

Studio Policy

Dr. Kathy Winston piano studio, Piano Program LLC
kathy@pianoprogram.com

Tuition

- Tuition due on the 1st of every month
- Tuition is the **same every month from Sept-May** Lessons follow the studio calendar.
- **Fall Semester includes:** 13 private lessons, 1 recital, 2 performance classes,
- **Spring Semester includes:** 17 private lessons, 1 recital, 2 performance classes.
- Private 30 minute lessons (\$190/month)
- Private 45 minute lessons (\$280/month)
- Private 60 minute lessons (\$380/month)
- Summer lessons – per lesson at \$95/hour
- Per lesson tuition for adult students, \$95/hour
- A \$60 yearly enrollment fee is due for K-12 students every August. This covers recitals, rewards, incentives, and supplemental materials for the school year. A one time enrollment fee of \$35 is invoiced to new families when they begin lessons.
- A 30 days notice is required to discontinue lessons.

Performance and Academic Events

- Studio Recitals in December and May (encouraged for all students)
- Annual adult student performance brunch (optional)
- Fall: Jazz/Pop/Rock Festival, Hymn Festival and RCM Examinations (all optional events)
- Spring: Gold Cup Festival, State Theory Exam, Baroque/Classical Festival, Romantic/Contemporary festival, and RCM Examinations (all optional events)
- Studio Classes offered two times per semester

- Students are encouraged, but never forced to perform.
- All students take music theory through Dr. Winston's online Music Theory Courses.
- AP Music Theory exam prep offered as an option for high school students

Makeup Lessons

- One **Makeup lesson** offered per semester for lessons missed for any reason.
- Lessons missed by Dr. Winston will be promptly rescheduled.
- No refunds or credits given for missed lessons
- If absent more than once per semester, students may simply forfeit that lesson, or they may choose for Dr. Winston to record a video lesson during their lesson time. The video plus a new practice plan will be sent to the student during their normal lesson time for them to review at their convenience.

Preparation

Students should come to their lessons prepared to learn. Daily practice is essential to success, and it is recommended that students practice a *minimum* of 5 days per week, 30 minutes per day. Parents are encouraged to help students establish a healthy practice routine. It is essential that parents assist with practicing at home for children 10 years and younger. Practice time varies by level, and I will be happy to discuss with each individual student and parent about practice expectations.

Written lesson plans and what to practice are sent via email to each student/parent after each lesson.

Waiting for Students

I teach in two locations in my home studio – a front room with my grand piano, and a side room with a separate entrance that contains my digital pianos and room for my student to do activities on a table. Parents and siblings are welcome to sit outside on my covered front porch or inside the studio to wait for students. On occasion, parents may be invited to observe lessons in order to help with practice, etc.

About Dr. Kathy Winston

- BM Piano Performance, Trinity University
- MM Piano Performance, Southern Methodist University
- DMA Music Education, Piano Pedagogy, The University of Texas-Austin
- Adjunct Professor – St. Edward's University 2009-2019
- Adjunct Professor – Trinity University 2007-2009
- Adjunct Professor – Baylor University 2021
- Owner and Director, Velocity Music Academy, 2010-2020
- Owner and Developer, Piano Program LLC, 2017-current
- Private Piano Teacher, 1995-current
- ADMTA teacher of the year, 2022

General Information

- Private lessons are available for students ages 6 to adult. Materials, books, and repertoire will be assigned based on student goals, age, and ability. Books may be purchased online or through a local music store. It is recommended that beginning student take 30 or 45 minute lessons. Once students enter into a level equivalent to RCM level two, 45-minute or 60-minute lessons are recommended.
- Group lessons are offered for beginners. Groups of 4 students meet for 50 minutes a week, and explore learning how to play the piano at the beginning stages.

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