

Policies & Fees 2017 - 2018



Policies & Fees

Tuition*

Fall 2017 (13 Private Lessons, 12 Group Class Days)

Spring 2017 (17 Private Lessons, 16 Group Class Days)

30 minute lessons	\$595
45 minute lessons	\$735
60 minute lessons	\$835

30 minute lessons	\$750
45 minute lessons	\$950
60 minute lessons	\$1150

**Tuition includes weekly private lesson, group class lessons, graduation ribbon/trophies, t-shirt, accompanists' fees (for Fall Solo Recitals and group concerts), and administration fees.*

*** Fees subject to change each semester*

Payments

- Tuition is due:

For Fall 2017:

Mon, Aug 7th (full or ½ payment) **RECEIVE \$25 off each child if paying in full!**

Mon, Oct 9th (1/2 payment)

For Spring 2018

Mon, Dec 4th (full or 1/3 payment)) **RECEIVE \$25 off each child if paying in full!**

Mon, Feb 5th (1/3 payment)

Mon, Mar 26th (1/3 payment)

You may pay by credit card on our website (<http://www.sc.edu/music/suzuki>) or by cash or check. If you pay by cash or check, you must fill out a payment form (available on our website) and turn it in with payment to the SCHOOL OF MUSIC OFFICE attention to Sarah Evanovich or give this directly to her or to Dr. Humbert-Hughes. Please do not hand payments to your private teacher as they are unable to accept them. Receipts for cash are available upon request from Sarah Evanovich (sevanovich@mozart.sc.edu)

- Lessons will not begin (or continue) until payment has been received.
- Tuition is not pro-rated

Tuition Assistance & Scholarships

- The Suzuki Strings Program has very limited tuition assistance available to help those in need. We are hoping to hold more fundraising events this year to help increase these funds.
- Should you qualify for tuition assistance, we are asking for a small time commitment during the school year. The following are a few of the ways tuition assistance families can help:
 - Serving as Piano Accompanist on Recitals
 - Assisting with concerts by handing out programs or other small tasks.
 - Assisting with Receptions for the Graduation Recitals and/or at the Suzuki Festival
- Tuition Assistance Applications are available on the Suzuki Strings website and are due by August 1st for the Fall and by December 1st for the Spring

(<http://www.sc.edu/music/suzuki>). To qualify for assistance, the family must have been enrolled with the Suzuki Strings Program for at least two semesters. Families must apply for Tuition Assistance EACH semester.

- Scholarships are available to a few Singing Strings and Vibrant Violin students who volunteer to be mentors in the Saturday morning group classes. Your scholarship will waive a portion of your tuition for the following semester.

Withdrawals & Refunds

- Students wishing to withdrawal from Suzuki Strings must provide a written notice to Dr. Samara Humbert-Hughes at shumberthughes@mozart.sc.edu including the reason for withdrawal.
- Refunds will be considered on a case-by-case basis and should be made before lessons begin. If a refund is granted, the refunds are given pro-rated and minus an 20% processing fee. **No refunds will be issued after the second week of lessons.** Please note that refunds are made by university check and this can take several weeks to process.
- Please note that we count on your attendance for an entire school year unless otherwise note to us.

Private Lesson Attendance & Make-Up Lesson Policy.

- Students are required to be present for all private lessons.
- A parent MUST be present at all private lessons
- Please arrive at least 5 minutes early to your private lesson so that you can mentally and physically prepare for your lesson. Please check with your private teacher as to how and when you should enter the lesson room.
- Please bring all of your materials to every lesson (sheet music, books, folders, practice folders, foot charts, instrument, bow, rosin etc.)
- There are no time adjustments for students arriving late to their lessons. Please note: if you are the last lesson of the day and you are more than 10 minutes late your teacher may have left ☹ No refunds will be made for missed lessons.
- Please do not bring a sick child to lessons. It is easier for you to miss one lesson than for your teacher to miss an entire week of teaching. It may be possible to have a Skype or Facetime lesson on a sick day – please check with your private teacher on this matter.
- Siblings are welcome in the lessons if they remain quiet.
- If a lesson is missed by the instructor, the lesson will be made up.
- Please notify your private teacher at least 24 hours in advance if you know you will not be attending your private lesson as this time could be used for a makeup lesson for another student.
- **Each student is allowed ONLY ONE makeup lesson per semester** provided that the parent provided 24 hours notice or in the case of a sudden illness. **However, TEACHERS ARE NOT**

REQUIRED TO GIVE MAKEUP LESSONS MISSED BY STUDENTS. Please check with your private lesson teacher as to how they conduct their makeup lessons. With space at a premium at USC School of Music it is VERY difficult to schedule extra teaching time.

- **Please note: there are no make-up lessons for make-up lessons**
- To read about one parent's perspective regarding make-up lessons please click here:
<http://ottawasuzukistrings.ca/makeupleasons/>
- If you need to reschedule your lesson due to a foreseen future conflict, you may be able to switch with another student in the same studio. Please contact your private teacher regarding how they manage lesson reschedules. Reschedules should be limited to 1 per semester if at all possible.
- In the case of inclement weather and if you feel as though you will be unable to get to your lesson safely, please contact your private teacher immediately. In this scenario, the teacher will do their best to reschedule or make up this lesson. Skype or Facetime lessons could be a possible solution in the event of a "snow day."
- For those taking lessons at Greene St. Church, please abide by the following:
 - EVERY child must be accompanied to the bathroom by their parent
 - Please do not hang out in the Sanctuary.
 - Parents must supervise children at all times at the church.
- Any concerns regarding private lessons should first be addressed WITH YOUR PRIVATE TEACHER. It is important to maintain an open dialogue and honest relationship with your private teacher. Any unresolved issues that persist can then be presented to the Director.

Group Lesson Attendance

- Group class lessons are included in your tuition & are part of your learning experience! Group class tuition is not pro-rated or refundable.
- Please arrive 5-10 minutes early so you have time to get ready and your teacher has time to tune everyone. Group classes will begin on time!
- Please bring all of your materials to group class (foot charts, books, rosin, shoulder rests, rockstops, footstools etc.)
- **SATURDAY GROUPS:** A parent is required to be in attendance for students attending Saturday group classes (if the student is under 11 years old). Although it is primarily the teacher's responsibility to supervise the child during group, the teacher may ask the parent to take charge of the student at any point of the class.
- **MONDAY & SATURDAY GROUPS:** Parents are not required to attend Monday or Friday group classes but parents are responsible for making sure the student gets to and from his/her group class location. Teachers are responsible for students during group class time.

- Any issues or concerns regarding group class should be first discussed with the group class teacher. Any unresolved issues that persist can then be presented to the Director.
- You should strive to attend all group classes and all community performances. Formal performances are mandatory for all students!
- If you are unable to attend group class and/theory class, please email or call your GROUP CLASS teacher so that they can adjust their lesson plans if need be.
- **Please NO FOOD OR DRINKS in group class.** If you need to enjoy a snack or drink your coffee, please do so in the foyer of the String Project Building, in the lobby of the School of Music, or outside.
- In the case of inclement weather or if USC Campus is closed because of any unforeseen circumstances, group classes will be cancelled and not made up

Parking

- Please leave extra time to find parking before your private and group class lessons. Sometimes there are events at the Koger Center or at the Coliseum or in downtown and it can be unpredictable with parking.
- There are several meters around the School of Music and there are several parking garages on Park Street. Parking passes might be available for the Discovery Parking Garage for a nominal fee for the school year however to date this determination has not yet been made - we will update parents via email ASAP should the opportunity become available.
- Please read parking signs carefully at lots as Suzuki Strings at USC does not have authority to waive University Parking Tickets.

Student Discipline

Suzuki Strings at USC teachers reserve the right to discontinue or terminate lessons for student disciplinary reasons. All students are expected to behave with the highest respect to the School of Music facilities, teachers, and other students. Suzuki Strings at USC teachers reserve the right to immediately end any lesson due to disciplinary problems of any student. Disciplinary infractions of any kind will be referred first to the parents, and, if continuing, to Suzuki Strings at USC Director for disciplinary action. Disciplinary action may involve termination from the Suzuki Strings at USC Program.

Parent Education

We are happy to continue our Parent Time! Sessions again this year. We will have one session in the Fall and two in the Spring with various guest speakers. You can also continue to learn by reading our weekly newsletters, checking out the SAA website, asking your teacher for resources, or looking at the end of this parent handbook for resources. We never stop learning so reach out so keep digging for inspiration!