

# The Signs of Sound Piano Studio

## Studio Policy

**Attendance:** I look forward to seeing you each week and discovering music together! Students are expected to commit for a semester (Fall or Spring) of piano lessons. They should arrive on time, bring all their materials, and trim their nails, so as not to click on the keys. The studio calendar follows the Knox County calendar.

**Piano at Home:** A tuned acoustic piano allows the student to thrive and enjoy the power and colors that the piano can make. There are many free or very inexpensive pianos on Facebook Marketplace which are waiting for a home. Please let me know if you would like me to help you in this search. The next best choice is a full sized 88-key electric keyboard with weighted keys and a pedal. I would be honored to help you find a piano that fits your family's needs.

**Practice:** Students should touch the piano as often as they can throughout the week, so as to grow in their musical journey. Sometimes 15 minutes of practice can be better and more focused than 30, etc. Use whatever time you do have! When a student does not practice at home, he or she will begin to feel discouraged and frustrated. Therefore, I give all different types of practice strategies and games, so that the student can feel confident and comfortable exploring the songs at home.

**Summer Lessons:** 6 summer sessions (out of 8 weeks) are required during the summer to hold a spot for the fall semester. I will work around your schedule and vacations to find the best fit for everyone. I will also host a summer music camp for one week. More details will follow in emails as the summer draws near.

**Workshops:** I will offer group workshops 4 times a year, so that we can enjoy musical games, duets, composing, music history, and more with the student's peers! More information will be in an email.

**Recitals:** Recitals are a great way for the students to share their musical progress and enjoyment with their friends, family, and even those they have not met. I often arrange recitals at local senior centers or nursing homes.

**Make-up Lessons:** This year, I have a new make-up policy. There will be no make-up lessons; however, if you need to miss the lesson due to illness, I will offer an online lesson during your time slot. Or if you would prefer, you can send me a video of a piece or pieces you have been practicing that week and I will send you a feedback video during your scheduled lesson time. Thank you for your understanding in this change!

**Teacher Absences:** In the case of my illness, I will move lessons online.

**Parent participation:** Parents are asked to encourage students and be active participants during piano practice at home. A parent may attend the lessons, if they would like, to be more equipped to encourage practice at home. The teacher reserves the right to ask a parent not to attend if the parent's presence alters the quality of the lesson.

**Tuition Payment:** You may pay via paypal (@CheriePomeroy), Venmo (@cheriepomeroy), Zelle, cash, or check. Please submit your payment no later than the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month. After the 5<sup>th</sup>, a late fee of 30 dollars will be added to the tuition. Tuition will be slightly increased to \$115 per month. Some months will have 3, 4, and 5 lessons, depending on the month and holidays. Therefore, each month will be the same tuition charge.

**Lesson Termination:** If you need to terminate lessons for whatever reason, you will need to give one-month notice. Thank you for your understanding. Students may be asked to discontinue lessons at the end of the semester, if they have had excessive absences or unprepared lessons, at the discretion of the teacher. Lessons may also be terminated for unpaid tuition. If your family is going through a financial crisis, though, please reach out and we can figure something out together!

**Communication:** I do try to touch base with the parent or grandparent after each lesson, but I may be unable to do this since other students have lessons at that time. Parents should call, email, text, or schedule an appointment with me if they have questions or concerns. My number is 865-203-7032 and my email address is [signsofsoundps@gmail.com](mailto:signsofsoundps@gmail.com) I welcome any parental communication and feedback!

**Media Release:** The Signs of Sound Piano Studio may use photographs/videos of your student (for the website, social media for the studio or marketing), but only with the parent's and student's permission.

**Loss or Injury:** The Signs of Sound Piano Studio is not responsible for any loss or injury incurred while participating in the program. Signature on this registration form acknowledges that The Signs of Sound Piano Studio is released from all liability, including, but not limited to liability resulting from anyone's negligence. Signature also constitutes acknowledgement that the parent agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Signs of Sound Piano Studio from any liability, costs or claims, related either directly or indirectly to participation at the Signs of Sound Piano Studio program, including legal or medical expenses incurred for the participant's benefit.

I have read this document and agree to a full semester of piano lessons at the Signs of Sound Piano Studio.

Parent Signature.....

Student Signature .....

*I look forward to our musical adventure together!*