

Group or Private Piano Lessons?

Oftentimes, it is a difficult decision whether to enroll in group lessons or private lessons. Here at Carillon Music Academy, we provide both Group and Private lessons. Dedicated to finding the learning experience that is best for your child, we have put together a list of advantages to both¹.

Advantages of Group Lessons



Group Lessons teach piano in a classroom setting. Each student has his or her own piano on which to play.

We Provide: Red Music, Yellow Music, Gold Music, Blue Music, Orange Music, Green Music, Piano Performance, Accelerated Program. Our Styles course has found an efficient way to integrate the benefits of both group and private lessons.

Length:

Longer class times; our group classes run for one hour.

Price:

Less expensive than private lessons.

Fun Factor:

Children enjoy learning in games with their peers, and our group classes offer plenty of musical fun! Students are able to learn from their peers as well as from their teachers. Additionally, group classes provide a setting wherein drills and exercises can be more interesting and motivating.

Performance Classes:

Children build confidence in learning to perform in front of their peers.

Group Activities:

Teaching rhythm and counting is best taught in a group setting with lots of interaction. Marching around the room to a beat, dancing, and clapping are all more fun in groups, and these activities teach fundamental skills that will lay a good foundation for future piano education. A variety of activities and learning experiences help to increase attention span, allowing the class to be longer!

Public Speaking:

Group classes help to develop and improve communication skills through playing and talking in front of their peers.

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Ensemble Skills:

Some of our group classes offer the opportunity to play music in parts. Our students will learn the skills they need to perform in a group, including concentration.

Improvisation Skills:

Students are encouraged to explore music through improvisation, composition, and ensemble playing.

Positive Peer Pressure:

Our group classes establish a sense of group spirit and group dynamics that increase motivation.

Lower Stress:

The recreational approach to group lessons is appropriate for younger children who do not yet have the dexterity to develop finer instrument skills.

¹Works Cited:

Advantages of Group Piano. (n.d.). Retrieved from Every Life Needs Music: <http://www.everylifeneedsmusic.com/Advantages%20of%20Group%20Piano.pdf>

Berger, K. (2009, August 13). *Private Versus Group Piano Lessons for Children.* Retrieved from Suite101: <http://www.suite101.com/content/private-versus-group-piano-lessons-for-children-a138845#ixzz1BmvVN9tp>

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Advantages of Private Lessons

Private Lessons consist of lessons between the student and the teacher. Parents are free to sit in at request.

We Provide: Piano, Voice, and Guitar.

One-on-One:

In private lessons, the teacher is dedicated solely to your child for the allotted time.

“My Voice”:

Your child has the opportunity to learn what they want to learn. They have a choice in songs they want to play, whether it be classical, contemporary, or both.

Individual Attention:

Private lessons focus on the individual's strengths and weaknesses. Piano is a multi-sensory, complex activity requiring listening by ear, eye, touch, and intellectual understanding. Each student combines these elements differently.

Appropriate Pace:

A group class has the potential to progress too quickly or slowly for your child. Private lessons go at your child's learning pace, stopping whenever necessary to review concepts, repeat material, or explore a topic that interests your child.

Skills Development:

For more advanced students, private attention is needed to work on micro issues such as fingering, as well as finer points of expression and interpretation. Issues such as technique and hand position are also better dealt with privately.

Progress:

Progress is almost always faster in a private lesson than in a group lesson depending on your child's motivation and willingness to learn and excel. Progress may be slow if your child is unmotivated.

Stability:

While advantages of a group class may be disrupted by an unruly group, private lessons can follow a learning plan specially developed for each student, without interruption.