

# **Studio Policy**

## **Matthew Pavilanis, M.M.**

### **Piano and Guitar Instructor**

#### **MATTHEW'S PHILOSOPHY ON TEACHING**

The study of music is the study of sound and all things that influence the creation of that sound. Theoretical principles, technical understanding, music history, emotional awareness, and creative inspiration all directly relate to the creation of music. The ultimate goal of music instruction is to make these abstract concepts connect to the student's life and interests, creating a very personal experience in the field of music. Music not only engages the student's intellectual processing, memory, problem solving and motor skills but also explores their emotional capacity, creativity, and self-discipline. The knowledge and embodiment of all of these elements helps produce an independent, self-sufficient musician.

#### **USE OF METHODS**

I believe it is very important to be flexible and adaptable in the method of teaching music. I have developed a curriculum for students in which their lesson time will be shared between a teaching assistant and me. I will provide guidance in repertoire, expressivity, technique and work to develop the student's personal connection to music, while the teaching assistant will provide instruction around more objective and rudimentary skills in music (rhythm, note reading, chord identification, etc.). This model allows the student to explore their unique areas of interest in music while also maintaining development in fundamental skills. The goal is to continually be increasing the student's musical awareness while also accessing music of higher levels of complexity.

#### **SYLLABUS TRAINING**

As a member of the Oregon Music Teachers Association (OMTA), my students can participate in OMTA festivals, competitions, master classes and scholarship auditions, and for financial aid, the Music Link program. I also have access to OMTA's syllabus adjudication program for students in both piano and guitar, which consists of graded

goals and adjudications. If you are interested, please look into the syllabus program at: <https://oregonmta.org/programs/syllabus/>.

## **PRACTICE TIME AND PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

Students need a daily, uninterrupted time to practice. Practice time will vary according to teacher assignments and student levels. Parental support is crucial to the success of each student. The assignment notebook is a means of weekly communication about expectations, assignments, scheduling reminders and progress. Feel free to consult with me about any specific questions you have about practice time or other concerns. I have found that a regulated practice expectation from the parents yields the best results both for the student's playing ability and in the student's overall enjoyment of lessons.

## **REPertoire**

All students will be expected to maintain older pieces of study creating a repertoire that they regularly can enjoy and share. My students work so hard to master repertoire pieces, and with only a few minutes of practice time devoted to review, they should be able to develop a strong repertoire. In order to support their effort in practice time, a bit of each lesson will also be devoted to our previously learned repertoire.

## **TIME**

Lessons will be weekly and will vary in length based on the needs of the student. Family and friends are always welcome to observe.

## **SUPPLIES**

All piano and guitar students must have an instrument on which to practice regularly. An assignment notebook is provided at the first lesson. I will notify parents or guardians when music needs to be purchased for lessons.

Each student is required to have a recording device available at each lesson. Cell phones are the best option. I am also able to text sound recordings to cell phones. Recordings are imperative to the practicing process to help aid the student in knowing how their pieces should sound. It is also expected that the student listen to the recordings of their pieces often in the early stages of their practice.

## RECITALS

Two recitals will be held each year, one before the Holiday Break in early-December and another nearing the end of the school year in early June. The dates and locations of these recitals are yet to be determined. There will be a dress rehearsal in the hour prior to each recital. All students will be expected to participate in the two recitals each year. Recitals will take place at the Church of Christ, Scientist in downtown Eugene.

### SCHEDULED RECITAL DATE OPTIONS FOR 2019-2020

WINTER	SPRING
Saturday, Dec. 14, NOON	Saturday, June 6, NOON
Saturday, Dec. 14, 2:30PM	Saturday, June 6, 2:30 PM
Sunday, Dec. 15, 3:00PM	Sunday, June 7, 3:00 PM
Sunday, Dec. 15, 5:30PM	Sunday, June 7, 5:30 PM

Each student will perform in one recital in the winter and the spring. More recital options will be made available as the studio grows.

### STUDIO SHOWCASE

A third recital will be held to highlight advanced students in the studio. As students progress, repertoire gets larger and is not suitable for the regular recitals. It will be an expectation for **all students** to **attend** and support the students performing in these recitals. Playing the piano is a very difficult task and the students who push their abilities to their limit will be appreciated. The studio showcase will take place on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:00PM.

### JAM SESSIONS

Music is a great way to connect socially. Each month we will offer opportunities for students to get together and collaborate. These sessions will happen once a month in groups of 4-6 students and will be 60 minutes long. Sessions will cost \$15 per student per session. Students will sign up for the session a month prior to the gathering. Their

teacher will integrate the jam session material into lessons to help structure the session. Jam sessions will help reinforce our work with chords, chord progressions, scales, rhythm and vulnerability with music performance.

**PAYMENT STRUCTURE**

The student will pay the same amount every month for 10 months out of the year (September through June). The number of lessons that will be given over this period will be averaged out over the course of the 10 months. Vacation weeks and two lesson credits have been factored into the schedule. The students will receive time off from lessons during the weeks of Thanksgiving, Winter Break (2 weeks) and Spring Break. Piano lessons will end one week after the Spring recital in mid-June.

Each year, a **materials/processing fee of \$50** will be included in the lesson tuition. This fee is due with the September lesson payment. This fee will help offset the costs of all materials given during lessons (photocopies of music, repertoire books, assignment books), recital fees, and general organizational work throughout the year.

I will teach two weeks during the months of July and August. These weeks will be announced as summer plans are developed. The student is not required to take any lessons over the summer months. Taking advantage of these summer lessons is highly encouraged to retain ability over the summer.

**Regulated Payment Structure (active from September – June)**

Location	45 Minutes	60 minutes
Matthew’s Studio	\$160/month	\$200/month
Your Home	\$195/Month	\$245/month

**Hourly Rate**

Location	45 Minutes	60 minutes
Matthew’s Home	\$45	\$56
Your Home	\$56	\$68

## **Performing Artist Piano Lessons**

Location	60 Minutes	2 hours
Matthew's Home	\$80	\$150

Please make checks payable to Matthew Pavilanis. Tuition payments are due by the first lesson of the month. If tuition is not received before the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month, a \$10 late fee will be incurred and lessons will be suspended until tuition is paid. Some families elect to set up automatic payments through their bank and have them sent directly to my address (2150 McLean Boulevard; Eugene, OR 97405).

### **CANCELLATIONS / MISSED LESSONS**

Please notify me if you are planning on missing a lesson. There will be no make up lessons. In averaging out the cost of monthly lessons across the year, I have credited each student with two free lessons to account for the fact that all students may need to miss a lesson or two over the course of the year. If you do not miss any lessons over the school year, you will receive these two lessons for free. Monthly payments will be adjusted in the case of extreme weather. Due to the size of the studio and coordination of schedules, make up lessons are not feasible.

### **TEACHING ASSISTANTS**

Teaching assistants will gradually be introduced to all lessons. Students will study with Matthew for half of their lesson and with a teaching assistant for the other half. Matthew will monitor and direct all studies and will orchestrate the path of a student to best solidify a personal relationship to music. Because each student's relationship to music is unique Matthew will tailor the teaching assistant's time and instruction to the needs of the student.

## CONTACT

My work phone number is (269) 267-3664. Please feel free to call between the hours of 9 AM and 10 PM if you have cancellations, questions or need to arrange a conference. If I am teaching or out when you call, please feel free to leave me a message. I also can receive texts or emails if you prefer to communicate in that way. My email address is [matthewpavilanis@gmail.com](mailto:matthewpavilanis@gmail.com). More information regarding lessons can be found at [matthewpavilanis.com](http://matthewpavilanis.com).

**I have read the above Studio Policy and agree to its terms and conditions.**

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Signature of Parent

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Date

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### Contact Information

Name:

Address:

Email:

Cell Phone:

Home Phone:

Would you like your contact information given out to other parents who may need to switch lesson times?

### Emergency Contact

Name:

Phone Number:

Email: