



The Music Calendar Explained

In order to better serve our students and to keep our tuition costs as low as possible, we are always refining our systems and schedules to improve both our efficiency and our availability. Here are two of the recent changes we have made for the music program.

1. We have cut down on the number of holidays that we are closed for music. You will see on the studio calendar that we are still closed on the major holidays but not the extra days that the public schools and our dance department normally take off. Thus, if you are in town over those periods, like Thanksgiving weekend, winter break, spring break, etc., plan on taking your lesson. This will provide continuity in your practice and not risk breaking your good practice habits and routines that are optimizing your music progress. If you *are* planning to be out of town during any of those vacation periods, ***no problem***. Just notify the front desk **a week in advance** and we will give you a credit for an excused absence or arrange a make-up lesson if an acceptable alternative time slot is available.
2. To support your family budgeting and minimize our administrative costs and tuition rates, we have always broken the September to June academic school year into blocks of four music lessons for automated billing purposes. These blocks are color-coded on the school calendar and the color of the month header corresponds to the color of the days covered by that monthly payment. However, due to the reduced number of holidays, we now have more than 40 days for lessons during those ten months. The number of extra days depends on the day of the week that your lesson is scheduled:
 - **Monday – 1 extra day**
 - **Tuesday – 3 extra days**
 - **Wednesday – 4 extra days**
 - **Thursday – 3 extra days**
 - **Friday – 1 extra day**
 - **Saturday – 1 extra day**
 - **Sunday – 2 extra days**

In order to get everyone on the same billing cycle at the start of the year, these days are **itemized and billed separately in September** apart from the normal 4-lesson September tuition block. Don't worry. You are not paying for lessons you are not receiving. You are just getting more lessons in the year because of your lesson day.

Finally, it is important that music students continue their study year-round if at all possible. But we also recognize the need for family vacations and travel in the summer. Therefore, we offer **flexible lesson scheduling in July and August**. Just notify the front desk at least **a week in advance** of your summer travel plans and we will issue excused absence credits for the days you are out of town.