

# TUIOFU PIANO STUDIO

~ *For All Levels of Musical Learning*

## STUDIO POLICY AUGUST 2025-MAY 2026

Studio Address:

Diane Tuiofu

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## IN-HOME PIANO LESSONS

In-home piano lessons are available in your home, or Diane's home studio. All levels of musical learning are available, among which may include genres of: Classical, Jazz & Blues, Ragtime, Choral, Hymns, Popular, Contemporary and Seasonal. Composition lessons are offered if a student expresses an interest. As a traveling piano teacher, Diane schedules students' lessons to best accommodate each family's needs. If lessons are to be done in her home, they will often be in the early morning hours, before school, or in the evening.

## VIRTUAL PIANO LESSONS

Virtual lessons are available for students **above Prep Level**, which may be done using a laptop or computer, iPad/tablet, with a digital weighted 88-keyboard, or acoustic piano. Devices need to be set up on a music stand or table near the piano, and have a strong WiFi/internet connection.

## MISSED LESSONS/MAKEUPS

As a traveling piano teacher, Diane's studio has grown to the point that she is **no longer able to offer makeup lessons in your home**. If a student is ill, or you need to miss a lesson, please notify Diane 24 hours in advance. **Makeup lessons are to be scheduled by a parent, or adult, and are given on the third Saturday of the month in Diane's Home Studio for both in-home or virtual lessons.** If Diane must miss a lesson for any reason she will make up the lesson in your home (if she travels to you), her home, or virtually, at her earliest convenience.

If the third Saturday of the month falls on a studio closure date, or is unavailable for any reason, an additional arrangement will be made.

## STUDIO EXPECTATIONS

Students must have either a digital 88-weighted keyboard with foot pedal, or acoustic piano, music as discussed in the piano interview, and a notebook to begin lessons. Students are expected to be home when Diane arrives for their lessons, have their weekly assignments completed, ***with music organized and prepared, ready to go.*** Diane will need a chair set out next to the piano (before she arrives). ***If Diane drives to your home and the student is not there the lesson will be forfeited, with no makeup given,*** and an additional travel fee of \$10 ***may*** be due. In the event of an emergency, please notify Diane as soon as possible via text or by phone. If your child is not prepared to begin their lesson on time the lesson will not be extended but will end at the regularly scheduled time. There should be no toys, snacks, gum chewing, or beverages during lessons, and all personal needs should be taken care of before the lesson begins. Nails should be trimmed short. Students learn best in a quiet environment so please turn off TVs/technology that would interfere with a student's concentration. A regular daily practice schedule will ensure long-lasting habits and steady progress. Students are expected to practice at least five days a week (30+ minutes a day for grade school students and progressively longer practice times based on advancing repertoire). Parents are encouraged to help their children achieve their musical goals by helping them structure their day to allow time to practice, and are welcome to sit in on their child's lessons if they desire. Success in musical advancement will be achieved through daily practice and completion of all assignments. ***Success in piano study is directly related to parental support and involvement.*** Diane will keep parents apprised of their child's progress. Students who are unwilling to follow studio or lesson instructions, show disrespect during lessons, or meet minimum practice expectations will be dismissed from the studio.

## RECITALS AND PERFORMANCES

There will be two recitals, one in the Spring (following Certificate of Merit) which is formal dress, with music memorized, and one in October or December (alternating each year), which is casual dress and music does not need to be memorized. Performance event fees for Festival Competitions and Recitals sponsored by the Music Teachers' Association of California are separate from monthly tuition, if participating. Other personally organized recitals, classes, or performances are free.

## CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Certificate of Merit will now be held in person or remotely. After CM enrollment is completed by September 30<sup>th</sup>, there will be links provided on parents' MTAC portals for students to practice taking their theory, ear-training, and sight-reading tests. This is a returning CM feature that will assist students to better understand their music level material by taking practice tests before the actual exams to assist in passing CM exams to advance to the next level. Diane will assess each student's musical interest and ability to decide if they are ready to participate in Certificate of Merit: They must be practicing the piano in accordance with studio expectations for each level of achievement and completing all assignments as outlined. Parents are required to confirm their child's registration online and pay MTAC directly for their child's Certificate of Merit participation during open enrollment from September 1 to 30<sup>th</sup> on the MTAC website, **[new.mtac.org](http://new.mtac.org)**. ***Payment is due by October 5th. No late payments accepted.*** Fees range from \$104-133 based on the CM level enrolled in, and is now open to students who live outside of California.

## STUDIO CLOSURE DATES (Please mark your calendars):

October 2-3

Thanksgiving Break: November 19-December 3

Winter Break: December 22-January 2

Spring Break: April 6-8

May 25-26

## PIANO PROGRAM

**SEMESTERS:** Fall (Aug-Dec) & Winter/Spring (Jan-May). Tuition includes:

- Individualized private lessons (virtually or in person)
- 2 Studio recitals (Spring and Christmas/Halloween)
- Certificate of Merit preparation
- Performance/Theory/Technic
- Sight-reading/Ear-training
- Recital Performance preparation
- Composition lessons (optional)
- Diane's time and investment in musical preparation in and out of the studio researching and choosing repertoire that will best suit each student for optimal musical training, planning and attending competitions and recitals, and actively participating in the Certificate of Merit events as a member of the Music Teachers' Association of California. Tuition also includes Diane's time and costs in traveling to your home for lessons (if she drives to your home).

Tuition rates remain the same during the fall/winter and spring semesters: August-May. **Tuition is due at the beginning of each month** and is not reduced if lessons are missed. Additional fees associated with programs such as Certificate of Merit or festivals are listed above.

### SUMMER STUDY (June-July)

Students need to schedule a minimum of 4 lessons in the summer (June and July) in order to reserve their spot for the fall. Summer lesson dates/times are flexible and can be scheduled around students' camps and family vacations. Tuition for summer lessons is on a per-lesson basis and is due at the beginning of each month.

## PIANO PROGRAM FEES

### Beginners: Prep-Level 3 (30-minute weekly piano lessons)

\$155 per month for lessons in Diane's home  
\$160 per month for lessons in your home

### Intermediate: Levels 4-7 (recommended 45-minute weekly piano lessons)

\$240 per month for lessons in my home  
\$245 per month for lessons in your home

### Advanced: Levels 8-10 (recommended hour weekly piano lessons)

\$320 per month for lessons in my home  
\$325 per month for lessons in your home

PARENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_