

Suzuki Piano Studio **Teaching Policy 2024-2025**

CALENDAR

Weekly lessons for the school year of 2023-2024 will be given from Tuesday, September 3 through Saturday, June 14. Summer lessons for the rest of June and in July and August are optional and charged by the lesson. Lessons after June 14 will be continued at the usual lesson time where possible but can be changed to a different schedule if desired. I will be on vacation for part of August so there will be no lessons during that time.

NO LESSONS ON:

- Labor Day (Monday Sept. 2)
- Thanksgiving Day (Thursday, Nov. 28)
- Portland Public Schools Winter Break (Monday, Dec. 23 – Saturday, Jan. 4) except for scheduled makeup lessons
- PPS Spring Break (Monday, March 24 – Sunday, March 30) except for scheduled makeup lessons
- Memorial Day (Monday, May 26)

Please note that there WILL be lessons on Indigenous Peoples' Day (Monday, Oct. 14), Halloween (Thursday, Oct.31), Veteran's Day (Monday, Nov. 11), Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Monday, Jan. 20) and President's Day (Monday, Feb. 17).

TUITION

An invoice for monthly tuition will be sent out at the end of each month for the next month. Monthly tuition is due on the first lesson of that month. Tuition is calculated on how many lesson days there are for that student in that month. Tuition is payable by check made out to Eithne Boyer, Venmo or Zelle.

TUITION FEES

Lesson length depends on the age and playing level of the student.

30 minute lesson=\$35.00

45 minute lesson=\$52.50

60 minute lesson=\$70.00

The Family Rate for 2 or more students in one family is \$65.00 per hour per student.

MISSED LESSONS

The lesson time agreed upon by parent/student and teacher is reserved for that student each week. If a student/parent must cancel a lesson they have the opportunity to schedule a makeup lesson on the makeup days. No makeup lessons will be given for NO SHOWS.

MAKEUP DAYS

During PPS Winter Break:

Monday, Dec. 23

Friday, Dec. 27

Monday, December 30

Thursday, January 2

Saturday, January 4

During PPS Spring Break:

Monday, March 24

Tuesday, March 25

Wednesday, March 26

After PPS year ends: Monday, June 16 – Saturday, June 28

In person and virtual lessons on Zoom are available for makeup lessons on the specific makeup days. Makeup lessons may be available on other days as well. It is the student/parent's responsibility to schedule a makeup lesson if they wish to. Makeup lessons for the 2024-2025 school year will end on June 28, 2025.

There will be **NO CREDITS given for lessons cancelled/missed by the student.** If a lesson is cancelled by the teacher, i.e. due to sickness or power outage there will be a credit applied to the student's next month's tuition.

IN PERSON LESSONS: Steps to reduce the risk of COVID-19 and other virus exposure

Due to health conditions of myself and my husband, I may wear a mask at times to reduce the risk of infection.

Masks for children and adults are available in the studio for anyone who wants to use them.

Students' hands must be washed in the bathroom next to the studio or wiped with a sanitary wipe (available in the studio) before the lesson.

Piano keys, chairs, pencils/pens used by students, doorknobs and light switches will be sanitized daily.

There is a waiting room next door to the studio to facilitate social distancing between families.

Please do not come to the studio if you or your child have been exposed to or tested positive for COVID-19 or have had any of these symptoms in the past 5 to 10 days (according to current CDC guidelines) and have not had a negative COVID-19 test result:

Cough

Fever

Shortness of Breath

Difficulty Breathing

Flu-like Symptoms

Gastrointestinal Upset

Loss of Taste or Smell

HOME PRACTICE REQUIREMENTS

All students are required to have an acoustic piano or digital piano in their own home for daily practice.

An acoustic piano must have all 88 black and white keys functioning/sounding (not sticking, etc.) and functioning pedals. An acoustic piano should be tuned 1 -2 times a year (Spring and Fall when the weather changes are the best times for tuning).

A digital piano must have 88 weighted/touch sensitive keys that are the same width as the keys on an acoustic piano (not narrower), an attached music stand and a pedal similar to that on an acoustic piano that can be attached.

Students require a piano bench or a flat-seated chair with no arms that does not spin and is not on castors. Smaller children (usually under 12 years old) require a footstool/box/thick books to rest their feet on and an adjustable chair/bench or firm cushions/foam to sit on (so the bottom of their elbows are even with the tops of the white keys when they are sitting with curved fingertips resting on the keys).

Students must have the means to listen to digital recordings of the music they will learn i.e. YouTube, Spotify, Apple music, etc. or a CD player to listen to the CDs that come with their music books.

Daily practice (a minimum of 5 days a week) is required for steady progress to be made. The length of daily practice will vary according to the age, attention level and playing level of the student. The practice assignment given at the lesson should be completed in each daily practice. However, on days when that is not possible SOME practice is always better than NO practice!

STUDENT RECITALS (optional) For students with 1 or more years of instruction.

Time/Location: **Saturday, November 23, 2024 3:30 - 4:30 at Moreland Presbyterian Church**

OREGON SUZUKI INSTITUTE (optional) All levels

June 22 – 27, 2025 at University of Portland, Portland OR

[Oregon Suzuki Institute website](#)

OREGON MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

SYLLABUS EVALUATION/DEMONSTRATION/AUDITION (optional) For students with 3 or more years of instruction.

[Syllabus - OMTA - Oregon Music Teachers Association \(oregonmta.org\)](#)

Fall - October 25,26,27/Location: TBA

Spring - Lower Division - February 28, March 1 and 2/Location: TBA

Upper Division - April 11, 12, 13/Location: TBA

ROYAL CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC EXAMS (optional) For students with 3 or more years of instruction.

[Remote Exams | The Royal Conservatory of Music \(rcmusic.com\)](#)

PARENT RESOURCES (websites)

[Piano Buying Guide | Piano Buyer](#)

[Suzuki Piano Studio | Portland, OR \(suzukipianoportland.com\)](#) (my website)

[Homepage | Suzuki Association of the Americas](#) (Suzuki Approach information, materials, practice)

Piano Footrest (something like [this](#))

[Piano Benches, Cushions & Accessories – Jansen Piano](#)

[Alfred.com](#), [Amazon Music](#), iTunes, YouTube, Apple Music, Spotify (music recordings/downloads)

Amazon, Sheet Music Plus, Portland Music Co. (sheet music)