

My teaching draws on over 15 years of teaching experience. While many of my students work towards performances and competitions, I also work with students with various backgrounds and goals, including beginners and adult students less interested in public performance or competition. The primary requirement is love of music and dedication to regular long-term practice.

#### STUDIO REQUIREMENTS

My teaching style is very friendly and encouraging, yet serious and goal directed. **Before beginning lessons, I ask that you consider this and make a commitment to daily practice over the course of many years. This is not an easy thing, but it is the only path to becoming an advanced pianist.** I look forward to discussing this with you and answering any questions you might have during our first meeting.

#### Daily Practice Requirements

For lessons to be worth your while it is very important to commit to daily practice. Any teacher who tells you otherwise, to be honest, is wasting your time and money! While it is impossible to predict exact requirements for every student, the following are some general guidelines:

Very Young Beginners (5-6 years old): 20+ minutes a day of guided practice with a parent

Young Beginners (7-8 years old): 30+ minutes a day of guided practice with a parent

Beginners and Early Intermediate (9-10): 45+ minutes of monitored practice a day

Intermediate (11-13): 60+ minutes of practice a day

Early Advanced and Advanced (14-18): 90+ minutes of practice a day

Adult beginners: 30+ minutes of practice a day

Adult Intermediate/Advanced: 45+ minutes of practice a day

Some people find this amount of practice every day to be intimidating. However, well over a decade of teaching experience has confirmed for me that the surest way to really enjoying the piano is to make consistent daily practice a habit. A day of missed practice should be a rare occurrence. What seems like a lot of time at the beginning will seem like the norm after a routine is established.

#### Parental Involvement In Practice Sessions

Before the age of 8 or 9, practice with a parent is essential to making decent progress at the piano. Depending on your child's ability to concentrate and work alone, there is a period around 8-10 years old where you can lighten up only a bit on active involvement in practice. I call this "monitored" practice. You will still need to be present most of the time but will not need to direct every aspect of a practice session.

Having taught hundreds of students, I have never known a young child to make significant progress at the piano without a regular practice routine and parental involvement. Many people waste a tremendous amount of time and money by not making a decision at the very

beginning to commit to daily guided practice. Because progress is slow, piano becomes a chore and both student and teacher become frustrated.

### Recitals

I hold two recitals a year in April & October. These are always a happy occasion. Adult students are encouraged to participate, and students under the age of 18 are required to participate.