

204 Central Avenue
Osseo, MN 55369

SYKES PIANO STUDIO

www.Facebook.com/SykesPianoStudio
POLICIES 2017-2018

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www.cherisykes.com
651-335-0048

"Releasing your musical passion!"



INSTRUCTOR QUALIFICATIONS:

- BA, Piano, UW-Eau Claire; Masters in Sacred Music (Organ), Emory University, Atlanta, GA
- Fifteen-plus years experience as private instructor
- Master Certified, MN Music Teachers Association (MMTA). Member of ground-breaking Popular Styles Syllabus Committee.
- Member: Music Teachers National Association (MTNA); West Suburban Music Teachers Association
- Active solo performer and bandleader. Expert in popular styles.



MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL 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. **Lessons are carefully customized to each individual!**
- Custom-made learning pieces geared to the students level and interests, notated on software or recorded
- Instructor's ongoing learning of evolving studio technology and trouble-shooting
- Production time of recitals
- Time/money spent attending MMTA meetings, online workshops, conventions, other continuing education. **Your instructor is dedicated to remaining current with latest research-based, innovative pedagogical approaches and exciting technology, and passionate about enriching her ability to provide you the highest quality of instruction!**
- 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, 33 of them September-May (including four studio classes), and the equivalent of 7 lessons from late May-August. (Please see the attached calendar.) **All students are contracted to complete the 40 lesson calendar year.** *Summer lessons are an opportunity to cover educational areas, such as theory and improvisation, with greater intent than during the academic year. They also prevent a loss of valuable momentum.*

Standard yearly tuition for forty 30-minute lessons is \$1200 (\$30 each), evenly divided into eleven monthly payments of \$109. Standard yearly tuition for forty 45-minute lessons is \$1800 (\$45 each), divided into monthly payments of \$164.

Duo Lessons are effective and fun, particularly at earlier stages of learning. Tuition is \$82/month per student per 30-minute lesson and \$123 per student for 45-minute duo lesson.

NEW THIS YEAR: Receive a 5% discount, the equivalent of two free lessons, if the 2016-2017 year's tuition is paid in full in September 2017.

Summer tuition does not vary from the September-May rates. Summer tuition payments will be due June 1 and July 1. No tuition is due in August. The seven 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.

New students may enroll at any point in the calendar year. This contract allows for an introductory **six-week 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: \$33/30-minute lesson; \$49/45-minute lesson; \$62/60-minute lesson.

Four **Group Lessons** are offered during the year in lieu of the week's private lesson, 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 **5th 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. Paypal is also an option: [paypal.me/SykesPianoStudio](https://www.paypal.me/SykesPianoStudio). **Mail to: Cheri Sykes, 3634 Brookdale Drive, Brooklyn Park, MN 55443.** Do NOT mail to 204 Central Avenue, Osseo, please.

An annual \$20 registration fee for each student is due at first lesson of calendar year. This covers all expenses for studio classes and our two yearly recitals, including refreshments, prizes, ribbons, and space rental. It also covers online subscriptions utilized by students in the studio and at home.

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

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

Absences: 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. **24 hours advance notice** is necessary to accommodate any scheduling change. Makeups are also available in the summer. The instructor will not keep a record of makeups due; **makeup requests will be your responsibility, please.**

Leave of Absences: Monthly tuition will remain due if extended absences are taken during the eleven-month calendar year for regular (non-flex) students. 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 2017 through July 2018.** Students are expected to take ALL of the lessons for the year in which they are enrolled. If 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 generally be appropriate for your child as s/he progresses past the first year of lessons.

Please expect that tuition rates and studio policies will bear adjustments from year to year.

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

