

“Practice is the Best Teacher”

Handbook Agreement 2026 - 2027

Policies, and Procedures, and Lesson Contract

Contact Information

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Mission Statement

The mission of Wright Music Academy is to prepare students and instill a lifelong love of music through a supportive, nurturing, and cross-disciplinary approach to teaching the fundamentals of music, technique, artistry, and musical expression.

Vision Statement

Wright Music Academy will prepare each student to develop into a well-rounded musician, lasting them for the rest of their lives using academic methods, pedagogical approaches, and measurable evaluation methodology.

The School Rules for Parents

Please wait quietly in the waiting area and do not wander around the school. You are welcome to use the restroom.

Please make sure your child washes their hands BEFORE the lesson. Silence all devices. Siblings may come to wait quietly but must be supervised by parents. Please do not allow your children to play in the parking lot

The school rules for students

Be sure to practice**.**
Come prepared for your lesson.
WASH your hands before your lesson AT the school
NO FOOD, DRINK, GUM, or CANDY in the music studios/classrooms.

Parent Expectations

The "**Magic 4**" combo - to maximize your investment with the best results:
Students who do well on their instrument and progress in their lessons do four things:

1. Have a suitable practice instrument in an environment free of distractions
2. Involved in activities and festivals
3. Read music every day and work to increase their reading skills through specialized assignments
4. Have a regularly scheduled daily practice time

Younger students benefit when parents observe the lesson. Doing so helps the parent understand what their child is supposed to work on for the week. As a result, many parents find themselves learning music too!

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Student Responsibility

Daily practice is required and should be treated like homework that must be done each day. A well-prepared student will get the full value out of their weekly lesson. In the lessons, our teachers will help guide and teach your child effective practice techniques so that they can use their time well and maximize their results.

General 6-7 days a week practice guideline:

- 6-7 years old: 15-20 minutes a day
- 8-9 years old: 20-25 minutes a day
- 10-11 years old: 25-30 minutes a day
- 12-13 years old: 30-40 minutes a day
- 14-15 years old: 45+ minutes a day
- 16 years old and older: 45+ minutes a day

Recitals and Activities

There will be recitals in November/December and April. A recital fee of $40.00 per student per year will be assessed in November regardless of participation. We also encourage students to participate in Katy Music Teachers Associations (KMTA) opportunities to enhance their experience. There are fees associated with the KMTA events. To participate, the student must be prepared to the satisfaction of the instructor. Fees are non-refundable.

The Royal Conservatory of Music Curriculum and Exams

For a more rigorous approach to music study, we offer the Royal Conservatory of Music (RCM) curriculum at the school. Upon completion of each level, students may choose to take practical and/or theory exams. The exams require dedication and commitment to studying regularly. Please speak with your teacher about what levels will be appropriate for your child.

Materials and Instruments

Piano: All students need an acoustic piano that is tuned at least once a year or an appropriate digital piano. Students will need a metronome for daily practice. You may purchase a free app for your smart device or buy a free-standing metronome.
A digital piano is acceptable if it meets the following criteria:

- 88 keys
- Touch sensitive (can make piano sound loud or soft depending on amount of force used)
- Weighted keys (fully weighted NOT semi-weighted)
- Sustain/damper pedal
- Appropriate bench that is the right height
- A free-standing instrument; a tabletop keyboard is not acceptable

You may also contact Larry Harms, Houston Piano Company, at (832) 674-0222 for piano rental and purchase consultation or Miles, Sturch, and Westbrook at 832-338-1237

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Stringed Instruments: All students should have an appropriate instrument that meets the instructor's satisfaction. Your instructor will guide you and let you know about the best options for you, including selecting a tuner/metronome combo.

Attendance Policies

Each semester, you and your teacher will schedule your lesson day/time. This school year, 2026-2027, there are 14 lessons in the fall (September-December), 18 in the spring (January-May), and 10 in the summer (June-August). Your lessons are scheduled for the same day and time from week to week. If you need to reschedule a lesson due to unavoidable, unforeseen conflicts, please speak with your teacher at least 24 hours prior to your lesson. Any request made less than 24 hours before the lesson is considered forfeited and will not be rescheduled. Up to two lessons can be rescheduled per term. This is to guarantee student progress and teacher's preparation for your lessons. (For Group Lesson students only: you will have 14 group lessons each term; however, lessons cannot be rescheduled.)

Illness Policy: If your child is sick, we urge you to keep your child home. Children who have a fever are not permitted to enter the school and will be sent home. This is to protect everyone at that school and keep us all safe! Your missed lesson will be rearranged based on your child's and teacher's availability. While a 24-hour notice is not required due to illness, kindly let us know when you decide to miss a lesson and provide a doctor's note or email conversation with your child's school. Please notify us right away when you realize your child is sick. (For Group Lesson students only: missed lessons cannot be rescheduled.)

Inclement Weather Policy: In the event of inclement weather, virtual lessons are taught when the teacher or the student cannot come to school. Please note that when internet and electricity services are not affected in the area, WMA will remain open, hence missed lessons are not to be rescheduled. (For Group Lesson students only: lessons will be rescheduled.)

All private lessons will be scheduled around your academic and travel schedule:

Terms	Dates	# of Lessons	Withdraw Deadline
Fall	Sep 1 – Dec 30	14	Aug 1, 2026
Spring	Jan 4 – May 30	18	Dec 2, 2026
Summer	June 1 – Aug 30	10	April 18, 2027

All group lessons are offered same day/time weekly:

Terms	Dates	# of Lessons	Auto Re-enrollment
Fall	Sep 1 – Dec 30	14	Yes
Spring	Jan 4 – May 30	14	Yes
Summer	June 1 – Aug 30	14	For Violin Only

(All group lesson students will be promoted to private lessons within one year of study.)

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Tuition Rates

The tuition rates on this policy will remain the same from September 2026 - August 2027. Parents should expect a 2%-5% increase in tuition each year.

Please remember that private lesson students receive 42 private lessons throughout the year, while group lessons receive 14 lessons per term. The lessons are arranged throughout the year to reflect Katy ISD/Lamar CISD school calendar.

Private Lessons	**Total Tuition for 42 Lessons***	**Or 3 Equal Payments of**
30-min Program of Study	$ 2,160.00	$ 720.00
45-min Program of Study	$ 3,240.00	$ 1,080.00
60-min Program of Study	$ 4,320.00	$ 1,440.00
Group Lessons	**Full Year Tuition for 42 Lessons***	**Tuition per Term for 14 Lessons**
45-min Program of Study	$ 1,680.00	$ 560.00

Your private tuition includes the following:

- Guaranteed and secured placement in Wright Music Academy Center for the Arts
- 42 Private Lessons (14 lessons in the fall, 18 in the spring, and 10 in the summer)
- Performance and workshop opportunities within Wright Music Academy and Katy Music Teachers Association festivals
- Competition and opportunities to encourage students to excel and perform at a high level
- Winter and Spring Recitals

Private lessons are *contract based* annually, taught in three terms, Fall, Spring and Summer. However, your contract can be terminated by filling out a withdraw form online before the term withdraw deadline (see page 4). The withdraw action must be confirmed by WMA to avoid the $100 termination fee per student and your financial responsibility. Students are released from the subsequent term on.

Should a student choose to withdraw from private lessons in the middle of a term, a written notice and a $100 termination fee will be required per student. Students are released four lessons after your withdraw form is approved. Remaining prepaid and unused tuition will be refunded if any remains. Once a withdraw notice is given, lessons cannot be rescheduled and are taught as previously planned.

A Special Note About Summer Lessons

Summer is a great opportunity to enhance your skills as a musician. Upon signing your private lesson contract with Wright Music Academy Center for the Arts, all students are entitled for ten summer lessons. Due to the dynamic nature of the summer months, flexibility in scheduling

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allows lessons to be reserved and reflects frequent changes of travel plans.

Music lessons and athletics offer similar benefits to those who are aiming to accomplish. Like sports, continued progress in the music field is achieved by those willing to put in the time and effort - and those who put in more time and effort will reap more rewards.

Group Piano Class

Children in group lessons benefit from learning collaboration skills, peer to peer mentoring, and extra motivation to succeed and do more at the piano. Each class is 30-45 minutes long, for up to 8 students. Students may enroll in up to three terms of study and will be promoted to private lessons. For the continuation of your learning, automatic re-enrollment will occur for the Spring and Summer terms. If your teacher suggests an early promotion to private lessons, your prepaid and unused tuition will be converted to private tuition credit.

To participate in group class, students must have their own *PianoMarvel Premium* account and practice setup with a computer/tablet and digital piano. Please go to PianoMarvel.com to set up your account using your email address and put the following email address in the teacher email field: wrightmusicacademy@mac.com.

Although this class is not contract based, you may cease re-enrollment by notifying the school before your final class, should you decide to discontinue your study.

Payment

Each family must have a credit card on file to enroll with Wright Music Academy. Tuition is automatically charged on September 1st, January 1st, and May 1st. Please note that your tuition is prepaid in advance. If payment fails on the process date, there will be a $15.00 late fee assessed to the account within 5 days. We honor a 5% discount* on your full-year tuition when paid in full.

Photo Release Agreement for Parents/Guardians of Child Performers

As the legal parent/guardian, you hereby grant permission to WRIGHT MUSIC ACADEMY CENTER FOR THE ARTS to use photographs and/or video recordings of my child, taken during musical performances, lessons, rehearsals, or related events organized or sponsored by the Katy Music Teachers Association and the Texas Music Teachers Association.

You understand and agree to the following terms and conditions:

1. Purpose: The photographs and/or video recordings may be used for promotional and marketing purposes related to your child including website content, social media, brochures, posters, newsletters, and other advertising materials

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2. Release and Consent: You give WRIGHT MUSIC ACADEMY CENTER FOR THE ARTS the right and permission to use, reproduce, edit, publish, and distribute the photographs and/or video recordings of my child, in whole or in part, without any restrictions or limitations, in any and all media formats.

3. Privacy and Safety: WRIGHT MUSIC ACADEMY CENTER FOR THE ARTS will make every effort to ensure that the images/videos used are appropriately and will not be used in any way that compromises the safety, security, or privacy of the child performers. Only first names will be used, addresses will not be published. This includes any magazine publications as required.

4. No Compensation: You understand and agree that neither you nor your child will receive any financial compensation or benefits for the use of the photographs and/or video recordings.

5. Waiver of Rights: You waive any right to inspect or approve the final products, including written copy, that may be used in conjunction with the photographs and/or video recordings, or the use to which they may be applied.

6. Release of Liability: You release WRIGHT MUSIC ACADEMY CENTER FOR THE ARTS, its representatives, employees, and any third parties acting under its permission or authority, from any liability for any claims, demands, or causes of action arising out of the use of the photographs and/or video recordings.

7. Duration: This release will remain valid until specified in writing.

Upon registration, you agree to the contract terms and the photo release policy above.

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Initial of acknowledgment by guardian or adult _____

THIS IS A CONTRACT

I understand that this is a contract agreement between Wright Music Academy and the guardian/student.

GAURDIAN / ADULT

_____ _____ Date Signed
(please type out your first and last name)

_____
(please sign your first and last name)

_____ _____Date Signed
WRIGHT MUSIC ACADEMY CENTER FOR THE ARTS, LLC

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