

Strings of Praise Studio Policies Agreement

1. Studio Mission

Strings of Praise is a Christ-centered music ministry dedicated to helping students grow in musical skill, confidence, creativity, and character through guitar instruction. Lessons are designed not only to develop technical ability, but also to encourage discipline, consistency, worship, and a deeper appreciation for music.

2. Lesson Philosophy and Structure

Each lesson is personalized to the student's age, skill level, goals, musical interests, and learning pace. Lessons may include:

- Review of weekly practice
- Technique development
- Chords and rhythm training
- Lead guitar skills
- Song learning
- Music concepts and understanding
- Weekly assignments and practice goals

3. Student Materials

Students should come prepared to each lesson with the following:

- Guitar
- Guitar picks
- Tuner (clip-on or app)
- Notebook or music binder
- Assigned lesson materials

Recommended optional items: capo, strap, and a small practice amp

4. Practice Expectations

Consistent practice is one of the most important parts of musical progress. Students are expected to practice regularly between lessons.

Recommended daily practice time:

- Beginners: 15–30 minutes per day
- Intermediate: 30–60 minutes per day
- Advanced: 60+ minutes per day

5. Monthly Tuition

Strings of Praise operates on a monthly tuition model. Monthly tuition reserves a consistent weekly lesson time for the student.

Current tuition rates:

- Private 30-minute lessons: \$120 per month
- Private 60-minute lessons: \$200 per month
- Group 60-minute lessons: \$100 per month per student

Tuition is due monthly on the lesson anniversary date. For a student's first lesson, payment is due on the day of the lesson in order to begin the tuition cycle. Monthly tuition is non-refundable once paid.

6. Five-Week Months

Some months may include five lessons instead of four depending on the calendar layout. In these cases, the fifth lesson is considered a bonus lesson, and tuition remains the same.

7. Lesson Reservation

A student's weekly lesson time is reserved exclusively for that student each month. Because that lesson time is being held specifically for the family:

- Missed lessons are not credited toward another month
- Tuition is not reduced for missed lessons
- Reserved time slots are not transferable to another student or family member unless specifically approved by the instructor

8. Attendance and Make-Up Lessons

If a student must miss a lesson, 24 hours' notice is requested to ensure the instructor can make scheduling adjustments as needed.

Make-up lessons:

- May be offered when scheduling allows
- Are not guaranteed
- Are offered at the instructor's discretion based on studio availability

Lessons missed without notice are not eligible for a make-up lesson.

9. Late Arrival Policy

Students are expected to arrive on time. If a student arrives late, the lesson will still end at the originally scheduled time in order to respect the next student's reserved lesson time.

No extra time will be added to a lesson due to a late arrival. Exceptions to this are solely contingent upon the instructor's discretion and studio availability.

10. Parent Responsibilities

Parents of minor students play an important role in the student's musical success. Parents are encouraged to:

- Help the student attend lessons consistently and on time
- Encourage daily or regular practice at home
- Ensure the student brings the required lesson materials
- Communicate scheduling concerns promptly
- Support a positive, respectful learning environment

For younger students, parental involvement in practice routines can greatly improve consistency and progress.

11. Student Responsibilities

Students are expected to:

- Attend lessons consistently
- Arrive on time and prepared
- Bring required materials
- Practice regularly between lessons
- Complete assigned practice goals to the best of their ability
- Show respect to the instructor, the lesson process, and the learning environment

A positive attitude, teachability, and consistent effort are essential for progress.

12. Communication

For scheduling questions or quick communication, text message is the fastest way to reach the studio. For longer communication, email is welcome.

Families are encouraged to communicate promptly regarding absences, schedule conflicts, or important concerns.

13. Studio Calendar and Scheduling

Lesson availability is based on the instructor's studio calendar and current openings. Strings of Praise currently offers lesson times according to the published studio schedule, and enrollment is based on available openings.

If the studio must cancel a lesson for any reason, a make-up lesson, rescheduled lesson, or other reasonable accommodation will be arranged whenever possible.

14. Respectful Learning Environment

Strings of Praise is committed to providing a positive, encouraging, and respectful learning environment. Students and families are expected to interact with the instructor in a respectful and cooperative manner.

Because Strings of Praise is a Christ-centered music ministry, instruction and encouragement will reflect Biblical-based values such as respect, character, integrity, worship, and service accordingly.

15. Discontinuing Lessons

If a family wishes to discontinue lessons, notice should be given as early as possible. Tuition already paid for the current tuition cycle is non-refundable. The reserved lesson time may be released once lessons are discontinued.

16. Acknowledgment of Policies

By signing below, the parent/guardian and student acknowledge that they have read, understood, and agree to abide by the Strings of Praise Studio Policies Agreement.

They also understand that these policies are intended to support consistency, fairness, clear communication, and the best possible learning experience for all students.

Student Information

Student Name: _____

Lesson Type: _____

Lesson Day/Time: _____

Start Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Student Name (Print): _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Instructor Information

Instructor: Blaise Winegardner
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