**RESONATE STUDIO INFORMATION**

**OBJECTIVES**

* To provide individualized instruction on how to better understand and play the cello
* To provide efficient practicing methods to teach students how to teach themselves and enable them to continue to learn, grow, and progress as cellists outside of professional instruction.
* To provide opportunities and knowledge to help students cultivate a passion and appreciation for music and the cello.

Although the main objective is the learn how to play the cello, I make every effort to create well-rounded musicians.

Lessons will include elements from the following:

* Cello Playing
* Cello Technique and Musicality
* Music Theory
* Music History
* Composition
* Improvisation
* Basic Instrument Care

If there are other topics you wish to cover within lessons, or to have extra lessons to delve deeper into a certain subject, please contact me to discuss it further.

**EXPECTATIONS**

To be a successful musician, it is very important to practice every day. Practicing every day, even if for just a short time, is more effective than to practice only a few times a week for extended periods of time. Effective practice methods include: practicing material in the same order every day, practicing SLOWLY at first to better your understanding of the material and then building speed once it has been mastered at a slower speed, to stop and use deductive reasoning to solve problems that may arise, and to closely follow instructions on how to practice effectively and efficiently to avoid developing bad habits.

Students can not have long or false fingernails while playing the cello. It creates bad habits in playing and can be damaging to the instrument itself. Fingernails need to be clean and cut short at all times.

**PRACTICE:**

Practicing every day is highly encouraged and extremely beneficial in developing the skills needed to be a cellist. I require students to practice **at least** five times a week. This will be monitored through provided practice charts which will be signed by the student every week before lessons. I also require a parent’s signature on weekly practice charts if the student is under the age 18. In this practice chart, students will record what they practiced and how long they practiced each day. This chart will be checked at the beginning of every lesson and, depending on what has been practiced, will determine what will be covered in lessons that week. It is very important to always bring an up-to-date, signed practice chart to lessons.

There will also be several efficient practicing methods, tips, and other helpful material compiled into a handbook that every new student may obtain for a small materials fee. If you choose to opt out of purchasing a student handbook, practice charts are available to download for free on my website:

**musicresonates.com.**

I highly encourage all of my students to take advantage of the provided material as regularly as possible to help them learn cello quickly and successfully.

**Practicing should follow the same pattern daily:**

* + Scales
  + Etudes
  + Solo repertoire

As a student advances as a cellist, more practice is required.

**Below is my standard expectation for individual practice time.**

* Beginner level cello students should practice **at least a half hour to an hour every day.**
* Intermediate cello students should **practice at least an hour to an hour and a half every day**
* Advanced cello students **should practice at least two to three hours every day.**

**Practice marks progress - only you can set your standard for success.**

**MATERIALS:**

Students should have access to an instrument that they can practice on daily. Other materials required to be successful are rosin for the bow, a rag to wipe the cellos strings and body off after each practice session, a music stand, and a metronome to assist in effective practice, if possible, it is best to practice on a chair that sits parallel to the ground and that will create a 90 degree angle on the inside of your knee. A chair that is too high or too low can create bad posture while playing.

**Materials to be brought to lessons WEEKLY:**

* Instrument
* Bow
* Rosin
* Music
* Cello Studio Student Handbook (or printed practice charts)

**POLICIES:**

Payment is due at the beginning of each month for the entire month. If lessons are cancelled less than 24 hours prior to your scheduled lesson time, it will count as a lesson and you will not be refunded the amount paid for a single lesson. If a lesson is cancelled more than 24 hours prior to the scheduled lesson time, I am willing to be flexible and reschedule that lesson for a different time during the week. If, for whatever reason, I cancel lessons, you are guaranteed credit towards another lesson.

I try to be as available as possible to all of my students. If during your weekly practice you stumble upon something that confuses you, or that you are struggling with, please contact me so that I may help you as soon as possible so that you can continue practicing. If you choose not to contact me throughout the week, please skip the confusing parts and move on. To come to your next lesson unprepared because one part confused you early on is **NOT** an excuse for coming to a lesson unprepared and could warrant a short or entirely canceled lesson with no refund.

**Cello Lesson Rates:**

* Beginner half hour cello lessons: $25.00
* Intermediate forty-five minute cello lessons: $40.00
* Advanced one hour cello lessons: $55.00

For any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Texting is the preferred method to contact me.**

I also respond quickly to emails.

If I need to be contacted by phone, please call me after 5:00 PM.

(I am a working musician and this means that I am often unavailable in the evenings as well. If I do not answer your call, I will call you back as soon as I am able.)

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