

## HOW DO I KNOW IF MUSIC LESSONS ARE WORTH THE PRICE?

Shop around! Not every teacher is right for every student. You want to be sure that your music teacher provides the things that are important to you as well as the things that are important to students' musical development.

Start by interviewing several music teachers to learn more about their:

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

Above all, be curious about how they demonstrate commitment to excellence in music education.

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## WHERE DOES MY MUSIC LESSON TUITION GO?

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## HOW DOES IT BENEFIT

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Answers to frequently asked questions about tuition and music lessons

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# MUSIC LESSONS - FOR A LIFETIME OF ENJOYMENT

Congratulations on choosing music lessons! Music enriches the lives of all who participate in its creation or enjoyment.

When you choose to take music lessons, or give them to someone you love, you are choosing to learn a skill that will benefit you and bring you joy for your entire life! No price can be put on the art of music. Yet, obtaining the skill to play a musical instrument will require assistance from a professional—your music teacher.

Your teacher has chosen to make music their business and their 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 their services.

## SO WHAT DOES MY TUITION COVER?

For most teachers, tuition covers:

- Time spent with the student  
Lessons, classes, and group lessons.
- Time preparing for the student  
Searching for music, lesson planning, scheduling, bookkeeping, development of curriculum, communicating with parents, 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!
- Your teacher's training and experience  
Tuition is based, in part, on the educator's education and experience.
- Recital costs and preparations  
Programs, sheet music, equipment, refreshments and facility rental.
- Professional Organization Membership  
Memberships are maintained by the teacher to enhance their teaching skills and provide the student with opportunities for festivals, auditions, evaluations, exams, and performance events.

- Professional journals  
Publications to stay current on new teaching materials and trends.
- Music books, supplemental materials, studio licenses  
Materials purchased by the teacher to keep costs low for students including digital music that can be printed at home or the lesson.
- Studio expenses  
Copying, computer software, incentive awards, programs, newsletters, instruments, tunings, and repairs.
- Property taxes, self-employment taxes, insurances, business licenses, retirement  
The independent music teacher has no employer to assist in providing health insurance or retirement funds. Tuition helps cover the living costs of your self-employed teacher.
- Continuing education  
Lessons, workshops, webinars, and classes that keep the teacher educated and proficient in methods and techniques to help the music student succeed!