



practice pal



recital ready



music ninja

Birmingham Keyboard Arts Center ~ Heather Byars, Director

Fall Quarter Schedule

The schedule for the full year is always available on our web site, bkac.net.

August 28 - September 1: Fall Lessons Begin. Tuition Installment #1 and Fall Recital Fee Due.

September 4: Labor Day Holiday. No Lessons.

September 25 - 29: Tuition Installment #2 Due.

October 9 - 13: Fall Break. No Lessons.

October 23 - 27: Tuition Installment #3 Due.

November 7 - 13: Last Week of Fall Lessons.

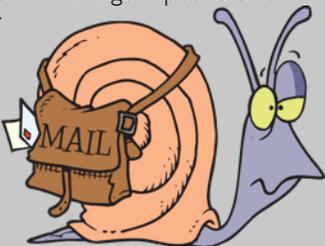
November 14 - 20: Fall Makeup Week.

November 18: Fall Recital. 10:30 a.m. Chapel in the Pines.

November 21 - 24: Thanksgiving Break. No Lessons.

A word about scheduling extracurriculars

As you head back to school, eager and refreshed, you will find yourself bombarded with opportunities to sign up for new things. Exploration is definitely what childhood is all about. However, I ask you to please remember that our piano studio is completely full. There are no openings that you can change your lesson time to. If you need a different time slot, you may use the Swap List on our web site to ask someone if they are willing and able to trade with you. (Password available upon request.) There is no guarantee that a change is possible so please be very careful not to make a commitment that conflicts with your piano lesson time.



early Fall Quarter news

July 29, 2017

Our studio welcomed a handful of precocious young students this summer.

With this younger set in mind, my brain is churning out whimsical practice incentives at a rate I hope I'll be able to keep up with. Keep a lookout this fall for a visit from Melody Cat, the traveling practice pal and piano journal. I'm stretching my wings into some unfamiliar territory with a sporty football themed recital readiness program. It'll be a kick. Get ready to meet me on the court, errr I mean field. (Bear with me, I'm trying!) We've spent the summer hard at work becoming music reading Ninjas. It's working so well, I intend to keep it up for a bit longer and then, in the spirit of togetherness, we're ALL going to become Rhythm Machines. To keep students busy and engaged during my two-week August planning period, I'll be reviving the ancient art of snail-mail correspondence with a collaborative composition activity titled Mail-a-Motive. Students should start checking their *outdoor* mailbox the week of August 14th for a letter addressed specifically to them.

For my teens and adults, I want you to know that I am devoted to the goal of unearthing what inspires and motivates you, and building a balanced program around that. I want your piano study to be your refuge. I think you'll find, that in a world that has grown numb to fast-paced distractions, unplugging and becoming lost in your own concentration is the new luxury. Practicing piano is and has always been my most potent vice. I hope it will be for you too. What a wonderful gift to give yourself!

For my competitors working towards AMTA auditions in the spring, brace yourselves. Each competition year, I develop a keener sense of how I can best guide your preparation. Very soon, you'll start receiving assignments from me through Edmodo to help you mentally prepare for the theory portion of the exam. Students with lengthier advanced repertoire have already gotten their required pieces off the ground. If you hang in there with me, and meet each of my micro goals along the way, you will soar through this challenge with confidence.

Tuition rates will be adjusted for inflation beginning in the Fall. Unfortunately, routine rate adjustment is necessary for sustaining economic viability. Hopefully the minor change will not cause a hardship. New rates for the Fall, Winter, and Spring Quarters:

30 Minute Private Lesson: \$276, 3 monthly installments \$92
45 Minute Private Lesson: \$372, 3 monthly installments \$124
60 Minute Private Lesson: \$477, 3 monthly installments \$159

