

Michael Kravchuk Piano Studio

Mission: My mission is provide my students with a strong musical foundation in piano which they can enjoy for the rest of their lives.

Background: I started piano lessons at the age of 14. After my first lesson, I immediately decided to pursue it as my career and would practice up to 5 hours a day. I graduated from Sacramento State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Piano Performance and joined the Music Teacher's Association of California in 2012. I have been teaching piano since 2007 and I've written and published several music books for my students.

Teaching Philosophy: I believe teaching piano is a big responsibility for the teacher. I hold the potential to create a wonderful musician, but I also hold the potential to damage a student's growth. Keeping this in mind, I do not approach my piano lessons carelessly or half-heartedly, but I put forth time and effort before and after a lesson to ensure that the student is getting the best education I can provide. In my piano lessons I promote musicality and expression above anything else. I think it's important to inspire my students to make music out of what they play. I tend to emphasis rhythm and steadiness more than clarity and technique. Instead of focusing on missed notes I encourage the student to play the proper rhythm and later work on fixing their wrong notes. I also encourage them to play expressively even if they don't have all the notes in their fingers. By focusing on rhythm and expression I believe my students will do better in the long term. I feel its important for the student to be able to practice on their own correctly, and I spend lots of time teaching my students an efficient way of practicing at home. I look out for bad practicing habits in my students and try to convince them to use more effective methods. My goal as a teacher is to create a well-rounded dependable musician. who will be able to sight-read quickly, improvise in any key, compose their own music, and have a great understanding and appreciation for piano music.

Lesson Calendar: There are 46 weeks of instruction in the year. There are no lessons during the following six weeks:

Thanksgiving Break (1 week)

Christmas Break (2 weeks)

Spring Break (1 week)

4th of July Break (1 week)

Summer Break (Beginning of August)(1 week)

All lessons are given on a weekly basis at a scheduled time.

Makeups: If a student needs to miss a lesson, they will need to let me know one or more days ahead in order to receive a makeup at a different time or day. Lessons canceled on

lesson day will not be made up. There is no cost reduction for missed lessons. Students will be required to pay full tuition fee even if they missed a lesson. Makeups for private lessons will be given during group lesson times.

Termination of Lessons: You may terminate lessons at any time, just bear in mind you will not be refunded the monthly payment. Best to terminate lessons at the end of the month before next payment is due.

Rates: There are three different rates for piano lessons:

Private Lessons: **\$115 a month** for 30min weekly lesson

First Child Group Lessons: **\$77 a month** for 45min weekly lesson

Second Child Group Lesson: **\$58 a month** for 45min weekly lesson

Cost of individual lessons are as follows:

Private Lessons: \$30 a lesson

First Child Group Lesson: \$20 a lesson

Second Child Group Lesson: \$15 a lesson

Monthly payments are based on 46 teaching weeks a year:

Private Lessons: $\$30 \times 46 \text{ weeks} = \$1,380$ a year.
or \$115 a month.

First Child Group Lessons: $\$20 \times 46 \text{ weeks} = \920 a year.
or \$77 a month.

Second Child Group Lessons: $\$15 \times 46 \text{ weeks} = \690 a year.
or \$58 a month.

Payments: Fees are due at the beginning of the month. Check is preferred but cash is acceptable. No credit cards. Make check out to Michael Kravchuk.

Books: Every Student must obtain a required set of piano books. Books from previous lessons will only be accepted if they go along with the piano curriculum. I exclusively use Faber Piano Adventures. Please see page about books to see the full book requirements. Piano books may be purchased directly from me or bought separately.

All books cost \$10 each if purchased directly from the studio.

Book Requirements in Chronological Order

Faber Piano Adventures: Primer Level

1. Lesson
2. Technique
3. Theory
4. Performance
5. Sight-reading
6. Supplementary 1
7. Supplementary 2

Faber Piano Adventures: Level 1

8. Lesson
9. Technique
10. Theory
11. Performance
12. Sight-reading
13. Supplementary 1
14. Supplementary 2

Faber Piano Adventures: Level 2a

15. Lesson
16. Technique
17. Theory
18. Performance
19. Sight-reading
20. Supplementary 1
21. Supplementary 2

Faber Piano Adventures: Level 2b

22. Lesson
23. Technique
24. Theory
25. Performance
26. Sight-reading
27. Supplementary 1
28. Supplementary 2

Faber Piano Adventures: Level 3a

29. Lesson
30. Technique
31. Theory
32. Performance
33. Sight-reading
34. Literature Book. 1

Faber Piano Adventures: Level 3b

35. Lesson
36. Technique
37. Theory
38. Performance
39. Sight-reading
40. Supplementary 1
41. Supplementary 2
42. Literature Book. 2

Faber Piano Adventures: Level 4

43. Lesson
44. Technique
45. Theory
46. Performance
47. Sight-reading
48. Supplementary 1
49. Supplementary 2
50. Literature Book. 3

Faber Piano Adventures: Level 5

51. Lesson
52. Popular Repertoire
53. Theory
54. Performance
55. Sight-reading
56. Supplementary 1
57. Supplementary 2
58. Literature Book. 4

Recitals: Two recitals are held every year for student performance opportunities. They are optional and free. Dates, locations, and times can vary, but the first recital is usually around early December and the second recital is around early May.

Practice Guidelines: Student progress depends on amount of practice done at home. How well a student plays does not depend on how many years they have been taking lessons, but how many hours of piano practice have been completed. Here are my recommended **minimum** practice times for students:

Kindergarten to 4th grade = 15min a day.

5th to 8th grade = 20min a day.

9th to 12th grade = 30min a day.

Students may choose to practice more or less depending on their personal preferences.

Contact Information: I encourage everyone to contact me by email or text message. Please do not call me as I will usually be teaching a lesson and will not be able to answer.

Cell Phone: (916) 612-8801

Email: mikek1331@gmail.com

Certificate of Merit Program: I am a member of Music Teacher's Association of California which sponsors a program called Certificate of Merit. The program is a professional evaluation of the student in piano theory, technique, and repertoire. If the student passes their test, they are awarded a certified state certificate which can be used as an achievement when applying for college. Students interested in participating in the piano merit program will be required to do extra practice to complete all test requirements.

Senior Medallion: Students who make high achievements in the Certificate of Merit program may attempt for a Senior Medallion, one of the highest honors they can achieve in the Music Teacher's Association Program. It requires taking the Certificate of Merit evaluation three years in high school, including Senior year, and completing Piano Level 7 or higher. Students who complete the requirements are awarded a medallion from the current president of the piano association.