

Tessa Rae Music | tessaraewelterlen.com  
Saxophone Studio Policies

**Philosophy:**

I believe that music is an enriching experience for people of all ages and abilities. It offers a creative means of expression, and allows us to see our own growth and to strive for improvement. In addition to musical growth, I feel that the study of music can teach self-confidence, dedication, cooperation, communication, and critical thinking, among other broader life skills.

I think music is best learned when it is fun and relevant to the student's life, and I will work to take the student's musical tastes, goals, and interests into account in lessons. In this way, I aim for students to take responsibility in their own learning.

In lessons, I focus on strong foundations, good sound, and technical skills because I believe that music is most fun when we strive to play it well. I aim for students to fully understand the music they play, including musical styles, theory, and history, so that they are equipped with skills and knowledge they can apply in any musical situation, becoming their own teacher.

Thank you for your interest in saxophone lessons! Learning a musical instrument is a challenge but it develops good discipline, a sense of accomplishment, and a love for the musical arts.

**Contract Term and Tuition:**

- Academic Year Lessons: This is a full academic year commitment. Monthly tuition is \$95 for 30-minute lessons, due at the beginning of each month. Lessons follow the Salem-Keizer School District schedule. 60-minute lessons are available for advanced students.
  
- Summer Lessons: Summer tuition is \$150 for six 30-minute lessons, due at the first lesson of the summer. The lesson schedule is determined by the teacher and communicated at the beginning of the summer. 60-minute lessons are available for advanced students.

**Payment:**

- **Payment will be expected in full at the first lesson of each month.** Payment may be made by cash or check. Checks should be made out to Tessa Welterlen.

**Attendance:**

- Students are required to attend every lesson.
- In the event that a lesson must be cancelled, **24 hours notice is required** and all efforts must be made to reschedule the missed lesson.
- Lessons missed or cancelled without 24 hours notice will be charged in full and not made up.
- Excessive cancellation, or missing a lesson without prior notification or explanation may result in termination of the lesson contract, and the student will forfeit their weekly lesson time.
- Private lessons are scheduled with the teacher based on mutual availability. There may be times when the teacher may need to reschedule lessons due to professional performing engagements or illness. If a lesson is canceled for the above reason, the lesson will be rescheduled to the best of the teacher and parent's ability.

Lesson Scheduling:

- The parents, students, and I will work together to choose a weekly time for their lesson that will continue through the year.

Assignments:

- Students will receive weekly playing assignments. Depending on a student's areas of focus, other assignments including theory and analysis, listening, or viewing may be required. All listening and viewing assignments will be done using YouTube, Pandora, or other free internet resources. Students must provide an assignment notebook at every lesson. A simple single subject wire bound notebook is acceptable.

Contact:

- Students or parents may contact me at any time via email at [tessa.rae.music@gmail.com](mailto:tessa.rae.music@gmail.com). I teach in several buildings throughout the Salem-Keizer school district and often do not have cell service or my ringtone on, so plan ahead for necessary changes.

Required Saxophone Studio Events and Performances:

October – All State & All Northwest Auditions (HS Students only)

Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 12pm at the Frank Lloyd Wright Gordon House  
(near Oregon Gardens, Silverton, OR) - Saxophone Studio Recital

January – Salem-Keizer All-City Honor Band Auditions

March – OMEA District Solo and Ensemble Performance