

## PIANO STUDIO of LISA DE NORRIS

Dear Parents,

I want to begin by saying that I am excited about the new year, and I hope that I will be able to work with your child this school year. I feel like you should know one of the difficulties of piano study. Most children begin piano lessons with much enthusiasm; however, some children become a bit discouraged when they realize that they must practice to achieve what they want. If this happens to your child, we must help them through this slump. If sufficient practice is maintained, students do remain interested and experience the joy of accomplishment. I have several ways of encouraging them to do their best, but they must also have encouragement from you. Please help your child schedule a good practice time, because they will have to squeeze it in with homework, play time, and other extracurricular activities.

All students will need a one subject composition notebook (spiral on the side with pages that do not fall out easily) for me to write their assignment in. Please look at your child's assignment book after his/her lesson because, I often write notes, changes, or prices at the top of the assignment. Also, please help your child fill in the practice chart at the bottom of the assignment. It is beneficial for me to know how much each child practices. Stickers will be awarded according to how much practice is done each week. Here is the practice scale that I use based on 6 days per week:

	<u>Grades K5-1</u>	<u>Grades 2-6</u>	<u>Grades 7 &amp; up</u>
Good	10 min. daily	20 min. daily	30 min. daily
Excellent	20 min. daily	30 min. daily	45 min. daily
Super	30 min. daily	45 min. daily	60 min. daily

### **Encourage your child to achieve his / her highest potential.**

One child is chosen per week for "Student of the Week". I base this on practice time, accomplishment, and attitude. The children are up against each other, so I will have to select the child who did the very best even if everyone did super. The child selected will have his/her name put on the board for all to see and will receive a prize from the "Student Box" along with a certificate. Recognition will be given at the Spring Recital to the children who received "Student of the Week" throughout the year. Students that practice exceptionally well during the entire year will also be recognized. There will be four very important awards presented at the Spring Recital. These awards are: Appreciation (most pleasant), Dedication (most hard-working), Achievement (most progress), and Best Overall Student (fits all the above). These students will be given a certificate and a small award or trophy. This will give the students something to look forward to --- why not encourage your child to aim for one of these! If your child participates in the Festival and/or Auditions, these certificates will also be awarded at the Spring Recital.

**It is important that you read the following pages carefully. This mail-out contains policies and information for the entire school year, so please keep it handy rather than throwing it away or losing it! Please accept the responsibility for knowing the policies and dates of classes and holidays. I have made an effort to give you the important dates months in advance, so please do your best to set aside these dates for the sake of enhancing your child's musical education.**

Again, let me say that I am very excited about working with your child, and I will do all that I can to be the best possible teacher. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have. This new year will be the best yet!

Sincerely,

Lisa De Norris  
Cell# 350-1940