



Studio Policy

Welcome to my studio, and happy playing!

Ariel Chien

Email: arielychien@gmail.com

Phone: (530) 400-9224



Studio Philosophy

Hello, and welcome to my studio! I look forward to working with you and your student! This studio is a fun, engaging, and safe space for you to develop as an individual and as a musician!

As part of my teaching philosophy, I separate my goals in teaching music into two parts:

1) From my perspective, wonderful musicianship is defined by a "toolbox" of various certain musical techniques that are executed without tension and with natural ease! It is of utmost importance that the technique a student develops directly serves to aid that student's decisions in music-making and expression.

2) As your teacher, I strongly hold belief in developing and encouraging the individual as much as I work to develop one's sense of musicianship. Mental health, and one's enjoyment of music, holds very high on my list of priorities as your teacher. Music should be fun and exciting!

Communicate with me with any questions or concerns you have! I am more than happy to speak with you via email or in person. Please note that using my phone number is for **emergencies only**.

Role as Student:

As a student in my studio, you are expected to:

- Come to weekly lessons on time, and be prepared to learn!
- Have your music and instrument ready every week.
- Practice: Every week, I will give you a specific goal to focus on. Please practice at least 30 minutes every day! While practice doesn't make perfect, it does make your playing better! Keep track of your practice sessions at home.

Role as Parent/Guardian:

As a parent/guardian of a student from my studio, you are expected to:

- Be an encouraging, engaged, and enthusiastic supporter for your child in their journey as a musician! The process of learning an instrument takes time, effort, and lots of encouragement. Being a positive influence can really shape your child's journey and passion for music!
- You are encouraged to come and sit in during lessons! Being a part of the learning process can help you and your child during practice sessions at home. This is especially encouraged for younger students.
- If your student is learning piano, having a piano or keyboard at home will ensure progress and some great learning! Communicate with me about looking for pianos.

Weekly Assignments:

I will write down/communicate all weekly assignments at the end of every lesson. All lesson notes will be recorded within the My Music Staff Student Portal, unless otherwise requested.

Business and Communications Information

Please note there is a **one-time registration fee for \$30 per student**. Registration fee for trial lessons do not apply.

Lesson Fees:

30 minute lesson- \$35.00

45 minute lesson- \$50.00

60 minute lesson- \$65.00

Trial Lessons:

Four 30 minute lessons- \$136

Four 45 minute lessons- \$196

Four 60 minute lessons- \$256

Payments:

Payments are made by the **12st of every month**. Total payment will be determined by the number of lessons weekly per month. Please let me know ahead of time if there is a particular week you cannot have a lesson. Please see “Scheduling” for information about make-up lessons. An automatic late fee will be charged after 10 days after the due date. That being said, more than one missed payment will result in discontinuing lessons.

Payments are all online, either through credit or debit. An option for autopay is available. Please let me know what you prefer.

Scheduling:

All scheduling will be done through My Music Staff. Please correspond with me to set up our schedule via email, and then we can go from there.

Any changes can be discussed with me via the Messages on the Student Portal, or email.

Trial Lessons:

Students who want to try out lessons may register for four trial lessons, with no registration fee. Students have the option to register for the remainder of the year after trial lessons. Please see above for trial lesson prices.

Lesson Makeup/Cancellation Policy:

If you know you will be late, or if you need to cancel, please give me a 12-24 hours advance notice!

Please let me know ASAP of any immediate conflicts. Any lessons that are not canceled within a 12-24 hour notice will still be included in the monthly payment and **cannot be made up**. I will do my best to reschedule, as long as you communicate with me often and as soon as you can! Lessons that are canceled ahead of the 12-24 hour notice will be given a makeup credit to use at any time, at no charge.

Lessons may be canceled by me due to weather, illness, or emergencies. Any lessons canceled due to weather or other circumstances will be made up, no charge. I will correspond with you about making up for those missed days.

Discontinuing Lessons:

Please let me know **at least a month in advance** if you decide to discontinue lessons. If lessons are discontinued in the middle of the month, I will reimburse you for the remaining weeks following the last lesson.

If you are thinking about moving on to another studio, please let me know! I am more than happy to help you figure out your next step in your musical career!

Thank you for being in my studio, and it has been a pleasure to work with you! Best of luck to you and your student in your future musical endeavors!

Communication

All correspondence with me will mostly be via email/My Music Staff. I usually respond within 24-48 hours, but please note that I try not to respond after 8pm. Phone calls are for **emergencies only**.

Supplies

For piano: A keyboard, upright piano, or grand piano will be just fine! I will be able to provide book recommendations you can purchase online.

For strings: You will need to have your own instrument, along with the bow, rosin, and other accessories. I am more than happy to discuss buying new strings, cases, or instruments. I will be able to provide book recommendations you can purchase online.

Zoom Lessons: Make sure you have a reliable camera and audio source during lessons! In general, make sure I am able to see you, your hands, and the instrument.

Other Materials: Having a metronome is a fantastic way for students to help counting! If you don't want an analog metronome, an app on your phone (Metronome Pro, Metronome, etc.) will do just fine. For string students, having a tuner is always a great idea. Tuners are available as apps as well, like Tunable.