

Nicolas Lira, DMA
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Group Lesson Policies

Group lessons provide students 10 consecutive, weekly meetings with a group of similarly skilled students (cohort). Every 45 minute lesson will include a warm-up, technical exercises, and learning repertoire. Each cohort is limited to 5 students so that each receive personal feedback every lesson. Lessons in the group format move at a slower pace than private lessons.

Group lessons occur on the ZOOM platform and require a laptop, tablet, or smart phone, with a good camera and microphone. The student should find a quiet place in the home where they will not be distracted by family members or pets during the lesson.

2020-2021 Group Lesson Cohorts

Fall semester: Thursday, September 10, 2020 – Saturday, November 14, 2020

Winter semester: Thursday, January 21, 2021 – Saturday, March 27, 2021

<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Meeting Time</i>
Clarinet	6th	Saturday 9:30 am
	7th-8th	Saturday 10:30 am
	HS	Thursday 6 pm
Saxophone	6th	Saturday 11:30 am
	7th-8th	Saturday 1 pm
	HS	Thursday 7 pm

Students in the **6th grade** cohort will learn the fundamentals of playing their instrument using a combination of *Essential Elements Book 1 (saxophone)* or *Learn to Play the Clarinet (books 1)* by Frederick Jacobs, and handouts provided via Google Drive.

Students in the **7th-8th grade** cohort will continue to develop their fundamental skills while learning more advanced music including audition music for all-county honors band. They will also become familiar with playing jazz and popular styles. Students will provide their own copy of *Solo Sounds for Alto Saxophone, Levels 1-3* or *Classic Festival Solos – Clarinet, Volume 1*.

Students in the **high school** cohort will polish their fundamental skills while learning a variety of repertoire including etudes, solos, and jazz repertoire. This group is intended for students that have not studied their instrument privately. Students will be required to provide their own copies of:

- *Intermediate Studies for Developing Artists on the Saxophone* by S. Jagow
- Solos for the Alto Saxophone Player – L. Teal (alto or bari)
- Solos for the Tenor Saxophone Player – L. Teal (tenor)
- *Intermediate Studies for Developing Artists on the Clarinet* – S. Jagow
- Master Solos for Clarinet – Kireilis/Rutherford

Tuition

The semester tuition, \$200, is due on September 1, 2020 (fall), and January 10, 2021 (winter). Tuition covers all 10 lessons in the semester. Payment may be made by check, cash, or Paypal. There is a **\$35** returned check fee. Tuition is not refundable and make-up lessons are not provided.

In the event that the teacher cancels a scheduled lesson, it will be made up the week following the final semester meeting.

Practice

Parental support and positive reinforcement is vital for good practice habits, for all students. Remind your child to practice!

In lessons, I provide the student the tools to become better musicians. It is the student's responsibility to implement these by practicing during the week. Routine is the most essential aspect of practice and ensures consistent progress. Minimum practice expectations are below.

11-13 years	25 minutes; 4 days/week
14-18 years	45 minutes; 4 days/week

Equipment and Materials

The successful student will have:

- At least 5 playable reeds (no cracks or chips)
- Music stand
- Assigned music
- Pencil and eraser

A metronome/tuner is required for practice at home. I recommend purchasing an affordable product by Korg or Matrix, but an app such as Tonal Energy or Tunable is acceptable.

I want to make sure that your money is well spent on reliable equipment that will help you succeed! Please ask for my input before making a large purchase such as an instrument or a mouthpiece.

(Sign and return to Dr. Lira)

I have read and understand the policies for the studio of Nicolas Lira.

Student: _____

Parent: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Date: _____

revised July 22, 2020