

Metro Music Makers Formal Recital Policies

It is our job to teach our students how to perform. Performance is its own separate skill, and we believe that learning how to perform is just as crucial as learning instrument skills. As a result, we offer two formal recital opportunities each year along with several smaller performance opportunities, and we encourage all of our students to participate in these events as often as possible. Since our recitals have grown so much, we have created certain policies to ensure the highest caliber performance experience possible for students and their parents.

The following policies apply to our formal recital events:

1. You must register for a recital time in order to participate. We want each student to get the time and attention their performance deserves, so we offer several recital times for each event. Sign-ups will be made available well in advance of the event, along with indications of which recital times your teacher will be present for. You may choose to sign up for a time other than the ones your teacher will be there for, but they will not be present to help your student set up, tune, etc.

2. Once you have signed up for an event, any recital fees are non-refundable. This is due to the time and work required of our staff to organize and staff the recitals and the associated costs including the rental of the performance venue, sound engineering and recital programs.

3. Students using any kind of recorded accompaniment must submit an mp3 of their recording to info@metromusicmakers.com at least two weeks prior to the recital.

4. All song lyrics must be appropriate. Our events include students and family members of all ages, and need to be safe for all ears. As a result all lyrics must be family friendly, including lyrics being performed and lyrics present in any accompaniment tracks. Lyrics may not include or suggest obscene language, racial slurs, sexual innuendo, drug use, illegal activities, derogatory slang or any other inappropriate, adult content. We reserve the right to make song changes if lyrics or accompaniment tracks are deemed to be in violation of this policy.

5. Any changes to the program (i.e., changing pieces to be performed, recital times or dropping out of the recital) must be submitted at least two weeks before the recital event. We will charge a \$10 administrative fee for any changes submitted in the 2 weeks leading up to the recital event, due to the reorganization that must occur after the deadline. Please note that programs are printed at least one week in advance of the event, and changes cannot be made to programs after this time.

6. We ask that our students adhere to a general dress code at our formal recitals. Boys should wear slacks and collared shirts (jackets and ties are encouraged but optional), and girls should wear slacks or a knee-length skirt or dress. We ask that our students not wear flip-flops, athletic shoes, t-shirts with logos, jeans, shorts or miniskirts at our formal events. Students with

long hair must pull their hair away from their face; otherwise, the hair tends to fall in front of the face to “hide” the student during the performance when their face should be seen.

7. Students should arrive at least 20 minutes prior to the performance event and check in with a staff member. This will give each student time to find their assigned seat, use the restroom, etc. Students who need to warm up, tune, or set up equipment may require an earlier arrival and should inquire with their instructor prior to the event.

8. Metro Music Makers requires a signed release and consent for pictures and videos posted to social media. We take photos and videos during performances and will post them to our website, Facebook, YouTube and other social media sites if written consent is provided. Consent is optional and totally up to the students and families. If you gave consent on the school year registration form, pictures and videos of your child may be posted and further action is not required on your part. Our parents and families often get the best videos and pictures. We encourage you to share your photos and videos on our Facebook page at any time!

9. Metro Music Makers is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged personal belongings at our recital events, including instruments, music, cameras, phones, tablets, etc. Because our staff is busy running the event and supporting students, we are unable to monitor these items and cannot be held responsible for the whereabouts of these items.

10. Live music means mistakes can happen! Our students do their best to prepare for their performances and we certainly do our best to provide top notch sound equipment, staging, etc. However, because our performances are live, the unexpected can take place for students or for staff. We ask that our audiences and students show kindness and respect if a student has difficulty during their performance, makes a mistake or struggles in any way. This means not talking or engaging in other distracting behavior, and also applauding for the student when they complete their performance. We also ask for your patience if we experience technical difficulties of any kind during the performance.

11. We ask that our students and audiences observe good recital etiquette during our events to make them fun and successful for everyone.

- Students should be in their assigned seats at least 15 minutes before the starting time of the event, so that the recital can start on time. This allows the staff to go over the performance order with the students and to make sure that all instruments and music are in place and ready to go.
- We expect that students and audience members will plan to stay for the full length of the recital out of respect for each performer who deserves an audience for their hard work and preparation.
- During the performances, it is very important that the audience and other students remain quietly seated as each student has worked very hard for his or her performance and deserves respect. Parents of young siblings who begin to cry or cause distraction are asked to quietly leave the recital hall.

- Students may not have any personal electronic devices on their person or in their seats during the performance. Texting, tweeting and any use of an electronic device is very distracting and disrespectful of other performers.
- Audience members are asked to refrain from having cell phone conversations or engaging in other distracting activities using their personal technology during the recital. Turn off all ringers, alarms, etc.
- Chewing gum is not permitted in the recital hall.
- After your student has performed, they must bow or curtsy in order to acknowledge the audience for listening to their performance. We suggest practicing this at home so that they don't forget under pressure.

12. Invite your friends and family. Please feel free to invite your friends and family to our recitals. Make sure that your guests understand the importance of arriving on time and staying for the full length of the event.

13. If there are any additional policies put in place for a specific event, these additions or changes will be noted on the sign-up used for registration. Be sure to read through any communications about recitals thoroughly so that you will be aware of any changes or additional requirements.

14. Please feel free to contact us at info@metromusicmakers.com or 678-637-7293 if you have any questions or concerns.