

Where does my tuition go?

Music has been found to enrich the lives of all who participate in its creation or in its enjoyment. When you choose to take music lessons, you are choosing to learn a skill that will benefit you and bring you joy throughout your entire life! No price can be put on such a beautiful art as music. Yet, obtaining the skill will certainly require assistance from a professional—your music teacher. I have chosen to make music my business and my occupation. As with any business, costs are calculated to both ensure that the highest quality product is given and that the business makes enough profit to continue providing services.

What does my tuition cover?

- **Time spent with the student**
Lessons, performance classes, group lessons.
- **Time spent in preparation for the student**
Ordering lesson materials, lesson planning, bookkeeping, development of curriculum, etc. 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!
- **My training and experience**
- **Recital costs, Music parties and preparations**
Programs, refreshments, facility usage.
- **Professional organization memberships**
Memberships are maintained by the teacher to enhance teaching skills and provide the student with opportunities for festivals, competitions, and performance events.
- **Professional journals**
Publications to assist the teacher in keeping current on new teaching materials and trends.
- **Studio expenses**
Copying, computer software, incentive programs, instruments, tunings, repairs, newsletters.
- **Music books and CDs**
Materials purchased by the teacher to keep costs low for students.
- **Property taxes, self-employment taxes, insurance, business licenses, retirement**
Independent music teachers have no corporation to assist in providing health and life insurance by matching funds. Tuition helps cover the increased living costs of your self-employed teacher.
- **Continuing education and Certification costs**
Lessons and classes that keep the teacher current on methods and techniques.

How do I know if music lessons are worth the price?

Not every teacher is right for every student. You will want to be sure that your music teacher provides things that are important to you as well as the things that are important to student's musical developments. Start by learning more about your teacher's:

- Education
- Goals and Expectations
- Philosophies of Music Education
- Teaching experience
- Curriculum
- Studio Policy

Above all, find out how they demonstrate commitment to excellence in music education. No price can be put on such a beautiful art as music, but by investing in your child's music education, you can provide them with a skill that they will enjoy for a lifetime!