# Studio Policies

Gaia S.H. Oboe Studio

## Student Responsibilities

Please arrive on time with your music, reeds, and instrument. You should come to your lessons feeling prepared to play any of the music we are currently working on. Preparing and practicing during the week is to your benefit: your lessons will be more productive the more ready you are. If you have any questions, come prepared to ask them. Take notes during your lessons and stay attentive.

## Family Involvement

Parents and families should feel welcome to ask questions about your child’s music lessons and progress. I am available to discuss any concerns or questions that may come up.

As much as possible, please be a supportive voice by encouraging your child’s musical creativity. If they are in middle school, you can begin to allow them to monitor their own practice time. High school students will be able to self-motivate and self-monitor, so when possible, give them space to plan their practice into their week independently.

## Lesson Tuition

Tuition fees for the 2022/2023 school year:

* 30-minute lesson: $40
* 45-minute lesson: $55
* 60-minute lesson: $70

You may choose to pay monthly or weekly for your lessons. Check, Venmo, and PayPal are all acceptable payment methods. If you are paying electronically, you will receive a request for payment at the end of the day on due dates. Weekly payments are due prior to the lesson, and monthly payments are due on the 1st of each month. You will incur a late fee of $5 for payments more than 3 business days late.

Please select a payment frequency: Weekly Monthly

Preferred payment method: Check Venmo PayPal

## Cancellation Policy

If you know you will not be available during your lesson time, consider trying to contact a studio mate on the Swap List. You can subscribe to the swap list via the Studio Registration Form.

If you cannot swap lessons, you may cancel your lesson for any reason with no charge incurred as long as you provide at least 48 hours (two full days) notice. You may also cancel your lesson within 48 hours in the case of an excused absence (illness, family emergency, anything that would excuse you from school). Otherwise, if you miss a lesson without providing ample notice, you will still be charged for that time. You may schedule a make-up lesson if there is time available, but because of my performance schedule, this may not always be possible.

## Business Hours

I am available via call or text at +1 (818) 439-0282 from 10am-5pm, Monday through Saturday. If I do not answer, I will return your message as soon as possible. Please note that because of my performance schedule, my phone is occasionally off during these hours.

My email address is [gaiasaetermoehoward@gmail.com](mailto:gaiasaetermoehoward@gmail.com). On business days, I will return your email within 24-48 hours.

## Reeds

You are responsible for having at least one functional reed to play on at the beginning of every lesson. High school oboists should have at least 3 reeds at all times.

Students are not required to purchase reeds from me, but I offer special rates for students. Reeds are $20 each for finished reeds, and $13 for blanks (orig. $25 and $16). Please add $5 to each order for shipping and handling.

## Reed-Making

All high school students may begin reed lessons. Reed lessons will either occur in the last 20 minutes of your lesson for students who take hour lessons or for a full 30-minutes, once a month, for students who take half-hour lessons.

You are responsible for bringing all your reed tools to your reed lessons. Some stores that provide quality tools are RDG Woodwinds, Midwest Musical Imports, and Mark Chudnow Woodwinds. If you have a financial barrier to purchasing your own reed tools, you may borrow studio reed tools on a yearly basis.

## Studio Philosophy

We are here to learn to express music beautifully with the oboe as a medium. As your teacher, I will help you plan to meet your goals and guide you through the processes of making music. Everything you work on in your lessons is meant to help you grow and also to be fun! Please feel free to openly share with me what is working best for you in your lessons and what might not be working as well for you. Your assigned materials and practice guidelines for each week are available through your student Google Drive, which you will receive after your first lesson. These policies and your diligence will help us as we work towards your goals. Thank you!

***I certify that I have read and agree to the above terms.***

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Student Signature Date

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Parent Signature (if applicable) Date