

CLARE BRESNAHAN STUDIO POLICIES 2019-2020

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STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

I. PRACTICE

- a. **Students are required to meet their weekly practice goal as set in lessons.** This will typically be a minimum of 5 days per week. Length of expected practice will vary based on age and ability of the student. Frequency of practice is a higher priority than length of practice (e.g. for a beginning student I would rather they played for 15 minutes 5 days per week than 45 minutes 2 days per week). Frequent and consistent home practice is crucial for progress, enjoyment, and motivation.

II. SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT

- a. Bring a notebook or binder with past lesson notes, instrument and shoulder rest, and any current sheet music to every lesson.
- b. Keep rosin, a pencil, nail clippers, and a washcloth in your case at all times.
- c. Acquire other supplies and services as needed (metronome/tuner, different chinrest or shoulder rest, mutes, new strings, bow repairs, etc).

III. RECITAL PARTICIPATION

- a. Studio recitals take place twice per year, typically in December and June. It is a very supportive environment and students will never be alone on stage unless they actively wish to play solo. All students are expected to participate by default. Recital dates will be posted to the online studio calendar.

IV. ATTEND CONCERTS

- a. Attend live concerts with stringed instruments at least a few times a year! (Resources for finding concerts can be found on my website). Watching other people play the instrument you are learning at a high level is invaluable for motivation and immersion in the language of music.

WEBSITE RESOURCES

On my website (clarebresnahan.com>Teaching>Current Students) you can find my studio calendar along with resources and links for finding live concerts to attend, recommended local string shops, online vendors, products, youth/community orchestras, music camps for all ages, and practice tools like apps.

TUITION

I. Tuition rates are:

- a) \$42 per 30 minute lesson
- b) \$58 per 45 minute lesson
- c) \$75 per 60 minute lesson

- II. Tuition is due at the first lesson of every month. **Late payments will incur a late fee of \$25 per week.**
- III. You are expected to attend and pay for all available lessons in the month, unless I have given express permission for another arrangement (see "SCHEDULING" below). Vacation weeks or other exceptions to the regular schedule will be listed in the studio calendar on my website.
- IV. **Monthly tuition will remain the same regardless of any lessons that are missed or made up during the month.** Make up lessons during the month are in addition to, not instead of, regularly scheduled lessons. Missed lessons are either forfeited or made up (if eligible) but not deducted from the tuition amount, unless I have given express approval.
- V. Payments are non-refundable.

SCHEDULING

- I. If you need to miss a lesson, please let me know:
 - a) At least 48 hours in advance for foreseeable circumstances
 - b) By 10am on the lesson day for emergencies and illness
- II. For the most part, if you need to miss a lesson I am happy to reschedule the lesson for another time. (Regardless of when a lesson is missed or made up, each month's tuition will remain the same.) However, **there will be no make-up for a missed lesson IF:**
 - a) You miss your lesson without giving notice
 - b) You don't give me the amount of notice outlined above
 - c) You miss a lesson without a good reason
 - d) You have missed lessons repeatedly (more than a couple times in a term)
- III. If you know you will need to miss a lesson/multiple lessons in a future month and you would like to have that lesson excluded from the month's tuition, talk to me well in advance (before the first lesson of that month or at least two weeks in advance, whichever comes first) and we can discuss our options and find a plan that works for both of us.
- IV. I do sometimes need to miss or reschedule lessons due to my performing career. Lessons that I know in advance will conflict with a rehearsal, concert, or recording session will be on the studio calendar and monthly tuition will take those changes into account when applicable (when the lesson is canceled rather than rescheduled). Occasionally important performing opportunities are last minute by nature and I will let you know as soon as I can about any lessons I need to miss for this reason. I greatly appreciate your understanding and flexibility in these circumstances.
- V. Lessons that I need to miss due to illness, emergency, or any other last minute reason will be either made up at a mutually agreeable time or deducted from the following month's tuition. Let me know which is your preference, but ultimately this decision will be at my discretion.