

Piano Newsletter

August 2011

2011 – 2012 Studio Summary

Regular Tuition	\$160 for 60 min lessons & \$120 for 45 min lessons
Student Teacher Tuition	\$16 per lesson if you go to Student Teacher \$18 per lesson if Student Teacher comes to your home
Group Lessons	Mondays & Tuesdays; students may switch groups when needed as long as age and ability levels are appropriate & advanced notice and OK is given; see group lesson assignments below.
Veterans Day, MLK Day & President's Day	Regular Lessons – this will also apply to any non-student 'curriculum' days
Materials Fee	<u>\$30 for 2011-2012</u> ; fee applies to all students including those studying with a Student Teacher; fee will be billed with September tuition; this fee does not apply to music.
Billing System	Starting in August, you will no longer receive online billing from Freshbooks, but will receive them directly from PayPal. Invoices will generally go out around the 25 th of each month and can be paid via PayPal, personal check or cash. Late fee of \$25 will apply for payments received after the 10 th .
Halloween	Regrettably this is on a Monday – no lessons after 5pm. Alternate lesson times will be arranged.
Teacher Conflict Days	There will be various days I will be gone for professional activities – each student will be contacted and alternate lesson days/times will be arranged. See "Year at a Glance" below.
MTNA Conference	I may be attending the Music Teachers National Conference in New York City from Thursday, March 22 to Friday, March 30. This is the week BEFORE Spring Break, so there may be a 2-week break at that time. My plans are not set yet, and I will let everyone know as soon as possible.
Spring Recital	In 2012, the Spring Recital will be moved to the week BEFORE Musicfest. There will be 2 performances so that younger students can play more than 1 piece, and to keep the performances shorter. I will let you know date, times and location as soon as possible.
Memorial Day	I plan to teach on Memorial Day in 2012 for students who are available. For those out of town, an alternate lesson day will be arranged.
Last Week of Lessons	This will either be Friday June 1 if I do NOT attend MTNA Conference, or Friday, June 8 if I'm gone.

The Year at a Glance

Tuesday, September 6	Lessons Begin <i>Monday students will receive an additional lesson – Please contact me for arrangements</i>
Monday & Tuesday, October 10 & 11	Group Lessons (see below)
Friday, October 28	Mini Recitals at Covenant Methodist 4:00, 5:00 & 6:00 p.m. (Friday lessons will be changed)
Monday, October 31	Halloween – no lessons after 5:00 p.m.
Friday – Sunday, November 4-6	MTNA/OAC Competition (Friday lessons will be changed)
Monday & Tuesday, November 21 & 22	Group Lessons
Friday, December 9	Christmas Recitals at Music City 4:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. (Friday lessons will be changed)
Monday, Dec 19 – Friday, Dec 30	Winter Break – No Lessons
Monday, January 2	Lessons Resume
Monday & Tuesday, Feb 6 & 7	Group Lessons
Saturday, February 25	Mini Recitals at Steinway Gallery 1:30, 2:30 & 3:30 p.m.
Sunday, March 4	WSMTA State Recitalist Competition
Monday – Thursday, March 5-8	WSMTA Adjudications
Monday – Friday, April 5 – 9	Spring Break – No Lessons
Monday & Tuesday, April 30 & May 1	Group Lessons
Monday – Friday, May 14 – 18	Musicfest Northwest – No Lessons
Monday May 28	Memorial Day – I plan to teach this day
Date: TBA	Spring Recital

All of these dates will be on my studio website calendar: www.northspokanepiano.com. Please be sure to check regularly.

OTHER REMINDERS

Make-up lessons: I am more than happy to make up lessons when students are ill, or out of town for an extended period of time. However, there were a large number of lessons last year that were cancelled with only a few hours notice. Unless sufficient notice is received, make up lessons will not be given.

Lesson Cancellation: This time of year I receive many calls about lessons and end up turning away students. Yet it is not uncommon for a current student to change their mind after the first week of school and unexpectedly quit. If you decide to discontinue piano, please remember that I have a 2-week cancellation policy. If you feel piano is not going to work out for this fall, you must let me know by **August 22nd**. Otherwise you will be asked to pay for 2 weeks of lessons.

Group Lessons

Listed below are the group lessons assignments. These assignments have been made to group students together not only for age and ability, but also friendship, travel coordination, known sports conflicts, parent working schedules, student teacher attendance, etc., etc.

I am more than happy to switch as long as I can keep an appropriate number in each group, and that the level of ability and age is kept close to the same. I have listed the grade level of each student so that it will help you understand placement. Generally, the Monday groups vary from Beginning to Early Intermediate and the Tuesday groups are Early Intermediate thru Advanced.

Group Lessons help build community and friendship, and allows each student to feel comfortable with their interactions and performance. I'm even hoping to work on some duets and trio's within each group! As students progress through the year, I may switch their group assignment to better reflect their skill level.

2011 - 2012 Group Lessons

Monday	3:30 - 5:00
Name	Grade
Julia	3
Lydia	3
Madison	3
Alli	4
Amy	4
Ashley K	6

Monday	5:30 - 7:00
Name	Grade
Roman	5
Gianna	4
Katie	5
Jakob D	6
Genevieve	4

Monday	7:00 - 8:30
Name	Grade
Andrew	9
Cassie	9
Carrie	8
Wayne	11
Olivia S	8
Zac	9
Olivia C	7

Tuesday	3:30 - 5:00
Name	Grade
Blake	6
Micah	6
George	6
Nicole	6
Kelsey	5
Grace	5
Annika	5

Tuesday	5:30 - 7:00
Name	Grade
Jacob M	7
Ashley E	7
Solveig	6
Lauren	9
Cale	8
Claire	8

Tuesday	7:00 - 8:30
Name	Grade
Peter	9
Makenzie	10
Michael	10
Emma	10
Rebecca	11
May	12

I have missed seeing everyone on a weekly basis and am looking forward to a TERRIFIC year! There will be lots of great music, fun performances and outstanding teaching! As always – don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need more information!

Janice Smith