

Selah Music Ankeny

Shelia Miguez, Owner & Instructor

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Welcome to Selah Music Ankeny! We believe in nurturing each student and creating a space where **skills are developed as talent is discovered**. Our philosophy in teaching allows for a balance in curriculum and interactive play, taking into consideration each student's individuality and taste. All students will be trained in music reading, theory, ear training, and have a variety of performance opportunities. Tuition fees take into consideration that we must provide for insurance, retirement, social security, taxes and continuing education costs, as well as bear the expense of equipping and maintaining studio, instruments, libraries and other equipment and supplies. Music Education is my (Shelia Miguez) degree, my profession, and my business and the teachers that teach with Selah are professionals. We plan a yearly calendar similar to school that includes time off during transitions and that is split into semesters. The relationship between teacher, parent and student is a three-way relationship and we want to make music study a rich, growing experience to inspire our students to have a lifetime love for music.

Parent Responsibilities

- You are welcome to sit at my dining room table or run errands during your child's lesson. In the case that students have difficulty concentrating because of parental involvement or presence in the lessons, we will discuss possible solutions. Hillside Clover Ridge has a nice park and walking trail you are welcome to take advantage of.
- Check email/[Facebook](#) for Studio communication.
- Be involved in your child's practice at home.
- Prompt attendance at lessons and classes is essential. Every effort is made in the studio to stay on schedule and ensure that each student receives full lesson time. Please do not knock on the door early or you may interrupt another lesson. You are welcome to enter at your time.

Student Responsibilities

- Rate of progress is directly correlated with preparation time for lessons and students are responsible for practicing and meeting their goals set with the guidance of the teacher. Please use the Student Journals.
- Depending on the age of the child: 15-30 minutes practice time a day which can be divided up throughout the day.
- Goal achievement is more important than the number of minutes practiced each day. The students of this studio are taught to reach specific goals as opposed to "watching the clock". At the same time, appropriate practice schedules are negotiated with each student. If that negotiation fails, the parents are called. Parents who think their child is not practicing enough should contact me.
- Fingernails need to be trimmed and kept short consistently for piano, guitar, and ukulele students.
- Bring ALL materials to each lesson. A binder will be provided for student journal pages that need to be used during practice times and signed each week by a parent.

Kinds of lessons and classes offered in the studio

- Private lessons are given weekly in sessions of 30 or 60 minutes depending on age and instrument for voice, piano, guitar, and ukulele. Each instrument has to have a full 30 or 60 minute lesson time unless specifically discussed with the teacher. Current [Selah Schedule](#)
- Theory classes are offered twice, 2-3 times a semester. Theory classes provide a rich learning environment for students to hone theory skills and to perform in front of their peers. Theory classes, sometimes referred to as parties, are part of the learning experience and are included in your tuition for private lessons. Please make these group classes a priority.
- KeyNotes Group Lessons (maximum 5 students) will meet 45 minutes weekly.

Lesson location

- All lessons will be held in my home studio at **3236 SE 20th St Ankeny, IA.**

Tuition and Billing

- Registration Fee is due annually either when you begin lessons or in August. This \$25 per student fee helps to cover teaching materials, journals, and prizes.
- Tuition is **due monthly on the 1st of each month or you may pay in full for the semester.** Tuition remains the same each month and is based on enrollment, not attendance, and reserves your time slot in my schedule for the academic year
 - 30 minute private lessons, theory classes, and recitals= \$110.00/month
(Fall - \$440, Spring - \$550, Summer \$330) annually \$1320
 - 60 minute private lessons, theory classes, and recitals=\$200.00/month (includes one hour lessons or families with 2 students)
(Fall - \$800, Spring - \$1100, Summer - \$600) annually \$2400
 - 45 minute group lessons and recitals=\$75/month
(Fall - \$300, Spring - \$375, Summer - \$300) annually \$975
- A **\$20.00 late fee** will be added to the following month if tuition is more than 10 days late.
- Methods of payment:
 - All students will be sent a login email where you can set up tuition payments through the Selah Music Ankeny website. Please pay through the website.

Fall Semester

- Lessons begin August 29 and end December 8. One make-up lesson will be allowed Dec 13-15. (12 Private Lesson Weeks & 2 Group Theory Party Weeks)
- Party 1 (Sept 19-22) Party 2 (Oct 17-20)
- No lessons Thanksgiving week
- Christmas Party TBA

Spring Semester

- Lessons begin the week of January 9 and end May 11, 2023 (16 Lesson Weeks & 3 Group Theory Parties)

- Party 1 Feb 16 Party 2 March 9 Party 3 TBA
- No lessons Spring Break
- One make up lesson allowed May 15-18
- Studio Recital May TBA
- Other possible performance opportunity

Summer Semester 2023

- Lessons begin the week of May 29 and end August 17 (9 Lesson Weeks, 3 Theory parties in 12 weeks)
- No lessons July 17-20 (Teacher's Family on Mission Trip in Honduras)
- Theory Party TBA
- Intermediate/Advanced Theory Party TBA
- Beginner Theory Party TBA
- Ice Cream Celebration TBA
- August 23-25 Lessons TBA if needed for make-ups, **must be arranged**

Recitals and Performances

- End of the semester recitals are encouraged for all students in my studio. The student and his/her supporters and family members must arrive on time and stay until all students have played.
- Students are encouraged to participate in other performance opportunities (nursing home visits and other outings) and studio share parties.

Equipment

- Piano students are expected to have a well tuned 88-key piano or Clavinova (weighted keys) with working pedals for practice at home. Beginners may start on a lesser keyboard while you decide what is best for your budget. The good people at [Riemann Music](#) can help you find your instruments.
- Ukulele and guitar students are expected to have a good ukulele or guitar. Not a toy.
- All elementary and MS students will be provided a binder with practice journal pages. HS and older should provide a notebook for themselves.
- Metronome: You can purchase a metronome or use a free metronome app on your smartphone or tablet.
- Voice students need a mirror, device for playing music, and a music stand.
- [Selah Music Book List](#) - each student needs to have the recommended book for each instrument

Media Release

- I will occasionally use photos or videos on the [Selah Music Ankeny](#) studio Facebook page. These photos and videos are to highlight the achievements of my students and their learning. They love seeing their videos and photos and are not identified by name.
- If you wish to exempt your child from photos and video, do not hesitate to let me know.

Missed Lessons

- It is not the responsibility of this studio to make up or change times due to the students' conflicts or vacations. Your tuition reserves a regular time that is saved for only YOU!
- No refunds will be given under any circumstances. However, I will attempt to reschedule due to illness or family emergency (death in the family). One make up week is built into the calendar each semester at no extra charge.
- Call me if there is inclement weather and we will work out a solution, particularly for those who live outside of the Ankeny city limits. Do not drive in adverse weather conditions; instead consider a Skype/Facetime Lesson.

Termination of Lessons Policy

- If lesson termination is a necessity from the parent, student, or teacher a 30 day notice is required. If cancellation is requested from the parent and student, payment for those 30 days is required whether the student continues lessons or not.
- If cancellation is requested from the teacher due to a student's uncooperative attitude, lack of progress caused by insufficient practice, or consistently missed lessons, payment during those 30 days is not required.

**I reserve the right to update or modify these Studio Policies at any time. Modifications of the Studio Policy will be notified via email.