

Strings and Things Music Studio Policy

2022-2023

Attendance

Student and parent/guardian (if student is a minor) will attend lessons at the agreed upon day and time. Ms. Klopfenstein will send a complimentary reminder via text the day of lessons.

A parent/guardian (if student is a minor) must be present during the lesson (no drop-offs).

If unable to attend lessons, 24-hour notice is requested.

STMS does not give refunds for missed lessons. If advanced notice is given and another lesson time is available, Ms. Klopfenstein will offer you this space as a make-up but make-up lessons are not guaranteed. Please do your best to come during your scheduled lesson time.

If Ms. Klopfenstein has an emergency and is unable to attend a lesson, your lesson will be credited the following month.

Siblings are welcome to come to lessons but must not be a distraction. Please bring a quiet activity like homework, coloring book, or an iPad (please use headphones).

During the lesson, please refrain from eating food. Covered drinks are acceptable.

Please plan to arrive no earlier than 5 minutes before your scheduled lesson time. Enter quietly so as not to distract or interrupt the other student's lesson.

If Ms. Klopfenstein is coming to your home, please be sure that the lesson space is distraction free and contain any large dogs in a separate area.

COVID-19, Flu, Fever

Healthy students are encouraged to attend lessons at the music studio in order to receive the best possible instruction. However, if you have any symptoms or have been exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID 19, lessons may be conducted online via Zoom or FaceTime. Thank you!

Performances

There are two formal recitals per year, one in December and one in the May. Please make every effort to attend. Performance is an important part of being a musician and essential for personal growth and confidence.

There is a \$10 participation fee per student. Tickets are \$2 per person. Children 12 and under are free. Refreshments will be served following the performance. Beverages, cups, plates, and napkins are provided. Each family is asked to help with a task before, during, or after the recital and bring a snack or sweet treat to share.

Additional performance opportunities may be presented throughout the year. STMS is all about sharing music with the community. If you have an elderly loved one in a retirement facility, please let me know. Senior citizens are wonderful audiences and love interacting with children. (COVID-19 permitting)

If a student is unable to participate in the recital, they may submit a recording of their performance piece to Ms. Klopfenstein.

Lesson Fees

Payments are withdrawn automatically on the 1st day of the month with the amount due for that month. An invoice for the transaction will be emailed or texted to your phone for your records. If you do not wish to have payment withdrawn automatically, please complete payment on the 1st day of the month. A \$5 late fee will be added for each day payment is late.

30-minute lesson = \$30 45-minute lesson = \$45 60-minute lesson = \$60

If you live within a 10-mile radius of the studio, take a 60-minute lesson, and time permits, Ms. Klopfenstein may be able come to your home for lessons. Please add \$10 driving fee per week (Example: \$60 plus \$10 driving fee = \$70)

Group Classes

In addition to private lessons, students may participate in Group Class. Group Classes will be limited to 3-5 students, 45-minutes in length, and meet once a month on a Saturday morning. Group class is \$25/person.

Strumming Circle: 9-9:45 am (Guitar and ukulele Students)

Strings: 10-10:45 am (Violin and viola students)

Band: 11-11:45 am (All instruments welcome)

Student Expectations

Students will bring their instrument, music books, and a notebook to each lesson. Students will do their best to stay focused, listen, and follow directions. Students will set aside a time every day as “practice time.” Practice carefully and correctly.

Parent Expectations, Learning Plans, and Rewards

Ms. Klopfenstein works with the parent/guardian and student to create a learning plan that is tailored to each student’s age, ability level, learning style, and needs. Assignments for the week are written in the student’s notebook. A practice chart may be requested for added accountability and motivation.

Ms. Klopfenstein believes that the best reward for learning to play correctly is the satisfaction that you created beautiful music. However, she also has a bunch of fun stickers for students to collect as a reward for playing well and staying focused during lessons.

Parent/guardian of a young student, approximately 5-8, will need to help them practice correctly. Practice time will be brief due to their short attention span. Focus should be placed on correct repetition - 5 times a day - as opposed to how many minutes. That being said, a realistic goal is the student’s age, multiplied by 2. If you are not familiar with how to play the specific instrument they are learning or are unable to read music, remember, neither are they. Ms. Klopfenstein will help you and your student understand each weeks lesson and assignments.

Parent/guardians who are not able to be present at the lessons, please pass along this lesson policy to your son or daughter’s caregiver and be sure they are familiar with these expectations.

COVID-19 If learning online, please assist with set-up and be nearby should any issues arise. Please be sure your wifi connection is working properly as learning cannot happen without both audio and visual.

STMS will be Closed for the following Holidays:

Fall 2022

Labor Day (9/5)

Fall Break (10/3-10/7)

Veterans Day (11/11)

Thanksgiving (11/24-25)

Christmas (12/22-12/30) Lessons will resume on January 3rd.

Spring 2023

MLK, Jr./Civil Rights Day (1/16)

Presidents Day (2/20)

Spring Break (3/13-17)

Good Friday (4/7)

Memorial Day (5/29)

Success is not Guaranteed - it is Earned

Learning to play an instrument is a huge undertaking and requires time, effort, and patience. It is not easy. Careful and correct practice will not always be fun but it is essential for success. Your son or daughter may experience difficulty, become frustrated, cry, and beg you to let them quit. This is normal and should be expected. Understand that what the student wants may not be what is best for them. If quitting is an option, they will. I ask you to be strong in these moments and remind them that anything worthwhile in life is worth fighting for. If they stick with it and keep trying, eventually they will reach a point where they see how amazing music is and they will start to love it.

My goal for each of my students is for them to do and be their best. In the process of learning, they will become more skilled as a musician, and a more confident and beautiful human. I believe that music has the power to change the world. I am looking for students that are willing to learn, work hard, and share their music with others.

At Strings and Things Music Studio, we work together to accomplish these 3 goals:

I will learn.

I will be strong.

I will change the world with my song.

Thank you for reading this lesson policy and for giving me the opportunity to work with your son/ daughter. Please contact Ms, Klopfenstein for an enrollment form to begin lessons for the 2022-2023 school year.