

Appalachian Music Project

Studio Policies

Spring 2023

Welcome to the Appalachian Music Project! We at AMP strive to provide our students with the highest quality musical experience possible. We believe that everyone is capable of creating meaningful, expressive music.

To enable that vision, AMP will provide for each student:

- A qualified private instructor
- 1 lesson/week during the UVA Wise semester at the Gilliam Center for the Arts
- 1 supervised and assisted practice session/week at the Gilliam CFA
- Any scores or lesson books required by the instructor
- 2 performances/semester on UVA Wise's campus

As these benefits go above and beyond those of a typical music school, we also ask that you invest some of your time, energy, and passion in us!

To participate in AMP, each student be expected to:

- Miss no more than 2 weekly lessons over the course of a semester*
- Miss no more than 3 supervised and assisted practice sessions over the course of a semester*
- Participate in all performances each semester
- Treat all AMP staff with respect and conduct themselves appropriately during lessons, practice times, and concerts.
- Bring all necessary instruments/materials to all lessons and practice sessions
- Be picked up promptly after all lessons/practice sessions/concerts
- Communicate any necessary absences ahead of time, to both lesson instructors and/or Peter and Hannah Ryan
- In the case of COVID exposure, students are asked to follow CDC guidelines. Students with positive COVID tests should contact their instructors to reschedule lessons.
- **In the case of inclement weather, AMP follows the UVA Wise closures, NOT Wise Public Schools Closures.**

Students in breach of these expectations may be asked to leave the Appalachian Music Project.

** Exceptions can be made for extreme circumstances such as serious illness or a death in the family. Exceptions may also be made for students participating in Wise JAMS or after-school music programs such as marching band. AMP reserves the right to verify students' enrollment in other music programs.*

Weekly Lessons

Each student will receive one (1) lesson per week during the semester. Lessons are usually 30 minutes in length (exceptions can be made for student experience and skill).

Lesson times are available Mondays and Tuesdays between 4:00 and 6:00 p.m., depending on the instructor's availability. All lessons will occur in the Gilliam Center for the Arts.

In these lessons, students will spend one-on-one time with an AMP instructor and be guided through instruction on their chosen instrument. Lessons will include:

- Music reading and basic music theory
- Physical technique
- Musical expression
- Relevant music history
- Performance etiquette
- Practice methods

Materials

Students are expected to bring any assigned materials with them to their lessons. If a student is learning a portable instrument, then they need to bring the instrument to their lessons. At this time, instruments are not provided by AMP. Please coordinate with your local school music program about getting instruments if necessary.

Attendance

In the event that a student needs to reschedule due to illness or family emergency, the **instructor** must be informed via **call, text, or email by 9 a.m. on the day of the lesson** (earlier notice is appreciated). It is expected that if a student is well enough to attend school, they are well enough to attend AMP. If a lesson must be canceled, instructors will try to make up the lesson during one of the student's scheduled practice times. This can occur up to two times per semester. After the second time, reschedules are at the instructor's discretion. If an instructor needs to miss a lesson for any reason, they will make-up the lesson to the student.

As this is a free program, attendance is an important component of keeping your spot. If attendance becomes an issue, a student may lose their spot to someone on the waiting list.

Practice Times

Practice times will occur on either Wednesdays or Thursdays, at the same time as a student's Monday or Tuesday lesson. For instance, if a student's 30-minute lesson is at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, then their 30-minute practice times are at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday. If a student's lesson is on Monday, their practice time is on Wednesday. Practice times are supervised and assisted by AMP staff at the Gilliam Center for the Arts. Students will need to bring all necessary practice materials with them.

Practice times are *not optional* and are integral to the success of a young musician. Any instrument takes time and dedication to master, and AMP facilitates this by providing staff members to help students in their practice. Practice times cannot be rescheduled. Students are required to also practice at home in addition to their on-campus practice sessions and lessons. Instructors will outline a weekly practice plan for each of their students.

Parents/Guardians

Parents or other guardians are not required to attend lessons, but AMP *strongly encourages* their attendance. While AMP instructors will give students a lesson log that lays out the week's assignments, a parental presence in lessons has been shown to improve the student's overall achievement and engagement.

Guardians will be asked to provide a list of approved persons who have permission to pick up a student at the end of the practice/lesson times. Students **must** be signed in and out with the Practice Facilitators, and guardians may be asked to show I.D. before being allowed to pick up a student. This is for everyone's protection and required per UVA's Child Protection Policies.

Performances

Performing can be intimidating for anyone, and the best way to become accustomed to performing is to do it often and in a safe, supportive environment. Therefore, AMP students will perform 2 times per semester, and friends and family are encouraged to attend. These performances will occur in either UVA Wise's Chapel of All Faiths or Cantrell Banquet Hall.

Students are expected to dress as they would for a semi-formal occasion ("Sunday Best" clothing) and to stay through the entire performance. All performances will occur at 5:00 p.m. and should last 60-90 minutes.

On Recital days, Lessons and Practice sessions will continue as scheduled in the 4-5pm hour. Lessons that conflict with Recitals will be made up.

Equipment

UVA Wise generously provides AMP with the use of their facilities, which includes spaces in the Gilliam Center for the Arts, the Chapel of All Faiths, and Cantrell. Each of these buildings contain pianos and other equipment maintained by the UVA Wise Division of Music. We ask that all AMP employees and students respect these spaces and treat them appropriately.

At no time should any person have food or drink anywhere near a piano. The pianos are sensitive musical instruments, and should not be used in any way other than intended (no pounding on the keys, using body parts other than the hands on the keys, touching the interior workings on the instrument, etc.). Any person interacting with a piano needs to ensure that their hands are washed and dried prior to touching the keyboard. AMP employees reserve the right to deny students access to UVA Wise's instruments if hygiene standards are not met.

Any person that damages UVA Wise facilities or equipment may be held financially liable.

COVID-19 Information

Per current UVA Wise policies, masking is optional for all persons. If you or your student are ill, we encourage masking to prevent spread of any illness, including COVID-19. If a student is exposed or tests positive for COVID-19, please follow all CDC guidelines.

Spring 2023 Calendar

Monday, Jan 23- Lessons begin

Thursday, Mar 9, 5 p.m. - AMP Recital (Location TBD)

Monday-Thursday, Mar 13-16 - No Lessons or Practises (UVA Wise closed for Spring Break)

Thursday, May 4, 5 p.m. - AMP Recital (Location TBD)

I have read and understand the Appalachian Music Project Studio Policy.

Guardian Name (Print) _____

Student Name _____

Guardian Signature _____ Date _____