

Studio Policies

Welcome to my flute studio! I look forward to working with you to accomplish your musical goals. In this document I want to let you know what I expect from you and what you can expect from me.

Mission statement:

To foster and develop a love of learning and discovery through music and the flute.

Required materials:

- A flute in good working condition
- A music stand for practicing at home
- A cleaning cloth and rod (preferably wood or plastic, not metal)
- An inexpensive metronome or metronome app
- Sheet music and other texts, etc., as deemed necessary by the instructor to accomplish our goals. (I am aware that music is expensive and will always try to help you find economical prices whenever possible.)

Tuition:

Tuition rates for my Winnipeg studio are \$70 (CAD) per hour to be paid monthly. Payment can be sent by e-transfer to alexcon@gmail.com. Students outside Winnipeg should inquire for more detailed rate information alex@alexconway.net

Your tuition includes:

- lesson schedules as agreed at the beginning of each month, with the option to have lessons online or in person. Due to my schedule as a member of the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, I am not always able to hold the same lesson times each week. It is important to check the lessons times you were assigned each month and communicate conflicts with me quickly.
- exercises and practice journals written by and provided by the instructor.
- recital/performing opportunities.
- assistance in finding and auditioning for extra-curricular musical activities if that is a goal of the student.
- assistance in purchasing new instruments.

Attendance:

- If you need to miss a lesson, I require advanced notice (24 hours minimum) so that we may reschedule. **Lessons canceled with less than 24 hours' notice will be charged at the normal rate.** In the event of sudden illness, best efforts will be made to find a time to reschedule.
- Regular flute lessons are important in encouraging regular practice routines and musical development.

- Communication is important! My intention is to work with you to make sure you get the full value of your study. You are welcome to be in touch with questions via email or text outside of lesson times.
- Please do not assume that I am aware of government holidays or school vacations!

Lesson Content:

- In each lesson we will work on tone production, technical studies, and flute repertoire, music theory and ear training. These categories are indicated on your practice materials so we can keep track of our progress together.
- We may also work on school band music, as needed, and any solos you wish to play for contests or asked to perform for school, church, etc.
- Although I will assist in the selection and procurement, ultimately students are responsible for providing their own sheet music.

Parents are welcome to observe lessons at any time.

Performance:

- Regular performance is an important part of musical and personal development. I am aware that this can cause undue stress and anxiety in some students. I will encourage and provide a variety of performing opportunities throughout the year and work with students and families to find the best opportunities for each child.
- I strongly encourage my students to attend local performances both of their friends and peers, and professional musicians. I will send suggestions from time to time.

Practice:

- **Lessons are an exercise in teamwork.** The team includes the student, the teacher, and the parent(s)/guardian. Parents are expected to encourage their child, to help them keep a regular practice schedule, and to help obtain needed materials in a timely manner. Practice assignments are clearly spelled out in practice journals for easy reference.
- I have found that when parents take an active role in encouraging their children to practice, the child experiences greater success.



A new instrument:

- Please speak to me before purchasing or renting a new/ new to you instrument. Not all flutes are created equal!
- I'm happy to help source the right instrument at the right price for you.

Your Goals

- These are *your* lessons and my goal is to help to you achieve your musical goals. I want to get to know you and your likes and dislikes so that I can tailor my teaching accordingly.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns you might have.

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I look forward to exploring music with you!