

Modesto Academy of Music & Design
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Current research suggests that children's learning in all areas improves with music study. Our desire is that students learn not only to play music but to understand what they are doing when they create music. This will give them general learning skills as well as enable them to enjoy music for their entire lifetime.

To receive the greatest benefit from your music lessons:

- ❖ Please arrive a few minutes before class is to start.
- ❖ Remember that regular attendance is very important. Please notify Modesto Academy of Music and Design if you are unable to attend. Except in cases of illness or emergency, please give at least 48 hour notice.

Piano-Group

A. Attendance and Tuition-

Students are charged for all lessons for which they are enrolled, including missed lessons. There will be no refunds or credits for missed lessons. If you decide to have a private make-up, you will be charged for the lesson as the teacher must be paid for the time spent on both classes. Make-up lessons must be arranged and should not be considered guaranteed. Except in cases of illness or emergency, please give at least 48 hours notice that the lesson will be missed.

Piano- Individual Lessons

A. Attendance and Tuition –

1. **Yearly Enrollment Commitment:** Lessons consist of 40 weeks of instruction per year, with monthly payments of \$105.00.
Holidays include: One week at spring break, Labor Day, Memorial Day, President's Day, Wednesday-Friday of Thanksgiving week and two weeks at Christmas.
Missed Lessons: Students may make-up one lesson per semester. Make-ups will be offered based on the teacher's availability and may be offered as a private lesson or a group class. Some make-ups may take place during the summer.
2. **Monthly Enrollment:** Students who do not commit to a year of lessons will pay at the beginning of the month for the number of lessons planned for the current month. Students are expected to take weekly classes.

B. **Books and Materials** - All necessary music will be provided at the studio. This music will be of two basic types.

1. Student's personal music – basics such as lesson books, theory materials, flashcards, literature. These will be charged to you as necessary.
2. Extra repertoire – may be purchased or borrowed from our library. For this privilege, there is a \$10.00 library fee per student, per year. If the music is not returned, you will be charged for the price of the book.

C. **Theory Group** – Students are grouped according to age and playing ability. Theory groups are designed to provide instruction in theory and technique, along with an introduction to specific composers. This time also includes performance opportunities, as well as games and activities.

D. **Practice Requirements**

1. We strongly recommend that students practice when they return home from their lesson. It has been proven that students who do a short practice directly after their lesson retain more of what was accomplished during their instruction time.
2. Parents and students together need to decide on a regular practice time for the student. Students are expected to practice at least 5 days a week. The length of their practice time is determined by their age and level.
3. Students need to spend at least 5-10 minutes per week listening to classical music.

E. **Participation Opportunities** – Many opportunities are provided for the student including studio recitals, Music Teacher Association of California and National Guild workshops. For specific details please refer to the information sheet of Student Participation Opportunities.

This course requires a three-way contract between teacher, student and parent for the following responsibilities.

TEACHER:

1. Provide a well-balanced program of activities designed to build skills necessary to make the student a well-rounded musician at the keyboard.
2. Provide weekly assignments with suggestions for getting the most out of each study session.
3. Encourage peer-teaching to enable students to learn how to teach themselves at home.
4. Maintain open lines of communication with parent.
5. Attend course and seminars for further musical growth and continues professional development.

STUDENT:

1. Study regularly and for the time appropriate for age and level. Follow assignment sheet closely and check it off at each home study session. Use practice guidelines for effective practicing.
2. Come to lessons and workshops well-prepared and ready to learn – you owe it to yourself, (your partner, if Dyad), parents and teacher to do the best that you can at every lesson!
3. Bring all necessary books, materials and binder to each lesson. Take care of your materials so that they remain in good condition.

PARENT:

1. Establish and maintain a regular practice routine, free from interference (TV and other distractions). Listen supportively to the student preferably at the beginning and the end of the week.
2. Provide access to a well-tuned piano in good working condition for daily study.
3. Be sure that books are kept in good condition and brought to each lesson.
4. Maintain open lines of communication with the teacher, particularly as related to any practice problem. Call the teacher in advance when the student must be absent from a lesson.
5. Arrange for the student to arrive a few minutes before class.