

Combs Piano Studio Policies

Effective July 1, 2023

Instructor: Rebecca Combs

B.Mus. Rice University, M.M. University of Maryland – College Park

<https://combspiano.weebly.com>

COVID-19 Safety Protocols

It is expected that all families affiliated with the Combs Piano Studio are taking precautions to limit the spread of COVID-19.

- Students must be vaccinated to attend lessons. In addition, any family member who enters the studio must meet this requirement.
- Families who do not meet the vaccination requirement may enroll as online students until they meet the requirements to attend in the studio.
- Mask wearing is strongly encouraged.
- Students should not attend lessons if they are feeling unwell.
- Students must inform Ms. Combs if they test positive for COVID-19, so that she may notify other students and take appropriate quarantine actions.
- When appropriate, students may request a virtual lesson when they are unable for health reasons to attend in person.

Tuition and Fees

- Tuition is calculated at the rate of \$36 per half hour (\$54 for 45 minutes, \$72 per hour). Payment for all lessons to be attended in each month is due at the first lesson of the month. A late fee of \$10 will be assessed if payment is not received on schedule.
- Acceptable methods of payment include:
 - Venmo: @combspiano
 - Zelle: use Ms. Combs's email address or phone number
 - Personal check made out to Rebecca Combs
- If the teacher provides the student with music or other materials, the student may add the associated cost to the following month's tuition payment.
- Studio recitals are always free to participate in and attend.
- Katy Music Teachers Association events typically involve entry fees. The student will pay these fees to Ms. Combs prior to stated deadlines.

Attendance Expectations

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- Student is expected to arrive promptly at the regularly scheduled lesson time each week.
- Tardiness will result in a shorter session; no extra time is available beyond the scheduled ending time.
- Please ensure that transportation to and from the lesson arrives promptly.
- For non-health related issues, students must cancel or request a rescheduled lesson time **at least 24 hours in advance**. Failure to comply will result in forfeiture of the lesson.
- If a student is ill, he may cancel the lesson without penalty.
- Ms. Combs has other professional commitments which occasionally conflict with the normal lesson schedule. In such instances, she will arrange alternate lesson times.
- **Holidays:**
 - There will be no lessons during Katy ISD Winter Break or Spring Break.
 - Lessons are optional the week of Thanksgiving Break. Students should communicate their intentions at the beginning of November.
 - On other school holidays, lessons will be held unless arranged otherwise.
 - When in doubt, a text or email is always advisable.

Online Lessons

- Students attending lessons virtually must have a device which can transmit audio and video reliably.
- Students should position their device to show as much of the piano and their upper bodies as possible.
- Families should take reasonable measures to limit ambient noise during lessons.
- The link to access online lessons will be provided in advance. Students will communicate promptly if they have trouble logging in or other technical difficulties.

Materials:

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- **Music books:** Student must bring all current music books to each lesson.
- **Spiral or Composition Notebook:** The teacher will write practice assignments in this notebook, to be referred to at home.
- **Tote bag:** This should be dedicated solely to piano lesson materials. It is a good idea to keep the books in the bag except during practice time, so that they are always ready to go on lesson day.
- **Piano:** Ms. Combs can recommend local piano dealers and advise about the suitability of a specific instrument if necessary.
- **Metronome:** There are many free and paid metronome apps available, or you may purchase an inexpensive metronome from Amazon or a local music store.
- **Pencil:** The student should have a pencil easily accessible during each practice session, to make notes in music books, complete theory assignments, and record practice times.

No food, drink, or chewing gum is allowed in the piano studio.

Practicing: Regular practice sessions are essential to successful piano lessons. Beginners should practice twenty to thirty minutes daily; more advanced students should practice more, as determined by the student and teacher. Failure to do so is a waste of time and money. The student will record practice time in his/her assignment book (see above).

Attitude: The piano studio should be a positive, safe environment. Student and teacher will treat each other with respect and come to each lesson ready to work. Foul language and argumentative behavior are not appropriate at any time.

Enrollment: Prior to enrollment, the student must complete the attached form, signifying compliance with studio policy.

Termination: The teacher reserves the right to discontinue lessons with students who violate studio policy.

Combs Piano Studio Registration Form

Student Name _____

Parent Name _____

Phone Number _____

E-Mail Address _____

Home Address _____

Best way to reach you: Text Call E-Mail
(circle one)

Student's Age and Year in School: _____

Preferred theory test
session (circle one): November January Not interested

Other important notes or information that Ms. Combs should know about the student:

My family is compliant with the COVID-19 health precautions listed in the studio policy.

I have read and will comply with the policies of the Combs Piano Studio.

Student Signature _____

Date _____

Parent Signature _____

Date _____