each month September 1, 2023 - May 1, 2024) or in **lump sums** (Sep-Dec & Jan-May or Sep-May or something that works for you).

Tuition includes, though is not limited to, lessons, photo and video updates and correspondence (via text, email or preferred messaging platform), access to Boom Learning Cards, 30 x 30 minute lessons and 3+ performance opportunities plus piano events.

The **annual registration fee of \$50** helps offset the costs of professional development, printing, copying, laminating, music subscriptions, insurance, piano tunings, games purchasing, studio software, hall rentals, music from my lending library, instrument purchases/maintenance, business fees and more. Kindly communicate one month's notice for withdrawal from lessons (allowing a waitlisted student entry).

Performances / Piano Parties

Performances are held in December, February and May as well as additional learning opportunities and impromptu and sometimes informal performances in fall.

December performances are offered as either a personal recital or a small group at the studio.

The May performance is a large studio performance and February is a student-only performance.

Additional piano opportunities and/or performances are presented from time to time. All opportunities and performances are optional though students are encouraged to attend as these are fun events!

Studio Calendar

The teaching year begins in early September and finishes in early May. The studio operates on a 9 month schedule to accommodate spring sports and activities. Please note there are no lessons during Winter Break or Spring Break. Summer Drop-In Lessons are available mid-May - August.

* Note: there is a 1 week studio closure in February * Lesson Calendars will be sent out in August

Late Fees

Tuition is due by the 1st of the month. E-transfers are accepted at musicalmichelle2081@gmail.com

A gentle reminder there is a \$10 late charge applied to accounts automatically on the 2nd of each month by MyMusicStaff for outstanding charges. Families may access their account and see upcoming lessons booked through the MyMusicStaff Login on the studio website (www.michellesmusicstudio.com)

Illness / Absences

In the event of illness or preference, Zoom lessons are offered at your scheduled day and time. If you are unable to attend your lesson in-person or on Zoom a recorded lesson may be requested.

What if I miss a lesson? You are buying the lesson time; not buying a lesson. If you forget or choose not to attend, regardless of circumstance, you have still paid for your instructor's time. Drop-in lessons are charged at a higher rate through the website for those looking for occasional daytime / summer lessons. **There are no refunds for missed lessons.** The instructor is not obligated to supply make-up lessons. If your instructor is sick, she will advise you in advance and meet you on Zoom that week unless you prefer to come in person (she will mask). If your instructor cancels, your time will be rescheduled.

Registration Fee

There is a \$50 fee per student per year (due by June 1st to hold your lesson time). This will be invoiced in mid-May and you have until June 1st to pay to hold your lesson day and time for the upcoming year.

Children Under 12* Parents of students under 12 will be required to help with home practice. 😊

Curiosity

My goal is to remain curious as I try to understand how each of my students learns. I do my best to support each student's learning style, adjust the pace and meet students where they are at. I strive to be clear, direct and kind in my communication. In the event a student is struggling with behavior I use strategies to validate and redirect. In the event a student is struggling to be respectful or we are not working well together I invite parents in and, if necessary, lessons may be ended.