

Where Does My Tuition Go?

Time spent with the student: lessons, performance classes, recitals, festivals, competitions

Preparation: lesson planning, curriculum development, long term strategy planning for individual students, bookkeeping, trips to the music store/searching online

Education and experience: Master of Music degree; teaching students since 1994; attendance at numerous pedagogy (teaching) seminars at GMU and the Levine School, numerous workshops and master classes through NVMTA, VMTA, MTNA, MTFL, and associates

Studio expenses: computer software/maintenance, printing, tunings, repairs

Recital costs and preparation: finding and scheduling venues, and follow-up communications; facility rental; planning repertoire for individual students; preparing programs; printing programs

Professional organization memberships dues: to enhance teaching skills and to provide students with opportunities for festivals, competitions, and performances; member of the executive boards of NVMTA, MTFL, and the Loudoun Festival Club.

Festivals and competitions: every teacher entering students in events must work a minimum of 3 *unpaid* hours for each event

Continuing education: fees and time spent at classes, workshops, lectures to stay current on methods and techniques

Self-employment taxes, business license, property tax, various insurances, retirement funding

Certification: annual MTNA Professional Certification requires teachers to meet continuing education and studio requirements in addition to a fee

Professional journals: to keep current on teaching materials and trends in music education

Music books: maintaining a well-stocked library of teaching materials