

# WHERE DOES MY TUITION GO?

## Thank you for choosing piano lessons with Aller Piano Studio!

Music education is our career and our livelihood. It is also what we *love!* By investing in your children's musical education, you can provide them with a skill they will enjoy for a lifetime!

## What does my yearly tuition cover?

Your tuition pays for *a year of quality music education!* It covers time spent with the student, plus much more work behind the scenes which benefits our students!

### Benefits for our students:

- **Time spent with the student**  
Lessons, performance classes, group lessons, recitals.
- **Time spent in preparation for the student**  
Ordering music, lesson planning, bookkeeping, development of curriculum, choosing and editing music for students, and **practicing!** *It has been cited by professional music journals that for every hour enrolled in piano lessons, you are investing in at least 2 hours of the teacher's time!*
- **Detailed yearly Progress Reports**  
**This is a benefit you won't find at other piano studios!** We spend time *on a weekly basis* writing notes on all aspects of each individual student's progress. Then we compile these notes into a report that not only assesses progress in a positive and supportive way, but also creates goals PLUS specific strategies for each individual student to use in achieving those goals in the coming year!
- **Creation and development of student materials**  
**Another benefit you won't find at other piano studios!** We create our own worksheets, study guides, and practice guides for our students. These materials are continually being re-evaluated, revised, and updated with new ideas.
- **Fun and educational group classes and recitals**  
**We offer fun group classes throughout the year that are also unique to our studio.** Two are "Piano Parties", filled with music games, plus exciting Music Appreciation presentations that we developed ourselves, featuring musical cartoons! Two are "Performance Classes", designed to help students gain confidence and familiarity with the experience of playing piano in front of others. The Halloween Pre-recorded Recital, December Mini-recitals and Spring Recital offer varied, fun performance experiences!

### Your tuition also helps cover the costs of running a small business as self-employed teachers:

- **Continuing education**  
We believe it's important to stay current and to always be open to new ideas for improving and expanding what we offer to our students! We participate every year in the PMTA (PA Music Teachers Assoc.) 3-day annual Conference, as well as the yearly Garcia PSU Workshops. We also take every opportunity to participate in other workshops and webinars to further our education.
- **Professional journals**  
Subscriptions to "Clavier Companion" and "American Music Teacher" keep us current on new teaching materials, trends and ideas.
- **Professional organization memberships**  
Membership in a local organization, the Nittany Piano Teachers Network (NPTN) as well as the national organization MTNA and its local chapter, CPMTA, allow us to enhance our teaching skills through networking with fellow music teachers.
- **Recital costs and preparations**  
Program planning, editing, printing; refreshments for mini-recitals and Piano Parties; recital facility rental.
- **Studio expenses**  
Printing paper and ink; computer software including music-writing software "Finale"; piano maintenance; music kept on hand in the studio for students' convenience and reference. Also, as self-employed music teachers, we pay for our own health insurance costs, as well as 100% of our social security and medicare taxes, as opposed to the 50% that employees of any company pay.