

204 Central Avenue  
Osseo, MN 55369

# SYKES PIANO STUDIO

www.Facebook.com/SykesPianoStudio  
POLICIES 2016-2017

[cheri@cherisykes.com](mailto:cheri@cherisykes.com)  
[www.cherisykes.com](http://www.cherisykes.com)  
651-335-0048



## INSTRUCTOR QUALIFICATIONS:

- BA, Piano, UW-Eau Claire; Masters in Sacred Music (Organ), Emory University, Atlanta, GA
- Fifteen years experience as private instructor
- Master Certified, MN Music Teachers Association (MMTA)
- Member: Music Teachers National Association (NMTA); West Suburban Music Teachers Association

## YOUR TUITION PAYS FOR:

- Your lesson time with instructor
- Time planning each student's curriculum path on an individual basis, including researching repertoire and pedagogical materials
- Custom-made learning pieces geared to the students level and interests, notated on software or recorded on CD
- Instructor's ongoing learning of studio's theory, ear-training, recording and notation software programs and technology problem-solving
- Production time of recitals
- Time/money spent attending MMTA meetings, workshops, conventions, other continuing education
- Instructor's membership dues in professional organizations
- Studio administrative costs: rent, liability insurance, musical instruments upkeep, computer/printer maintenance, software purchases, time on student scheduling, correspondence, bookkeeping, studio office supplies
- Instructor's salary, insurance, retirement

**Our studio operates on an 11-month tuition calendar year** from September through July, containing 40 lessons, 32 of them September-May (including two studio classes), and the equivalent of 8 lessons from late May-August. (Please see the attached calendar.) **All students are contracted to complete the 40 lesson calendar year.** *Summer lessons prevent spending valuable time in the Fall reviewing and refreshing concepts and skills and generally catching up.*

**Standard yearly tuition** for forty 30-minute lessons is \$1160, evenly divided into eleven monthly payments of **\$105**. Standard yearly tuition for forty 45-minute lessons is \$1740, divided into monthly payments of **\$158**.

Duo Lessons are effective and fun, particularly at earlier stages of learning. Tuition is \$75/month per student.

Summer tuition does not vary from the September-May rates. Summer tuition payments will be due June 1 and July 1. The eight required summer lessons can be flexibly scheduled according to your calendar as well as instructor's. Lessons can be compressed into fewer but longer sessions. The calendar also features a December recital as well as the Annual Spring Recital.

You have the option to take more than the calendared 40 weeks of lessons, at additional charge.



MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

New students may enroll at any point in the calendar year. This contract allows for an introductory **one-month trial period**, at the end of which you are under no obligation should you choose to discontinue.

**Flex Lessons:** Adults are eligible for a flexible lesson schedule. This can be a good option for busy adults. The student and instructor decide frequency and length of lessons. At the first lesson of the month, tuition is due totaling the number of lessons estimated for the month. Rates are: \$31/30-minute lesson; \$46/45-minute lesson; \$60/60-minute lesson.

**Technology Lab.** Technology-based theory and ear-training is a highly-recommended supplement to your lesson, a powerful and enjoyable way to learn music theory, reinforce lesson concepts, and develop creativity. It is a uniquely effective approach to developing ear-training skill. For children and adults.

The lab is a monthly \$35 for 30 minutes each week. Monthly rate is \$64/30 minutes if instructor must sit with student throughout the session to guide learning (pertinent to early primary students).

**Group Lessons** are offered frequently, as an essential element to musical growth. Groups offer informal solo and ensemble performance opportunities, the inspiration and fun of peer-learning, and the opportunity to gain skills and knowledge better taught in groups, such as music history, improvisation, and theory.

**Tuition is due at the first lesson of the month.** Tuition will be subject to a **\$15 late fee** if paid after the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the month. Credit cards, checks, and cash are accepted. Automatic monthly withdrawal is available. Tuition can be accepted by phone or in person, mailed or hand deposited in mail box at my studio. **Mail to: Cheri Sykes, 3634 Brookdale Drive, Brooklyn Park, MN 55443.** Do NOT mail to 204 Central Avenue, Osseo, please.

An annual **\$15 registration fee** for each student is due September 1. This covers all expenses two yearly recitals, including refreshments, prizes, ribbons, and space rental.

An annual (refundable) \$30 **book deposit** is due for lesson materials that instructor purchases on your behalf. Please expect this deposit to need periodic replenishing.

**Facebook:** Follow Sykes Piano Studio on Facebook ([www.Facebook.com/SykesPianoStudio](http://www.Facebook.com/SykesPianoStudio)) for a chronicle of student accomplishments! Enjoy student pictures/videos also on [www.CheriSykes.com/PianoLessons](http://www.CheriSykes.com/PianoLessons).

**Absences:** No more Swap Calendar. Instead, you will be provided a link to a Google Calendar of weekly openings for scheduling your makeup lesson. Simply select your preferred makeup time and e-mail Cheri of the change. The calendar is updated frequently, with availabilities first come, first serve. We request **24 hours advance notice** for any scheduling change. (Illness and inclement weather excepted.)

Leave of Absences: Monthly tuition will remain due if extended absences are taken during the 11-month calendar year. Flex lessons: Instructor reserves right to request minimum monthly tuition in order to hold lesson time for you.

Instructor Cancellations: A makeup will be offered at a mutually convenient time.

**Discontinuing Lessons:** Every student stops taking lesson at some point. Ideally, this decision is made thoughtfully with plenty of discussion between the teacher, parent, and student so that lessons can cease with a positive sense of closure. For this reason, required is one month's notice in writing prior to discontinuing lessons. Note: At the discretion of the teacher, students may be asked to discontinue lessons at any time if they have unpaid tuition, an excess amount of absences/unprepared lessons, or if they show a lack of interest. Enrollment is understood to be for an entire tuition year, September 2015 through July 2016. Students are expected to take ALL of the lessons for the year in which they are enrolled. In the event circumstances require that you discontinue lessons before the end of July, the one-month Early Withdrawal Fee will be paid equaling one month's tuition. You will have the option to take lessons during this one month, or simply pay the month's tuition.

All terminations before the end of the year require a conference with the teacher. If after the meeting, the student still wants to discontinue lessons, the student must finish the remainder of the one-month period or forego any unused lessons, as there is no refund given.

Please expect that a 45-minute private lesson will be appropriate for your child as s/he progresses into later elementary levels.

Please expect that tuition rates and studio policies will bear periodic adjustments.

Feel free to e-mail or phone me during the week regarding any concerns you may have. Mornings are best to reach me. Communication is important. Your musical education is a journey which is continually evolving.

TO COMPLETE REGISTRATION ONLINE, PLEASE GO TO GOOGLE FORMS LINK SENT TO YOUR E-MAIL

