

WSU Piano Preparatory Program

Music learning is one of the best ways to integrate the physical, mental and emotional development of human beings. The goal of our program is to provide your child with instruction designed to develop well-balanced musicianship. We want to establish a foundation through children’s piano study to enable them to become more musically independent and able to continue lifelong learning and involvement in music. Our mission is to offer children in our community the opportunity for high quality but affordable piano study.

One objective of the WSU Piano Preparatory Program will be to broaden our knowledge of music teaching and learning. Children who register in our program will have an opportunity to participate in studies that are designed to investigate the effects of various music learning activities and teaching strategies on the achievement of piano students.

FACILITIES

The students in our program will enjoy the privilege of using the excellent teaching and learning facility of the Weber State University Electronic Piano Laboratory:

- Yamaha DC6M4PRO Disklavier PRO Grand Piano, which can be used for performance/composition playback and long-distance learning, as well as rehearsal/performance of concert with music software instrumental accompaniment.
- MacBook Pro computer at the teacher station
- 12 Yamaha Clavinova Digital Pianos and a Teacher Station, for large or small group instruction and individual communication between the teacher and the students. (The Clavinova can record, orchestrate, and sequence musical compositions and performances. It also provides fun rhythmic background for enjoyable performances and practices.)
- State-of-the-art touch panel computer projection system, high-tech document camera for instant teacher demo playing, and Saber VDO 360 HD video recording device for class presentations and group piano teaching
- Macintosh computers and Macintosh Laser Printer to print out student compositions.

RECITALS

Each semester, Adult, Teenage and 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th year students have the opportunity to perform in an end of semester recital. Fall semester recitals will be on **Dec. 9, 2017**. Spring semester recitals will be on **Apr. 28, 2018**. Due to the complexity of scheduling family members and teenage partners, **if parents anticipate possible scheduling conflicts with any recital times, please contact Laurisa Cope (801-943-4331) by November 20, 2017 (Fall) or by April 6, 2018 (Spring).**

PIANO OLYMPICS

At the end of Spring Semester, all students will have the opportunity to demonstrate the achievement of their piano study at the WSU annual “Piano Olympics”. Students who receive 76 out of 100 total points at the Piano Olympics will be awarded a color ribbon for the level the student achieved. Students may earn Bronze, Silver, and Gold medals by receiving color ribbons at the Piano Olympics over a period of 3 years for each medal.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

The various learning activities in our piano program include sight reading, singing, aural training, piano repertoire, transposition, harmonization, rhythmic movement, improvisation, composition, ensemble, and basic music theory. Furthermore, students will receive computer-assisted instruction and will be able to experiment with music technology designed to develop improvisational skills, composition skills, and theoretical understanding. There will also be weekly performance opportunities in each class and semester student recitals for parents and friends.

LEVELS OF PIANO INSTRUCTION

Beginning/1st year Instruction for ages 6 to 9 One first year piano class (for up to 12 students) will be taught in Fall 2017. (No new piano class will be offered Spring Semester.) Each student will receive two 50-minute group lessons each week for 15 weeks each of the two semesters. An interview and audition to determine music aptitude, musical and personality readiness is necessary for admitting a child into the 1st year class.

2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th year Instruction for Continuing and Transfer Students

In order to facilitate each student’s progress in piano technique and repertoire to an even greater degree, instruction of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th year piano students consists of one 50-minute group lesson and one half hour private lesson each week. During the group lesson new musical concepts, rhythm drills, music theory, sight reading, aural training, singing, composition, games and performances will be emphasized. The private lesson, on the other hand, will allow the opportunity for individual development and expansion of piano techniques and various repertoire pieces at the child’s own pace.

LESSONS FOR TEENAGE PIANISTS

A combination of group and partner lessons will be available for teenage intermediate level pianists. There will be openings for one teenage group class. The group classes will meet once a month during the semester (see Class Schedule for the week of the month that a particular group will meet). The weekly 75-minute partner lesson will allow each student to expand his/her learning of intermediate to early advanced repertoire, as well as to be motivated to learn piano technique, sight reading, music theory, ear training, composition, and piano duet repertoire with his/her peer of a similar musical ability level. If the WSU Piano Prep. faculty is unable to match a student with a lesson partner, a 45-minute private lesson option is provided for a slightly higher fee (see “Teenage Students” under “Payment Choices and Deadlines” for more information).

LESSONS FOR ADULTS

Lessons for adults at any level will be available Fall 2017-Spring 2018. Please check “Adult” for “Piano Class Request” on the registration form.

LESSON/CLASS SCHEDULE
Group Class and Lesson Schedule

1st Year

- Group: Tuesdays and Thursdays 4:10 – 5:00 p.m.

2nd Year

- Group: Thursdays 5:10 – 6:00 p.m.

3rd Year

- Group: Wednesdays 4:00 – 4:50 p.m.

4th Year

- Group: Wednesdays 5:00 – 5:50 p.m.

5th Year

- Group: Thursdays 6:10 – 7:00 p.m.

6th Year

- Group: Tuesdays 5:10 – 6:00 p.m.

Teenage Continuing and Transfer Students

Teen classes are held on Mondays once per month:

2017: 9/25, 10/23, 11/27, 12/4

2018: 1/29, 2/26, 3/26, 4/23

- Chopin Group: 5:00-5:50 p.m.

Weekly Private Lesson

Weekly private (for levels one to six) or partner lessons (for teenage students) will be arranged by the private teacher, the student and the parents.

AUDITION AND INTERVIEW FOR
BEGINNING AND
TRANSFER STUDENTS

To provide each child a more successful music experience in piano study, a placement audition and a music aptitude assessment, to determine the level of readiness and class placement, will be given to all new and transfer students on August 23-24, 2017.

The first year students will be assessed on readiness for piano study in the following areas: singing, rhythmic response, attention span, listening skills, level of physical coordination and small muscle control. The interview for transfer students will assess sight reading skills, rhythmic response, basic music theory, technique, and performance of one or two repertoire pieces.

The audition will be conducted in a friendly, informal manner. No preparation for first year students is necessary for the audition. Schedule a convenient time for your child’s interview as soon as possible. For further information about the placement interview and registration, call the Program Director, Dr. Yu-Jane Yang, at 801-626-7489 or the Assistant Director, Laurisa Cope, at 801-943-4331.

**Detach and Return to Dr. Yu-Jane Yang,
Director of WSU Piano Prep Program,
3950 West Campus Drive,
Weber State University, Ogden, UT 84408-1905**

Name: _____ Age: _____

Birth Date/Year: _____ Grade Level: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Student’s Email: _____

Father: _____ Mother: _____

Parent’s Email: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Piano Class Request:

☐ Beginning (1st year) ☐ 2nd Year ☐ 3rd Year

☐ 4th Year ☐ 5th Year ☐ 6th Year

☐ Teenage Partner ☐ Adult ☐ Other

☐ Teenage Private

Need Placement Audition:

- ☐ Yes (1st year students & other level new transfer students)
- ☐ No (Continuing Students)
 - 1st year students and new transfer students at other levels need to request an audition time by sending this application with a \$20 nonrefundable application fee (payable to **Weber State University**).

Semester Tuition Payment:

☐ Fall Semester 2017 ☐ Spring Semester 2018

(I) One Full Payment Per Semester Due Dates:

- Fall: **August 21, 2017** • Spring: **January 5, 2018**

☐ One full payment (\$430) for one semester (1st – 6th year).

☐ One full payment (\$480) for one semester (Teen Partner).

☐ One full payment (\$560) for one semester (Teen Private)

(II) Two Payments Per Semester Due Dates:

- Fall Semester: (1) **August 21, 2017** and (2) **October 16, 2017**.
- Spring Semester: (1) **January 5, 2018** and (2) **March 1, 2018**.

☐ Two payments of \$220 for one semester (1st – 6th year).

☐ Two payments of \$245 for one semester (Teen Partner).

☐ Two payments of \$285 for one semester (Teen Private).

NOTE: If you are writing a check for more than one child, please specify the exact amount of tuition paid for each child.



2017-2018 Calendar

FALL

Aug. 21	Fall semester tuition due
Aug. 23-24	Audition for 1 st year and transfer students
Aug. 28	All classes begin
Sept. 4	Labor Day Holiday (No class/lesson)
Oct. 16	Fall semester tuition for 2-payment plan due
Nov. 23-24	Thanksgiving Break (No class/lesson)
Dec. 7	1 st year in-class recital
Dec. 9	Fall semester student recital for 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th , 5 th , 6 th and teenage/adult students
Dec. 9	All classes end

SPRING

Jan. 5	Spring semester tuition due
Jan. 8	All classes begin
Jan. 15	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday (No class/lesson)
Feb. 19	President's Day (No class/lesson)
Mar. 1	Spring semester tuition for 2-payment plan due
Mar. 5-9	Spring Break (No class/lesson)
Apr. 26	1 st year in-class recital
Apr. 28	Spring semester student recital for 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th , 5 th , 6 th , and teenage/adult students
Apr. 30	All classes end
Apr. 30 – May 1	Piano Olympics for all WSU Piano Preparatory Program Students

PAYMENT CHOICES AND DEADLINES

- 1) One full payment per semester deadlines:
Fall Payment: **Aug. 21, 2017**; Spring Payment: **Jan. 4, 2018**
OR
- 2) Two payments per semester deadlines:
Fall: 1st Payment: **Aug. 21, 2017**; 2nd Payment: **Oct. 16, 2017**
Spring: 1st Payment: **Jan. 5, 2018**; 2nd Payment: **Mar. 1, 2018**
A late fee of \$10 per week will be charged for tuition paid after each due date.

1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th Year Students

For students at these levels, the tuition for each semester of 15 weeks (Fall or Spring) is: 1) One full payment of \$430, OR 2) Two payments of \$220.

Teenage Students

Option 1: Includes (1) a weekly 75-minute partner lesson, and (2) a monthly group class. The tuition for each semester of 15 weeks (Fall or Spring) is: 1) One full payment of \$480, OR 2) Two payments of \$245.

Option 2: Includes (1) a weekly 45-minute private lesson, and (2) a monthly group class. The tuition for each semester of 15 weeks (Fall or Spring) is: 1) One full payment of \$560, OR 2) Two payments of \$285. This option is for any teenage student whom the Piano Preparatory faculty is unable to match with a lesson partner, or for students who work best in a private lesson setting.

An additional tuition of \$300 will be required for students who request to study with the Program Director. (Please discuss this option in advance with the Program Director.)

CANCELLATION/REFUND POLICY

Because a teacher must reserve a time slot for a student for the entire semester when a student is assigned, **once a semester has begun, there will be no refund of tuition already paid.**

PUNCTUALITY/ATTENDANCE POLICY

Many learning activities are planned for each lesson. Therefore, all lessons will begin promptly at the scheduled time. **If an absence is absolutely unavoidable, please notify directly your child's private or group teacher in advance.**

It is our policy that group class absences cannot be made up. If your child should miss a group class due to illness, please call. An assignment sheet for the missed class will be mailed to you. It is university policy that classes and lessons that fall on the holidays will not be made up.

Private lessons missed due to severe illness or emergency may be rescheduled pending the private teacher's schedule and if the private teacher is notified in advance. In the event that an instructor cancels a lesson or class, it will be rescheduled.

Due to the teaching schedule, students who arrive late for a private lesson will only receive the remaining portion of the lesson.

INSTRUCTORS

Dr. Yu-Jane Yang (801-626-7489) yyang@weber.edu

- Director of the WSU Piano Preparatory Program
- Ph.D. in Music Education with double cognates in Piano Pedagogy and Piano Performance from University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Laurisa Cope (801-943-4331) wmrkel@gmail.com

- Assistant Director of the WSU Piano Preparatory Program
- M.M. in Piano Performance/Pedagogy, Brigham Young University

Dr. Shijun Wang (904-236-0606) sw@juilliard.edu

- Faculty of the WSU Piano Preparatory Program
- DMA in Piano Performance and Literature from Eastman School of Music, Rochester, NY
- M.M. in Piano Performance from The Juilliard School

Whitney Hawker (801-628-4434)

whitney@hawkerpianostudios.com

- Staff Instructor of the WSU Piano Preparatory Program
- M.M. in Piano Pedagogy, Texas Christian University

Shantel Chen Dotson (801-643-0179) mama1228@gmail.com

- Staff Instructor of the WSU Piano Preparatory Program
- B.A. in Piano Performance, Weber State University

Malinda Tall (801-671-2230) malindatall@weber.edu

- Staff Instructor of the WSU Piano Preparatory Program
- M.M. in Piano Performance/Pedagogy, University of Utah

Jessica Hendry (801-616-6898) jessicahendry320@gmail.com

- Staff Instructor of the WSU Piano Preparatory Program
- B.M. in Piano Pedagogy, Weber State University

Sydnee Johnson (801-678-1439)

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- Staff Teacher of the WSU Piano Preparatory Program

WSU Piano Preparatory Program 2017-2018

<http://www.weber.edu/pianopreparatory>

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