



2023-2024 Program + Policies



Calendar

[↪ MG 2023-2024 Calendar](#)

The Mozart's Gym school year always begins on the Monday one week after Labor Day. For 2023-2024, lessons begin on Monday Sep 11, 2023, and continue until Sunday Aug 18, 2024. Our year is divided into four "Sessions"- Fall, Winter, Spring, and Summer.

For a full calendar year there are 41 weeks of paid instruction: 36 weeks of private lessons and 5 weeks of group programs- Studio Classes, MusicSport and Jam Camp (see **EVENTS** page).

There are 11 weeks that are not charged: the "Flex Week" in Summer (to accommodate makeup lessons for student travel) and 10 weeks of breaks- Thanksgiving, Christmas (2), Spring Break (2), Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Year-End (3).



Fees

The "Annual Registration Fee" is a \$35/student administration fee that is charged once per year. This fee is prorated for students who begin lessons after the Fall session.

"Tuition Fees" are charged each session and cover all other costs of instruction: Private Lessons (and/or Group Programs), Studio and Equipment costs, Curriculum Books & Materials, and Recitals/Events. Registering for a session secures a set weekly time with a teacher for the duration of the session (Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer). See the **MG 2023-2024 Calendar** for session dates and rates.

All Tuition Fees are billed at the start of each session, for the complete session. Continuation in lessons for the full year is expected. To discontinue lessons for a subsequent session, ***please inform your teacher personally and email mozartsgym@gmail.com two weeks prior to the end of the current session.***

Fees are prorated for a late session start, but **no fee reductions or refunds are given for students who terminate lessons before a session ends.**



Billing

Students who attend Mozart's Gym lessons at an Elite Sports Clubs facility will be billed through Elite's system and must have an EFT on file. Students who attend Mozart's Gym lessons at the OAW Indoor Sports Complex are invoiced directly by Mozart's Gym.



Books

Tuition fees cover the cost of the curriculum materials (lesson books) that each student is assigned. Please take care of these books and keep them clean and undamaged. Mozart's Gym provides the first copy of these of these materials only... if the books are lost or become excessively soiled or damaged, the student/parent will have to purchase the replacement copy.

The provided curriculum consists of the "Assignment Folder" and Theory, Technique, and Repertoire books. Any additional books or sheet music must be purchased by the student/parent.

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School Info

Information regarding school-wide events, programs and announcements will come from our Studio Administrator, **Melanie Muma: mozartsgym@gmail.com, (262) 312-8505.**



Scheduling

Each Mozart's Gym instructor follows the **MG 2023-2024 Calendar** but sets their own days/times for their weekly teaching schedule. Instructors also follow the **LESSON MAKEUPS** policy but manage their own attendance records and scheduling of makeups. Students/Parents should contact their instructor personally with any questions or changes regarding the weekly scheduled private lesson.



Attendance

Regular attendance for lessons and events is expected. It is the responsibility of each student/parent to be familiar with the **MG 2023-2024 Calendar** and attend each regularly scheduled lesson. No refunds or makeups will be offered for lessons missed because the student was unaware it was a scheduled lesson week. Students should bring all curriculum- Assignment Folder and Theory, Technique, and Repertoire books- to each lesson.



Lesson Makeups

Any lessons missed due to a teacher scheduling conflict or cancellation by Mozart's Gym, for weather, illness, travel, or any other reason, will be made up or result in a fee reduction or refund.

We allow one rescheduled lesson ("makeup") for each session to accommodate student lesson conflicts (illness, travel, other), to be coordinated for when both the studio and the teacher are available. The Summer "FLEX WEEK" is provided to accommodate an additional missed lesson due to student travel plans during the summer.

Any additional lessons that are missed by the student are forfeited and not rescheduled or refunded.



Health + Hygiene

Students and instructors experiencing anything above mild symptoms of illness within 24 hours prior should not attend an in-studio lesson. This includes a temperature above 100 degrees, significant cough/congestion, diarrhea or vomiting, or any contagious condition. If the student or instructor is well enough, the first option is to complete the lesson on Zoom or another online format. The second option is to make the lesson up on an alternate day, but please see the **LESSON MAKEUPS** policy for more information.

Students should wash hands prior to entering each lesson and come into the studio with clean clothes and shoes. Students should also practice proper hygiene protocols like coughing or sneezing into a sleeve and using tissues and hand sanitizer. Students should keep hands away from eyes, ears, nose, and mouth. Students with compulsive unsanitary habits will be dismissed to wash hands with soap and water or asked to wait until an older age to begin or continue lessons.

Piano students are required to keep fingernails **SHORT** (and clean!). Short fingernails are essential for proper playing technique. Students who come to lessons with long fingernails may be dismissed to trim them.

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Events

Participation in Studio Classes, MusicSport, the Winter Recital and SummerJam are expected of each student. We make a strong effort to keep these concerts fun, friendly, positive, and low-pressure, encouraging a "Share Your Music" mentality that removes the intimidation of a performance environment. These concerts are a vital part of the overall development of each music student, helping them to grow in poise, artistry, confidence and comfort in communicating and presenting.



Studio Classes

Studio Classes are small, casual, instructional performances that give students the experience of sharing their music, observing other students, and giving and receiving praise and helpful suggestions for improvement. Each student performs a piece, then an instructor leads a few minutes of feedback from other students and instructors.



House Cup

The Mozart's Gym House Cup provides a fun social/competitive element to music study that takes place entirely in the context of weekly private lessons and a "Leaderboard" that is published each week. Students are sorted into one of four houses- Foxbow (red), Hawkwind (yellow), Whalehorn (blue), or Beardrum (green)- and earn points both individually and for their house by their dedication in weekly lessons and in their practice at home. Each student is scored by their instructor, but also participates in self-assessment regarding their preparation, attention, effort, and attitude in music study. The House Cup runs from January to May, with house and individual awards presented at SummerJam.



MusicSport

The MusicSport Competition is a year-end assessment of each student's musical development, in the context of a fun, social, and competitive event. Each student completes an individual level-specific performance/assessment with judges, testing in three categories: Repertoire (Performance), Technique (Scales/Exercises), and Skill (Theory, Rhythm, Reading, and Aural Recognition). Detailed assessment reviews with notes from the judges are provided privately to each student and their parents, and prizes are awarded to All-Around Winners and High Scorers in each category (Rep/Tech/Skill) for each level.



Winter Recital

Our Winter Recital is a traditional/formal student recital, featuring solo or duet performances of classical, folk, and holiday pieces.



SummerJam

SummerJam is a fun, casual, festival-type concert of group/band performances of contemporary, pop, and rock music. Advanced students have the opportunity to jam with local professionals. SummerJam also features food and drinks, the Mozart Merch tent, prize giveaways, and our annual awards presentation.



Jam Camp

Jam Camp is our group-format prep for SummerJam. All students performing in SummerJam must attend Jam Camp, where instructors sort students into groups/bands by level, then teach and rehearse all the fun songs we'll play. Students also learn about music gear, live sound production, and stage performance in a camp setting.

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Support

Our goal with each student is to make their experience in musical study **POSITIVE** and **PRODUCTIVE** by emphasizing four key traits: Preparation, Attention, Effort and Attitude.

We welcome parents to join us in:

- Creating an environment of support and commitment
- Providing help, praise, and affirmation
- Encouraging dedication and the development of routines and discipline
- Promoting a growth mindset and the perseverance needed to overcome challenges

Parents can also help by creating space and time for undistracted, focused practice at home.



Practice

Daily practice at home is the single largest contributing factor to a student's development in musical skill. Each Mozart's Gym student is expected to complete practice on assigned material- Theory, Technique, and Repertoire- each week between lessons.

Our practice requirement for students just beginning lessons is 10 minutes a day, six days a week, for the first couple of months as this new routine is being established.

The practice requirement increases as the student progresses:

- Book 1 Students: 6 days x 15 min/day
- Book 2 Students: 6 days x 20 min/day
- Book 3 Students: 6 days x 25 min/day
- Book 4 Students: 6 days x 30 min/day
- Book 5 Students: 6 days x 35 min/day
- Intermediate Students: 6 days x 45 min/day
- Advanced Students: 6 days x 60+ min/day



Resources

Each student must have access to a quality instrument for practice at home. For piano students this means an 88-key, hammer-action digital or acoustic piano that has decent sound and proper mechanical function (keys and pedals work!). The height of the keys and the bench are also very important to the development of proper technique. Each piano instructor can advise on this.

For other instruments and voice students, please consult your instructor for the necessary instrument/resource.

The curriculum and methods we use are the result of years of experience and thousands of hours of use and research. For best results in musical development, it is necessary that students give attention to all assignments, including worksheets and exercises, and not simply to the repertoire pieces (lesson and performance books).

We also use two essential tools that students should incorporate into their daily practice routines: **ACCOMPANIMENT TRACKS** and **METRONOME**! If you have any questions about how to access or use these, please ask your instructor!