

Sterling Music for All by *Nicole Fainman*

Sterling, VA 20165

571-340-1922

www.sterlingmusicforall.com

<http://SMFA.musicteachershelper.com>

Studio Lesson Policies 2022

What I Expect of the Parent or Adult Student:

- Please provide a quiet space for practicing at home, with positive encouragement.
- **If your child is less than 12 years old and you are in the Suzuki violin program or has special needs, I require that you attend their lessons and take notes if needed.**

Scheduling and Cancellations:

- Lessons are never more than a month-to-month commitment. You will use your login on www.duetpartner.com to schedule your lessons in open slots. Open lesson slots on the calendar are first come first serve but you may sign up as far in advance as you wish. If you choose to drop out for a month, someone else may take your slot. I send a monthly email regarding any studio closures. You can also visit the calendar monthly for studio closings by logging into your account at <http://SMFA.musicteachershelper.com>. **If there are school closings due to inclement weather I will contact you via phone and/or email.**
- Late arrivals will only receive the remainder of the lesson time that day and will not be refunded.
- **No shows or cancellations without notice within 4 hours will result in loss of the lesson fee. You can cancel lessons via calling or texting me at 571-340-1922, emailing sterlingmusicforall@gmail.com or canceling your lesson on the calendar through your account.**
- Lessons that are skipped without adequate notification are not eligible for a makeup.
- With notice, a make-up lesson can be scheduled or a refund given
- I will make exceptions for emergencies or if you or your child is sick or if the studio closes due to inclement weather.
- **I will give you at least a 24 hours notice for my cancellations, unless there is an emergency or I am ill. I will attempt to give you a make up lessons if I have to miss a lesson for any reason. If a makeup is not given you will receive credit the following month.**

Sick Policy:

- **If you are sick or have a fever, please do not come to the lesson. You will not be penalized, as long as you let me know. I will refund you or attempt to provide a makeup lesson. Stay home, rest and get well!**

Practice:

- A little practice each day is better than one long practice session per week.
- Progress cannot be made on an instrument without consistent practice.

Here are daily practice times based on your personal goals and to make progress:

If you play the violin for fun

- Ages five or below: 15 minutes –can be split into 5-10 minute chunks if needed
- Ages six to eight: 30-45 minutes
- Ages eight to ten: 45-60 minutes

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- Ages twelve to adult: 60-90 minutes
- End your practice session immediately if you have pain while playing!

If you want to be a professional violinist

- Age five: 30 - 45 minutes
 - Age eight: 90 - 120 minutes
 - Age ten: 2 hours
 - Age twelve: 3 hours
 - Age fourteen to eighteen: 3 - 4 hours
 - Performance major in college: 5 hours
- Listening to quality players is essential to knowing what a good player sounds like and further developing your own sound. If you are studying Suzuki violin the more you listen to the CD the faster you will make progress.

Keys to Success:

- The Suzuki philosophy always comes first: The Suzuki method combines music teaching with a principal that “character is first, ability is second.”
- Follow the assignments I give you. If you don’t then I cannot guarantee success.
- The more you listen, the faster you will learn by heart.
- The more you review the faster you will learn new pieces. Review builds technique, puts it in the unconscious part of the brain so that the conscious part can learn new technique
- Come to group class-it refills the well of motivation to practice, builds community and is fun!
- Be positive in lessons and in home practice. Your mind is your most powerful asset so use it for positivity. Keep it fun!

Termination of Lessons:

The teacher reserves the right to terminate lessons for the following reasons:

- Student misses 6 or more lessons in a year.
- Student with 3 or more no shows or cancellations without notice in a year.

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- Student fails to practice as agreed upon

Tuition:

- **\$38 for ½ hour**
- **\$57 for 45 minutes**
- **\$76 for 1 hour**
- **\$18 for 60 minute group lessons**
- **Families with 2 or more children taking lessons receive \$5 off**
- **Virtual lesson charges are as stated above**

- Your first music lesson is free, with no obligation to continue.

- **Tuition is due at the first session of each month.**

- **Students are required to pay for all sessions in a given month based on the mutually agreed schedule decided at the start of the month.**

- **Tuition must be paid by the first lesson of every month, but no later than the 15th of each month. Failure to pay by the 15th will result in a late fee of \$25.00.**

- **There will be a \$37 charge for bounced checks.**

- Please make checks payable to “Nicole Fainsan.” Checks can be mailed to my home address or brought to your lesson.

- Online payments are accepted using paypal through your student account. You can also make arrangements with me to pay through Venmo.

Recitals:

- There will be one recital per year. Students who wish to play will pay a \$18 fee. Date and location to be announced. If a professional accompanist is needed the student can pay the pianist directly but is not responsible for lesson fees for that rehearsal.

I have read the above and agree with it.

Signature of **Teacher**

date

Signature of **Student**

date

Name of **Parent** (printed)

(signature)