



Piano with Lauren, LLC Studio Policy

Private and group music lessons are offered to students of any age and level. The studio has a positive and enthusiastic environment. The curriculum for private lessons will be tailored to match each student's specific learning needs and goals.

Location

In-studio lessons are given at 558 Hickory Ave. in Harahan. Parking is available in the lot behind the studio. Parents and siblings may wait in the waiting area inside the studio. Please be aware that there is no supervision for students before and after the lesson or for anyone left in the waiting area. Students should be picked up promptly at the end of their lesson. We also offer online lessons.

Lessons

The school-year calendar includes 34 scheduled private lessons over a 10-month period (August-May). The calendar also includes scheduled holidays and two sick days, so that the teacher may freely cancel if needed. Holidays and sick days are not included in tuition.

Missed Lessons

Paying tuition reserves a lesson time in the studio each week. Lessons missed by the student are considered forfeited lessons. *There are no credits, refunds, or make-up lessons for student absences.* The instructor may try to offer a makeup during another student's cancellation, but this is not guaranteed.

Tuition

Tuition during the school year is a flat, monthly rate. Students will receive 32 lessons from August – May, paid for in ten monthly payments. *All students who take a regularly scheduled weekly lesson must enroll in automatic monthly payments through Mindbody billing software.* During the school year, tuition will be automatically charged on the 1st of each month.

Fees

A \$60 nonrefundable registration fee is required at the beginning of each new school year. The registration fee will be used towards students' music books and other materials. The registration fee does not include performance fees.



Tuition Rates

Private Lessons

30-minute private lesson - \$120/month

45-minute private lesson - \$165/month

60-minute private lesson - \$220/month

What does tuition cover?

- Lesson time with each student
- Time spent in preparation for the student
It has been cited by professional music journals that for every hour enrolled in piano lessons, you are investing in at least 2 hours of the teacher's time.
- Recital costs and preparations
- Your teacher's training, certifications, experience, and education
- Your teacher's continuing education and memberships of professional organizations
- Studio expenses and instrument maintenance

Photos

Teachers occasionally take pictures or videos of students mainly to document progress and/or share with family members. Pictures of students may occasionally be used on the studio website. To respect your privacy, photos of students online will never include names.

Performances/Judged Events

Students are encouraged to participate in performance opportunities throughout the year. Performances and judged events motivate students to practice and master their music. Fees for events range from \$15-\$30 and are usually due a month before the scheduled date of the event. Once a fee is paid to participate in the event, it cannot be refunded.

Illness

Please respect not only the health of the teacher, but all other students who use the same instrument and space. If students are only mildly ill, please email or call so the teacher can do an online lesson during the student's scheduled lesson time.

Summer Lessons

Lessons during the summer (June through early-August) are scheduled at the student's convenience. All parents and adult students can use Mindbody Software to book private lessons with an instructor. Lessons are only charged per lesson (not monthly) and payment is due when scheduling the lessons. Lessons can be rescheduled in the software program 24-hours in advance.



Lesson Termination

At least one month of notice or one month's pay is required if a student decides to terminate lessons. The teacher reserves the right to terminate lessons. Failure to pay tuition, persistent absences, lack of materials at lessons, an uncooperative attitude, and lack of progress due to insufficient practice may result in lesson termination.

Instrument

Piano students are expected to have a well-maintained instrument. This means an acoustic piano with 88 keys and working pedals. Depending upon the level of the student, an electric keyboard with weighted keys may also be acceptable. *However, as the student advances, an acoustic piano is necessary.*

Student Responsibilities

First and foremost, all students are expected to practice on a regular basis. Students should arrive at their lesson well prepared with all necessary materials. Piano students are also expected to maintain clipped fingernails in order to ensure proper piano technique.

Parent Responsibilities

The success of the student may depend upon teacher-parent communication. Please check your child's assignment notebook and make sure he or she stays on task. Parents are expected to practice with young, beginning students. Parents should also see that their child arrives to his or her lesson on time. If a student arrives late, his or her lesson will not be extended past the scheduled time. It is the parent's responsibility to ensure the safe arrival and departure of their child.



Piano with Lauren, LLC Instructors



Lauren Lewandowski, piano

Loyola University New Orleans

- Bachelor of Music, 2007, Piano Pedagogy
- Master of Music, 2009, Piano Performance

Lauren has been teaching piano since 2006 and is a nationally certified teacher of music. She has served on the executive boards for both the Louisiana Music Teachers Association and the New Orleans Music Teachers Association. She received both a Bachelor of Music in Piano Pedagogy and a Master of Music in Piano Performance from Loyola University New Orleans.

She previously taught class piano for Loyola University in addition to private and group lessons for the Loyola Preparatory Arts program. She opened the commercial location of Piano with Lauren, LLC in 2015.

Lauren also learned to play the harp after college, which was a life-long dream. She continues to study harp and plays weekly at Children's Hospital New Orleans.

Patrick McArdle, piano

University of New Orleans, Bachelor of Music

Patrick was born and raised in New Orleans and began learning piano at age 12. He attended New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA) for classical performance and graduated from the University of New Orleans with a Bachelor of Music. Patrick loves to write music and has been writing since he started playing piano. He writes for orchestras, small ensembles, and solo piano.

Patrick also serves in the United States Army Reserve as a Signal Support Systems Specialist (25U) since 2020 and plans to continue serving for as long as he can. Some of his hobbies include running, working out, and attending live performances of music. With nearly 15 years of experience, Patrick is dedicated to ushering in a new generation of pianists.



Hoang Ngo, piano

University of New Orleans, Bachelor of Arts in Music

Hoang was born in Vietnam. She started taking piano lessons at the age of 8. She has a great passion for the piano. She taught piano lessons to kids of different ages in both Vietnam and in Australia. She takes joy and pride in seeing her students progress in reading music, as well as developing other important skills such as hand-eye coordination, discipline, patience, and creativity.

Hoang earned a Bachelor of Arts in Music from the University of New Orleans in the Fall of 2021. She is a volunteer church pianist at the Newman Center, University of New Orleans. Seeing how greatly playing the piano has contributed to her overall academic success, Hoang is passionate about helping others learn to play the piano.



Maggie Probst, piano and voice

Southeastern Louisiana University

Bachelor of Music, 2009, Piano & Vocal Performance

Loyola University New Orleans

Master of Music, 2015, Vocal Performance

Maggie earned a Bachelor of Music in both piano and vocal performance from Southeastern Louisiana University in 2009 and a Master of Music in voice from Loyola University in 2015. Since then, she has been teaching piano and voice lessons in the New Orleans area. She performs with the New Orleans Opera and was previously the Music Director at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church in Metairie. She also accompanies voice lessons for Loyola University New Orleans and cantors at St. Louis King of France Catholic Church in Metairie.