

Let's Play The Piano™ 

# **PROGRAMS & REGISTRATION**

2008 - 2009

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423A New Karner Road, Suite 2, Albany, NY 12205

518-690-0703 • [www.LetsPlayThePiano.com](http://www.LetsPlayThePiano.com)

# Let's Play The Piano™

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**423A New Karner Road, Suite 2  
Albany, NY 12205  
518.690.0703  
[www.letsplaythepiano.com](http://www.letsplaythepiano.com)**

Let's Play The Piano™ located at 423A (there is also a 423—not us!)  
I-87 to exit 2W/Route 5 west (Central Avenue) toward Schenectady for 1.9 miles.  
Turn right on New Karner Road (Route 155). Go 4/10 miles to a right into Shaker  
Park West. Follow road to the end. We are the last building on the left-423A.

**Please enter Let's Play The Piano™ through the Blue Door!**

***We look forward to meeting you!***

- ◆ Registration for classes is ongoing—you may register at any time. New-mid-semester students are accepted according to class availability. For most students, a few private lessons may be all that is needed to enter one of the piano classes. Tuition is prorated. Please call us if you have questions 518.690.0703 or email Joanne at [joanne@c4oe.com](mailto:joanne@c4oe.com)
- ◆ New classes are formed and changed as needed. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you do not see what you are looking for in this catalog!



**The yearly registration fee is \$30 per student or \$50 per family when more than one family member is enrolled.**

# 2008—2009 Studio Calendar

Fall Semester (September 15, 2008 – January 31, 2009) - 17 Weeks

September 15 First Week of Classes & Lessons

October 24 Fall Piano Party 7 to 8:30 pm

November 17-22 Bring a Friend Week

November 24-28 Thanksgiving Week—No classes or lessons

December 13 Holiday Music Performance Day 2 to 4 pm

December 22—January 2—Holiday Break—No classes or lessons

January 31 End of Fall Semester

Spring Semester (February 1, 2009 – June 13, 2009) - 17 Weeks

February 1 Spring Semester Starts

February 16-20 Presidents' Week—No classes or lessons

April 13-17 Spring Break—No classes or lessons

April 24 Spring Piano Party 7 to 8:30 pm

May 11-16 Spring Bring a Friend Week

June 13 End of Spring Semester

June 13 Spring Music Performance Day 2 to 4 pm

*The two weeks following the end of Spring Semester will be used to make up missed classes, private, partner & small group lessons*

June 14-20 Class & Lesson Make-Up Week #1— All students attend

June 21-27 Class & Lesson Make-Up Week #2— All students attend

Dates To Be Determined— Summer Session Classes & Private Lessons

***The studio does not hold lessons during the following holiday weeks:  
Thanksgiving, Christmas, Presidents' Week & Spring Break***

## **INCLEMENT WEATHER**

The studio posts closings due to inclement weather on our website at [www.letsplaythepiano.com](http://www.letsplaythepiano.com) and on the school's phone message. We will also attempt to email everyone. No classes will be made up in the event of emergency closings. There are two weeks immediately after the end of the school year in May when piano classes & private lessons cancelled due to inclement weather will be made up.

## **BRING A FRIEND WEEKS**

Share what you love to do with a good friend! Each semester we hold one "Bring A Friend Week". Students are welcome to bring a friend who does not currently attend Let's Play The Piano™. The friend may watch or participate in the piano class or lesson. Invitations will be distributed to give to friends. We look forward to meeting them!

## **PIANO PARTIES**

One Piano Party is held each semester. This is an informal opportunity for students to play for each other, play musical games and engage in other music-related activities and then socialize over refreshments. They are both fun and beneficial. Kids get low pressure performance experience, learn & reinforce their musical knowledge in a group setting, and meet & have fun with each other in piano. Students are asked to bring treats to share during refreshment time.

## **MUSIC PERFORMANCE DAYS**

One Music Performance Days is held at the end of each semester. They are fun and festive events! Everything about them is different from traditional piano recitals. The students are not required to perform or to memorize their pieces so as to minimize nervousness and pressure (but they may if they wish). Printed programs are available for all of our guests. It is also our policy to allow Let's Play The Piano™ students to wear whatever they choose for their Performance Days. This saves parents from having to buy special "recital outfits" and encourages students' freedom of expression.

## **PIANO RENTALS**

To help families as they begin piano lessons, minimize initial investment and build confidence that a piano purchase is sound, we offer rentals of digital pianos, both used and new. Call us for details at 518-690-0703 or email joanne at [joanne@c4oe.com](mailto:joanne@c4oe.com)



## Our mission

To provide students with the experience, knowledge, and skills to enjoy music for a lifetime in a warm, caring, supportive environment. We believe that learning to play the piano should be fun while at the same time learning the traditional fundamentals.

## The curriculum

Lessons at the studio are offered in groups of no more than eight students of the same age and level on Yamaha Clavinova digital pianos. Students participating in group lessons progress rapidly, are less likely to drop out, and are motivated by peer dynamics and enthusiasm. The studio also offers private and partner lessons, as well as small group lessons for students ages 6 through and including adults.

## The instructors

Instructors at the studio are experienced, degreed professionals who value a positive learning environment. Their background with children and music make them exceptionally qualified and friendly, with high expectations for success in their students.

### Dr. Joseph Eppink “Dr. E.”, Studio Music Director



Dr. Joseph Eppink is Coordinator of Music Education and Associate Professor in Music Education & Organ at The College of Saint Rose in Albany New York. Dr. Eppink also serves as Organist/Choirmaster at St. Andrew’s Episcopal in Albany. He has earned degrees from Western Michigan University, Indiana University and his Doctorate in Arts at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana.

Dr. Eppink was an Elementary Music Specialist teaching grades K-6 for the Elkhart Community Schools in Elkhart, Indiana for 10 years. During that time he also served as the Organist/Choirmaster at the Episcopal Church of St. John the Evangelist in Elkhart and the Conductor/Founder of the Elkhart Boys Choir. The Elkhart Boys Choir gave several performance tours and performed for the Indiana State Music Educators Association under his direction.

Dr. Eppink has given numerous national and international organ recitals in addition to music education and church music workshops. His area of research is in alternative assessment strategies in the music classroom. He has been published in *Teaching Music* and *The American Organist* and soon to be in *General Music Today*. He enjoys traveling around the world, exploring new adventures, cooking, and bringing groups to experience new cultures through the wonderful world of music



**Parents are always welcome to observe lessons & classes at the studio.**

# Piano classes and lessons

*It is the goal of the studio to educate, encourage and inspire functional musicians in a positive and enjoyable environment.*

**Piano Lessons** We pride ourselves in teaching to all learning styles through a variety of curriculum activities, hands on theory, improvisation, learning games, technique, ear training and repertoire development. Curriculum objectives are designed to develop a natural sequence of skills for success.

**Music for Little Mozarts** combines general musicianship activities with activities that develop performance skills at the piano. Skills taught in the course focus on keyboard performance, listening, pitch matching, keyboard technique, singing, rhythm, movement, and music appreciation. Children will play pieces at the piano throughout each level. Students follow the adventures of Beethoven Bear and Mozart Mouse from the playroom to the recital stage as they learn about music. Ages 5 & 6—Please note: Only register for Music For Little Mozarts 2 if you have participated in the first year of Music For Little Mozarts.

**Beginner Piano for Adults & Teens** is a comprehensive course in reading, playing, and listening to music. The adult beginner will learn to play music for pleasure while developing musical understanding. The student will enjoy playing familiar songs, learn to play chords and gain an understanding of the basic harmony while developing music reading skills. It's never too late to learn how to play the piano! This class welcomes the complete beginner or folks who are a bit rusty on the keys! This class is for teens as well as adults.

**Private Lessons** are provided for students ages 6 to and including all adults. The musical education we provide in our lessons is a joy for any age or level. Private lessons are by arrangement at a mutually agreed upon time. Students may sign up for private lessons at any time during the year. 30 minute private lessons are offered.

**Partner Lessons** are lessons in which an instructor works with two students of similar skills and abilities. The stimulating social interaction of two students playing together and encouraging each other is an atmosphere which is ideal for learning. 30-minute partner lessons are offered for ages 6 to adult. Dr. will evaluate skill levels to determine partner matching.

**Small Group Lessons** are lessons in which an instructor works with 3 to 5 students of similar skills and abilities. Each student plays their own piano and receives both individual and group instruction. Students are introduced to new skills in the group every week. 50-minute small group lessons are offered for ages 6 to adult. Dr. will evaluate skill levels to determine participants for small group lessons.

*Piano Adventures by Faber and Faber* constitute the basis for our weekly partner and small group lessons. Supplementary materials are suggested by the instructor but balanced by the interests of the student. *Piano Adventures* is organized into units to teach the major concepts and skills but earlier concepts are constantly reinforced as students progress. A wide range of styles in musical material help to develop musicianship and encourages personal expression. This series emphasizes reading music and music theory as well as creativity, and discovery.

## **Missed Lesson Policy**

Your lesson time is reserved exclusively for you. If you must miss a private lesson, as a courtesy, please call ahead as early as possible and let us know you are not coming. There are no refunds for missed lessons (private, partner, small group). Instructors are in the studio and are paid for missed lessons. There are two built-in make-up weeks at the end of the Spring Semester in June. All students are entitled to attend these two weeks even if they have not missed a lesson!



## 2008-2009 Piano Program Tuition & Information

Class	Ages	Day of Class	Time of Class	1 Semester 17 weeks	2 Semesters 34 weeks	Registration Fee	Class Length Class Size
<b>Music For Little Mozarts 1</b>	5 & 6 years	Wednesdays	5:00-5:50 pm	\$390 (\$23 per class) Includes all books, supplies, activities, parties & a subscription to "Piano Explorer" magazine	\$750 (\$22 per class) Includes all books, supplies, activities, parties & a subscription to "Piano Explorer" magazine	\$30	50-Minute Classes Weekly Maximum: 8 Students
<b>Music For Little Mozarts 2</b> Student Must have taken Music For Little Mozarts 1	6 & 7 years	Mondays	6:00-6:50 pm	\$390 (\$23 per class) Includes all books, supplies, activities, parties & a subscription to "Piano Explorer" magazine	\$750 (\$22 per class) Includes all books, supplies, activities, parties & a subscription to "Piano Explorer" magazine	\$30	50-Minute Classes Weekly Maximum: 8 Students
<b>Beginner Piano for Adults &amp; Teens</b>	Teens & Adults	Mondays	7:30-8:30 pm	\$390 (\$23 per class) Includes all books, supplies & activities	\$750 (\$22 per class) Includes all books, supplies & activities	\$30	60-Minute Classes Weekly Maximum:8 Students
<b>Private Lessons</b>	6 years old- Adult	Day To Be Determined	30-Minutes Time To Be Determined	\$460 (\$27 per lesson) Includes all books, supplies, activities, parties & a subscription to "Piano Explorer" magazine <b>Lesson books are billed separately</b>	\$810 (\$25 per lesson) Includes all books, supplies, activities, parties & a subscription to "Piano Explorer" magazine <b>Lesson books are billed separately</b>	\$30	30-Minute Private Lessons Weekly
<b>Partner Lessons</b> Lesson for 2 students of similar skills & ability	6 years old- Adult	Day To Be Determined	30-Minutes Time To Be Determined	\$290 each (\$17 per lesson) Includes all books, supplies, activities, parties & a subscription to "Piano Explorer" magazine <b>Lesson books are billed separately</b>	\$545 each (\$16 per lesson) Includes all books, supplies, activities, parties & a subscription to "Piano Explorer" magazine <b>Lesson books are billed separately</b>	\$30	30-Minute Lessons for 2 students together Weekly
<b>Small Group Lessons</b> Lesson for 3-5 students of similar skills & ability	6 years old- Adult	Day To Be Determined	50-Minutes Time To Be Determined	\$408 (\$24 per lesson) Includes all books, supplies, activities, parties & a subscription to "Piano Explorer" magazine <b>Lesson books are billed separately</b>	\$780 (\$23 per lesson) Includes all books, supplies, activities, parties & a subscription to "Piano Explorer" magazine <b>Lesson books are billed separately</b>	\$30	50-Minute Classes Weekly 3-5 Students

### How to register

*Please fill out and mail the following:*

- ◆ Signed Registration Form (one for each student and class) - Pages 9 & 10 of this catalog. Additional forms are available on our website: [www.letsplaythepiano.com](http://www.letsplaythepiano.com)
- ◆ Signed Studio Policy Forms (enclosed with this catalog)
- ◆ Your Registration Fee of \$30 or \$50 for a family when more than one family member is registering. You may pay by cash, money order, check, Visa, MasterCard or Discover.
  - ◆ Remember, the registration fee must accompany your registration form in order for your registration to be processed.
  - ◆ You may also enclose your tuition. Tuition is due one week prior to the first day of class.





# LET'S PLAY THE PIANO STUDIO POLICY

*Please read the following guidelines carefully.*

**REGISTRATION PROCESS:** In order to register a student in one of our programs, fill out and mail the following:

- ◆ Signed Registration Form—one form for EACH student and class  
Additional forms are available on our website: [www.letsplaythepiano.com](http://www.letsplaythepiano.com)
- ◆ Signed Studio Policy Form
- ◆ Your Registration Fee of \$30 or \$50 for a family when more than one family member is registering. You may pay by cash, money order, check, Visa, MasterCard or Discover.

Please remember, the registration fee must accompany your registration form in order for your registration to be processed. This reserves a seat in the class or lesson.

*You may also enclose your tuition. Tuition is due one week prior to the first day of class.*

Private lesson, partner lesson & small group lesson students will be billed for books and sheet music as needed. Private lesson tuition includes activities, piano parties, Music Performance Days & a subscription to "Piano Explorer" magazine (a national monthly magazine for piano students).

Piano Class tuition includes all books, supplies, activities, piano parties, Music Performance Days & a subscription to "Piano Explorer" magazine. (a national monthly magazine for piano students).

**PAYMENT OF TUITION FOR CLASSES:** Tuition for the 2008-2009 piano programs are based on two 17-week semesters. Tuition fees vary depending on the program. These fees are due promptly in accordance with one of the following payment plans:

- ◆ Complete payment on enrollment for the entire year (2 semesters - 34 weeks) prior to the first class. *There is a built-in discount on this option.*
- ◆ Payment for a half year (1 semester-17 weeks) prior to the first class.

Let's Play The Piano™ reserves the right to suspend or discontinue instruction of any student who is delinquent in fulfilling financial obligations. A late fee of \$25 will be added to overdue accounts. No deductions from fees will be made for absences or withdrawal during the year. A \$25 fee will be charged for each returned check.

**CANCELLATION OF CLASSES:** The school reserves the right to add or delete courses, change times, fees or instructors at its discretion. The school also reserves the right to cancel classes for insufficient enrollment. If a class does not meet minimum enrollment 24 hours before the first class, the class may be cancelled. Students will be notified and given the opportunity to enroll in another class or receive a full refund. Refunds will be issued within 30 days.

**PRIVATE LESSONS, PARTNER LESSONS & SMALL GROUP LESSONS:** A schedule of lessons will be established with the school according to the availability of the teacher and the student(s). Because of teachers' full schedules, students who are late for a lesson cannot be guaranteed their full lesson time.

**MISSED LESSON POLICY:** Your lesson time is reserved exclusively for you. If you must miss a private lesson, as a courtesy, please call ahead as early as possible and let us know you are not coming so we may offer that time slot to another student for the day. There are no refunds for missed lessons (private, partner, small group). Instructors are in the studio and are paid for missed lessons. There are two built-in make-up weeks at the end of the Spring Semester in June. All students are entitled to attend these two weeks even if they have not missed a lesson!

**CLASS LESSONS:** Piano class size is limited to a maximum of eight students. Each student will have the use of a Yamaha Clavinova digital piano. There are no make-up lessons for piano classes. There are two built-in make-up weeks at the end of the Spring Semester in June. All students are entitled to attend these two weeks even if they have not missed a class!

**ATTENDANCE:** Students will benefit most from classes if attendance is consistent. Please make your best effort to schedule your events leaving enough time so that you arrive on time for class and lessons and you do not have to leave early. When students are in a rush to make a deadline elsewhere following the lesson, they may be distracted and unable to focus. It is important for you to bring the required material to class.

**INCLEMENT WEATHER:** The studio posts closings due to inclement weather on our website and on the school's phone message. We will also attempt to contact you through email. There are two weeks immediately after the end of the school year in May when piano classes & private lessons will be made up.

**WITHDRAWAL:** Notification of withdrawal from lessons or classes must be received in writing and is effective from the date the written withdrawal is received, not the date of the last lesson attended. Teacher notification is not considered formal notice of withdrawal. Non-attendance is not considered a withdrawal.

**MUSIC PERFORMANCE DAY:** Each student will have the opportunity to participate in a Music Performance Day at the end of each semester. These are fun and festive events! This school year, Music Performance Days are scheduled for December 13, 2008 & June 13, 2009. Participation is not required, but highly recommended.

**PARENTS' WAITING ROOM:** Please do not leave unattended children in the waiting room. All children in the waiting room need to observe appropriate indoor behavior.

**FOOD AND DRINK:** You are welcome to help yourself to refreshments in the waiting room. Please help us keep our piano studio clean and help prevent damage to our pianos and instruments. No food or beverages are permitted in the piano studio.

**CARE OF STUDENTS:** Let's Play The Piano™ cannot be responsible for the care of students before or after class. We ask that you arrive promptly at the end of your child's class. For the safety of all children, we also ask parents to come into the school to pick their children up. We do not allow children out in the parking lot unaccompanied.

**BEHAVIOR:** If you are observing a class, please step out of the classroom with young children who are exhibiting disruptive behavior, (such as crying), regroup and come back into the classroom. Temper tantrums can disrupt and distract the other children and teacher.

**PHOTO RELEASE:** Let's Play The Piano™ is hereby granted permission to take photographs of students to use in brochures, the school's website, posters, advertisements or other promotional materials the school creates. Permission is also hereby granted for the school to copyright such photographs in its name.

**LIABILITY:** By enrolling at Let's Play The Piano™, parents or legal guardians agree that Let's Play The Piano™ shall in no manner be liable for any accident, injury, loss, theft, or damage which may be sustained on the premises in conjunction with any school related activity or function. Children under the age of 8 may not be left unattended on Let's Play The Piano™ premises. Children (under the age of 8) arriving for lessons or classes are to be escorted to their teacher and met at the classroom door at the end of each lesson. Let's Play The Piano™ is not responsible for any personal belongings left on the premises.

By enrolling your child in Let's Play The Piano™, you are introducing your child to the joy of music. At our studio we encourage and expect parental involvement and hope that you will enjoy taking part in your child's music education. We ask that you agree to encourage your child in his/her musical studies and ensure that your child successfully practices to the teacher's specifications, arrives on time for class with all necessary materials and attends all scheduled classes.

By signing below, I am stating that I have read this form and agree to abide by this Release and General Policies that are mentioned. This agreement and policies shall be effective during any/all classes at any/all times that a student is enrolled in Let's Play The Piano™.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF PERSONAL RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYMENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE



# PIANO CLASS & PRIVATE LESSON REGISTRATION FORM



## CONTACT INFORMATION (Adult students only need to fill out this side)

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Male or Female \_\_\_\_\_

Does student have any previous music experience? Yes No If answer is yes, how long? \_\_\_\_\_

With whom? \_\_\_\_\_

Best Phone # To Contact You \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about us?

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mailing     | <input type="checkbox"/> Capital District Parent Pages |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Our Website | <input type="checkbox"/> Referral (who?) _____         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Internet    | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                   |

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: Mother \_\_\_\_\_ Father \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_ Age as of Sept '08 \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Level (Fall 2008) \_\_\_\_\_ School District Student Attends \_\_\_\_\_

Information that would be helpful for the teacher to know (all responses are confidential)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## HOW TO REGISTER:

- Please fill out ONE registration form for EACH student and class  
*Additional forms are available on our website: [www.letsplaythepiano.com](http://www.letsplaythepiano.com)*
- Choose class or lesson from the back of this form  
Indicate whether you are signing up for 17 weeks or 34 weeks (discount tuition)
- Include a signed Studio Policy Form with your registration
- Include your non-refundable registration fee  
*\$30 OR \$50 per family when more than one family member is enrolling*
- The registration fee MUST accompany your registration form in order for your registration to be processed
- Tuition for the class or lesson is due no later than one week prior to the first class
- Please mail or bring your registration to:  
Let's Play The Piano, 423A New Karner Road, Suite 2, Albany, NY 12205

## PAYMENT METHOD (Choose One)

**CHECK**  
Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

**CREDIT CARD**  
Amount authorized \_\_\_\_\_

Visa  MasterCard  Discover

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date (mm/yy) \_\_\_\_\_ 3 digit code on back of card \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address :

House/Street # \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail or bring your registration to: Let's Play The Piano, 423A New Karner Road, Suite 2, Albany, NY 12205**

**Please include: Registration form, Registration Fee and signed Studio Policy Form (you may also include tuition)**





## Please Choose: Class & Lessons 17 weeks or 34 weeks

Select Class	17 Weeks	34 Weeks	Class/Age	Class Time	Tuition 1 Semester 17 weeks	Tuition 2 Semesters 34 weeks	17 Week & 34 Week Tuition Includes	Registration Fee Non-Refundable
			<b>Music For Little Mozarts 1</b> 5 & 6 year olds	Wednesdays 5:00-5:50 pm	\$390 50 min class	\$750 50 min class	All books, supplies, activities, & subscription to "Piano Explorer" magazine	\$30 \$50 family
			<b>Music For Little Mozarts 2</b> 6 & 7 year olds <i>Student must have taken Music For Little Mozarts 1</i>	Mondays 6:00-6:50 pm	\$390 50 min class	\$750 50 min class	All books, supplies, activities, & subscription to "Piano Explorer" magazine	\$30 \$50 family
			<b>Beginner Piano for Adults &amp; Teens</b> Teens/Adults	Mondays 7:30-8:30 pm	\$390 50 min class	\$750 50 min class	Includes all books,, supplies & activities	\$30 \$50 family
			<b>Private Lessons</b> 6 + years-Adult 30-Minute Lessons	Day & Time To Be Determined	\$460 30 min lesson	\$810 30 min lesson	All supplies, activities, & subscription to "Piano Explorer" magazine <b>Lesson books are billed separately</b>	\$30 \$50 family
			<b>Partner Lessons</b> 6 + years-Adult 30-minute lessons for 2 students of similar skills & ability	Day & Time To Be Determined	\$290/Student 30 min lesson	\$545/Student 30 min lesson	All supplies, activities, & subscription to "Piano Explorer" magazine <b>Lesson books are billed separately</b>	\$30 \$50 family
			<b>Small Group Lessons</b> 6 + years-Adult 50-minute lessons for 3-5 students of similar skills & ability	Day & Time To Be Determined	\$408/Student 50 min lesson	\$780/Student 50 min lesson	All supplies, activities, & subscription to "Piano Explorer" magazine <b>Lesson books are billed separately</b>	\$30 \$50 family



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# Tips for Practicing

Practice is essential to the success of learning to play any instrument. Parents should set aside a specific time for their child for daily practice. Beginners need only 5-15 minutes per day. The age and skill level of the student will determine how many minutes of practice are needed. The real key to practice is that it must be Done daily. Ten minutes per day has a far more reaching impact than one 60 minute practice session per week. This is crucial to progress in the study of any musical instrument.

We all know there are weeks where it is just “too crazy” to get normal practice times in. This is perfectly acceptable. Any vacations, holidays, or weekends away from home, or family emergencies can suspend practicing. Basically, just do your best!

## **Encourage Your Child As Much As Possible.**

Be sure to praise effort as well as accomplishment. Commend your child’s efforts in learning a piece, not just the accomplishments. Even if your child does not learn as fast as another, in the long run, hard work will determine the final result. There is no better way to bring about the hard work than to reward the effort. Try to express interest in what your child is doing, even if you are getting tired of hearing "Chopsticks".

## **Provide As Much Cultural Enrichment As Possible.**

The experience of listening to music without the pressure of having to play the notes correctly can add greatly to your child's appreciation for music generally and lessons in particular. Go to concerts with your children whenever possible. Introduce your children to the works of the masters by playing the music in your home.

## **Avoid Negative Criticism.**

Most of us respond better to thoughtful, loving help than undirected criticism. If your child seems uncooperative, it may mean that they need more help, encouragement, and support. Punishment is usually not a long-term solution.

## **Make Sure Your Child Knows That You Consider Music a Serious Commitment.**

Schedule piano practice time for your child just as regularly as you do Little League or soccer practice. See to it that practice sessions are as free as possible from distractions.

## **Provide Performance Opportunities For Your Child.**

Line up your child’s favorite stuffed animals as an audience. Set up the baby or your dog or pet and introduce them as the audience. Encourage your child to play for friends, relatives or family members

.....  
There will be "ups" and "downs" along the way - there will be times when your child will be eager and excited to play the piano, and there will be other times when it will be up to you to be the leader and help them stay on course. It is natural for a child to sometimes not "feel like practicing:", or even to have periods when he or she may want to quit taking piano lessons. In such cases there are several things to consider:

1. You as a parent know best what is good for your child, and you can see the long term consequences, while your child can not. You would not let them to quit going to school if, for a time they do not want to go, and later on your child will be grateful to you for that. Many adults are not happy that they stopped taking piano lessons as children.
2. It is very important to encourage children to persist and achieve in every area of their life, not to develop a "quitter" attitude.
3. Talk to the piano instructor about the issue, and to your child - sometimes a little extra encouragement, or a change in the repertoire can work out miracles. The piano instructor has a variety of methods, and experience to draw on, and will choose the best solution depending on your child's needs and personality.
4. Lastly, if you find out that your child's desire to stop taking piano lessons is not just a temporary period of discouragement, but that he or she has truly lost interest, it will be better to find an alternative activity that they will enjoy.



# Let's Play The Piano™

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Albany, NY 12205

518.690.0703

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**Classes begin  
September 15th**

**Please Register  
Early!!  
Class Spaces  
are Limited!**

**Let's Play The Piano™** helps students from 5 years old to teens to adults explore musical expression through creative piano teaching. Our focus is to create a unique and inspiring experience for everyone by offering a fun and relaxed approach to piano study. We offer Music for Little Mozarts, Piano Adventures, Adult Piano, private lessons, partner lessons & summer programs. Music is a great joy and learning how to make music should be an equally joyful and grand journey for everyone!

*A Happy Place Filled With The Sounds of Music!*