

## Lorraine Hale Music Instruction

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Dear Students and Parents,

Well, it's time again for my annual "form letter!" My health news after my surgery at Vidant Cancer Center continues encouraging, and I am most grateful for all of your support, cards, and prayers.

Our public health situation is certainly better, with many people already immunized. So **the studio will open for the 2021-22 year starting on the week of 23 August**. Enclosed with this letter is the usual flurry of colorful information items. Please be sure to return the **annual enrollment information form** (lime green) since information can change from year to year. On this form, indicate the best telephone number and best email by which to reach you, or indicate "private." The other "return" form which is required annually (also lime green) is the website permission form So please bring those when you arrive for your first lesson.

Your usual "first lesson" refrig-o-gram (bright lemon) is enclosed. There are also colorful reminders in each packet about the dates and times for Labor Day and Thanksgiving Day make-up instruction so that each student receives the same number of lessons. The video day this year will serve a very special purpose: it will be a arm-up for our first in-person recital in a l-o-n-g time! Of special note this teaching year is the inclusion of dedicated FaceTime® weeks so that we all may remain comfortable with that format in case we need to pivot and use remote learning again – especially for adjudications. During those FaceTime® weeks, you will call the number listed on the calendar sheet – at your regular lesson time, just like we have done before.

Our art – piano and voice / whether at the studio or via technology – is a wonderful way for us to remain in touch, to continue to grow, and to be fully expressive, all important aspects of our very humanity. And for younger students, the ability to continue with a worthwhile and safe extra-curricular activity is another positive.

The LHMI studio has been cleaned again, and when we are in the studio, students and parents may wear masks if desired. Our collective good health is PRIMARY. [Obviously, singers cannot wear masks, but I have arranged plenty of social distancing via the placement of the sanitized music stands used in voice lessons.] For your information, I received both of my Pfizer injections early this calendar year.

One additional item: with the recent disruption of normal academic processes, I have been approached again this summer about my "other teaching hat" – Academic Consulting Enterprises, in order to explore the possibility of providing targeted academic/critical thinking experiences for students, generally between the ages of 9 and 18 – either one-on-one or in very small groups not larger than three students. These experiences could take the form of direct coaching for subjects/classes in which students are enrolled at school or could be customized to provide advanced academic enrichment, especially inferential thinking based upon "deep" reading. Let me know by 15 September if such opportunities might be of interest to your family.

I look forward to seeing all of you again, hearing your latest news, and sharing another wonderful musical learning journey.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Hale Robinson

enclosures