

Amanda Grumke-Updegrave Piano Lessons

Welcome, I am so glad to have you in my studio. Together I hope we can meet your desires in learning to play piano. This is a team effort that requires commitment. The more you are committed to practicing and coming to lessons ready and excited to learn, the more I can teach you. The list below are basic expectations, payment, policies, and information on practicing. Please read, sign, and have your parents read through and sign.

Expectations for students:

- Practice and come ready to learn with your books or assignments.
- Ask questions and engage in your lesson.
- Please try not to play the piano while I'm explaining things. This makes it hard for me to concentrate and for us to move forward.
- If you are confused and need the lesson to slow down, say so. Do not just act like you understand when you do not.

Practicing:

Practicing is very important. The amount of practice time may vary based on age. We will discuss how much time I expect to go into practicing. Here are some tips about practicing:

- Practice at least every other day. Preferably, it would be best if you practice each day at least a little bit. This helps you learn quicker.
- Set goals before you practice.
- Schedule. Treat your practice like a class. Schedule it into your calendar and keep it consistent.
- Put the phone, computer, and/or device away. Or turn off notifications so you can focus.
- Pick one piece. Play through it one time looking for trouble spots.
- Find the areas that you struggle with. Isolate those spots and practice. Once you begin to get those spots, add more measures to them.
- Another option is to find a place at the end of the piece and work from there to the very end. Then keep moving backwards, adding more measures.
- One thing people don't always say is make sure to check how you're feeling while practicing. Do a mental body scan and see if you are tensing or if you are still mentally engaged with practicing.

Payment (for parents):

This is my job so please pay. Talk to me to set up a payment schedule. The options are *weekly payment* or *monthly payment*. If there is no payment for a month and a half, I do reserve the rights to deny lessons until I am payed.

Missed lessons (for parents):

If you need to cancel a lesson, please let me know by no later than 2 hours before your child's lesson. Please *DO NOT* miss and not let me know. If I am not notified by 2 hours before the lesson, you will still get charged for the missed lesson. If you contact me by the appropriate time I will not charge you.

I do not provide make-up lessons unless it is a special circumstance.

Weather:

If there is snow that causes *schools* to cancel, my studio will be cancelled as well. I do not want accidents to happen. If schools do not cancel I will have lessons.

During Christmas I will not be having lessons from the 21st to the 1st of January. I know how hectic it can be to travel to family for Christmas, so enjoy the time off. Summers are also chaotic because everyone tries to take vacations. Plus, your brain is wanting to take a vacation so your focus is not going to be there. This is why my studio will be closed from June 2 to August 29. This is a time to rejuvenate and relax.

If you have any questions please ask!

Student Name: _____

Age: _____

School and Grade _____

Parent/Guardian name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Lesson day and Time: _____

Students Signature : _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____