



# The Guitar Dojo

## A Suzuki Talent Education School

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### Financial Policies

The Guitar Dojo is a year-round program with the expectation that all students will participate during all three semesters as follows:

Semester	Lesson/Class Breakdown	Tuition: 30-minute private lesson	Tuition: 45-minute private lesson	Tuition: 1-hour private lesson
Fall: 8/22/11 - 12/16/11	17 private lessons 7 group classes	\$495	\$708	\$920
Spring: 1/2/12- 6/1/12	20 private lessons 12 group classes	\$620	\$870	\$1120
Summer*: 6/11/12- 8/10/12	6 private lessons 3 group classes	\$180	\$255	\$330

Holidays: In general, holidays will track with the public school calendar. A semester calendar will be distributed during the first week of every semester.

\*Summer semester lessons are by appointment only. Exact lesson dates must be scheduled by June 1.

Tuition is due according to the following schedule:

Spring and Fall Semesters: 100% of tuition is due at the first lesson of the semester. Payment can be made in five (5) checks, each representing 20% of the total tuition and post-dated for each month of the semester.

Summer semester: 100% of tuition is due at the last lesson of the Spring Semester.

First tuition payment for new students is due at the time of registration.

Checks should be made out to "The Guitar Dojo, LLC"

Late payments will be assessed a fee of \$50

No lessons or classes will be given under any circumstances without payment.

## **Parent Participation**

Parents are an integral part of the success of the Suzuki method. Parents will attend a 12-week orientation course before their child's lessons begin. During the parent orientation course, parents will learn about Suzuki philosophy and enough about the guitar to be effective home coaches for their children. The cost of the course is \$150.

Students under the age of 16 must have a parent (or adult caregiver) present at all lessons in order to take notes. These notes are an invaluable aid for home practice. Parents are also encouraged to attend the Parent Group Classes offered several times per year.

## **Group Class**

Group Class is a vital part of the student's development and is **REQUIRED** for all students. As with the private lessons, parents must attend the group class in order to take notes. Low attendance (less than 75% each semester) will constitute grounds for dismissal from the program.

## **Recitals**

There will be two studio recitals per year, one in May and one in December. Student participation is **REQUIRED** at these recitals. Unexcused absence from these recitals will constitute grounds for dismissal from the studio. Additionally, the Dojo will provide other optional performance opportunities throughout the year. All students are encouraged to participate as fully as possible.

## **Preparation for lessons**

Students must bring instrument, footstool, instruction materials and any other required material to all lessons. Parents must bring notebook and writing materials to each lesson.

Daily practice is essential to playing a musical instrument and is expected of all students. Consistently unprepared students will be dismissed from the studio.

Students must keep fingernails properly groomed at all times (clipped short on both hands for beginners; long nails on the right hand for more advanced players).

Plan to arrive 5-10 minutes before your scheduled lesson time in order to unpack your instrument and help your child to mentally prepare for the lesson. You are always welcome to quietly observe lessons. Full attention at lessons is necessary from the student **AND** parent. For example: No texting during lessons!

## **Attendance**

**Student Illness:** Please do not bring your sick children to music lessons. If they were too sick to go to school, they are too sick to learn music, too. I will do my best to accommodate make-up lessons due to illness.

**Inclement weather:** If the local schools are closed, all lessons and group classes are cancelled.

**Cancellations:** 24-hour notice is appreciated if you know that you will not be able to attend lessons.

**No-shows:** One strike and you're out. If you do not attend your lesson and have not notified me in advance of your intention, our teacher/student relationship is terminated. There will be no refunds.

**Make Up Lessons:** In general, make up lessons for student absence will not be offered. In the event of inclement weather or teacher absence/illness, every effort will be made to offer make-up lessons.

## **Termination of lessons**

It is my sincere hope that we have a warm, long-time relationship. I am approachable and hope that you would talk to me if there is something bothering you about how lessons are going.

At our discretion, the child's lesson time can be used as a parent/teacher conference. In the event that this is necessary, the parent would attend the lesson without the child.

Refunds for discontinuation of lessons will be considered on a case by case basis.

*These policies may be modified and redistributed at any time.*

**Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature** \_\_\_\_\_