



KJPAS 2018-2019 Studio Policies

GENERAL POLICIES

- Each student shall receive a 30-minute private lesson each week for the duration of the studio year (August 13, 2018 thru May 24, 2019). If you would like to have an hour-long lesson, simply sign-up for two lesson time-slots.
- Studio lessons will be offered on Monday thru Wednesday afternoons and evenings *only*.
- If cast in a show, please make every effort to make it to your weekly lesson. Even Broadway performers continue their private studies during the run of a show so that they may protect and preserve their voices. And please do remember to list your KJPAS lesson as a conflict on your school/community theater audition form so that you will be let out of rehearsal to come to your lesson.
- KJPAS offers winter and summer musical theater and acting camps. KJPAS students are strongly encouraged to attend these camps. I have seen extraordinary growth occur with my students when they participate in such a focused theatrical environment.
- Please drive SLOWLY in our neighborhood (maximum 20 mph). There are many children in the Clear Pond neighborhood. I would rather you arrive a minute late to your lesson than risk hitting a child.
- Parking: I can fit four vehicles in my driveway, so please park in my driveway or in front of my house on either side of the driveway so that you will not be a burden to my neighbors.
- When arriving for your lesson, there is no need to knock on the door, just come on in and have a seat in the waiting area. I will come and get you once I finish with the previous student.
- If you will not be able to make it to your lesson, or will arrive more than 5 minutes late, please do text/call/email me so that I will not worry about you. It is *not* acceptable to not show up for your lesson without letting me know.

STUDIO BENEFITS

- Several times a year I hire and fly in Broadway, Film and Television performers to give free masterclasses to my students. No other studio offers this kind of opportunity for their students.
- I own an excellent instrument, a Yamaha U-3 piano.
- Rehearsal tracks will be recorded in the studio and e-mailed as Mp3 files to each student.
- I own an HD video camera and software for recording college pre-screening auditions.
- KJPAS Music and Script library: I have one of the most extensive privately owned musical theatre collections in the country (in excess of 50,000 songs), and hundreds of monologues, plays and screenplays. And through my connections with theatre professionals in New York City, I am able to acquire almost any piece of music, including unpublished Broadway scores.
- Studio Photocopier: I can take music from my extensive library, copy it, and send it home with you the same day -or scan it and e-mail it to you the same day as a PDF file.
- The studio subscribes to Ultra high-speed Internet for Skype/FaceTime cyber coaching sessions.
- The studio owns a portable Fender sound system with professional Beta SM57 microphones, and a weighted 88-key Yamaha professional keyboard for gigs out in the community.
- KJPAS led performing Arts trips such as New York City, Washington DC, and the Stratford Theater Festival in Canada culturally enrich and artistically educate students of the studio. I highly encourage my students to participate when these are offered.

- In addition to your private lesson, studio training will include musical theater history workshops, music theory workshops, studio movie nights, masterclasses with guest performers, and much more. Please see the studio calendar for all of the details.
- I encourage my students to also register for my Thursday evening musical theater conservatory class. The class will provide you with group training that I simply can't offer you in a private one on one setting (such as scene study, learning how to harmonize, how to survive a dance call, group musical theater production numbers, etc.). This class is an excellent companion to your private studio training.
- Performance opportunities in the studio will include the Mock Audition, Holiday Cabaret, Breakfast Theater, and Spring Recital. Other performance opportunities will be announced as they are scheduled.
- KJPAS never uses performance tracks. I always accompany my students "live" on the piano. Sheet music will be distributed regularly for the students to learn from.

TUITION

2018-2019 KJPAS tuition is \$175 per month, August 1 thru May 1 for weekly half-hour private lessons ("live" in Myrtle Beach, or nationally via Skype/FaceTime). The studio operates under the "all-inclusive" model where all sheet music, photocopies, rehearsal tracks and CD's are included in your regular tuition, as well as all "bonus" workshops (including musical theater history, music theory, Broadway performer masterclasses, studio movie nights, studio pool party, etc.). Tuition shall be due on the (1st) first of each month, August, 2018 thru May, 2019. **A \$75 registration fee is due now to hold your place in the studio program.** This fee will cover studio expenses including acquiring Broadway scores, scripts and CD's, facility rental fees for studio performances, paper, copier toner, and bringing down and housing Broadway performers for special studio workshops and masterclasses.

Participation in the studio program is understood to be from August, 2018 thru the end of May, 2019. If you decide to leave the program early, you must give a full 30 days' notice before tuition is due. So, if give notice on October 30th, you must still pay your November tuition. If you give notice on November 2nd, you must still pay your November and December tuition.

There are several options for paying your monthly studio tuition:

- PayPal. I encourage all parents to use PayPal as you can pay your tuition in less than a minute. And since the transaction is instantaneous, you will never be late on your payments. Be sure to choose the "send to friends and family" option so that no fees are incurred, and send it to my email address: kevin@kjpas.com
- Cash is always accepted.
- Checks are also accepted. Please make them out to Kevin Jones and hand deliver by the 1st of the month or mail to 3105 Bramble Glen Drive, Myrtle Beach, SC 29579 so that it arrives by the 1st of the month.
- Pay via the auto bill-pay program through your financial institution. Simply make Kevin Jones a monthly bill. Be sure to set it to pay out on the 24th of the month so that it will arrive at KJPAS by the 1st of the following month.

Please note: All payments received after midnight on the 5th of the month will incur a **\$50 late fee**. If you are unable to make it to your first lesson of the month, be sure that you have paid your tuition. All returned checks will incur an additional \$25 fee. Please consider this your one and only warning regarding late payment. You will incur a late fee if you do not pay your tuition on time. And I will not teach your child until tuition has been paid. I thank-you in advance for understanding that this is my career, not my hobby.

Please also note: This year I will *not* be sending out tuition reminders. By signing up for this studio you are acknowledging that tuition is due on the 1st of every month in the same way that your mortgage is due on the same day each month. If your tuition has not been paid on time, you will then receive an email letting you know that your tuition plus the \$50 late payment fee is due. No lessons will be taught until tuition (and any late fee's that may have been incurred) have been paid in full each month.

SPECIAL WORKSHOPS AND PERFORMANCES

In addition to your weekly private lesson, I offer several workshops throughout the year. They include music theory, musical theater history, and masterclasses with guest artists. These classes and workshops are not optional; they are part of the KJPAS training program. I am committed to training educated performers who know how to read music, know the history of the Broadway theater, and whom can display some proficiency in sight-singing. Please be sure to mark all KJPAS lessons, workshops and performances on your family calendar.

An annual studio calendar listing all lessons, workshops, and performances is provided to each family at the time of registration. This is more than ample time for you to get the important dates on your calendar so that you do not miss any performances or workshops. And with 30 lesson time slots to choose from each week (when utilizing the lesson swapping option), there is no reason why you should not be able to make it to a lesson each week, as well as all workshops and performances.

If your goal is to belt out pop and country songs into a microphone accompanied by back-up tracks, then I am not the teacher for you. There are other options for you in the Myrtle Beach area and I recommend that you seek them out. However, if your goal is to become a confident performer who is able to sight-sing, read music, make strong acting choices, and possess a thorough knowledge of the history of the American Musical Theater, then I will be delighted to help you achieve that goal.

My mantra on performing is this: I believe in empowering my students and always setting them up for success. While other studios throw their students in front of an audience on a regular basis, I don't believe that they are always ready for such an experience. I prefer to fully prepare my students to sing and act their songs and monologues to the best of their ability before performing in front of an audience. That is why there are just a handful of studio performance opportunities. My goal is to train my students here in the studio so that they can go out into the world and land roles (and often leading roles) at their school, community theater, or even at a professional theater.

MISSED LESSONS

No financial deduction will be made for missed lessons, so I encourage students to swap lessons with another student when a conflict arises. I will regularly provide each studio family with a copy of the updated master lesson schedule including the contact phone number and email of the other students in the studio. This system works very well, and students are often able to make it to one of the 30 available time-slots. Any lessons cancelled by the instructor will be re-scheduled.

Please note: I am no longer offering Skype/Facetime lessons for my local students. Internet lessons work great for performers who are looking for new audition material and coaching on that material. However, internet lessons have proven to be ineffective when it comes to teaching vocal technique. I would be doing my students a disservice by continuing to offer lessons that are not helping them to grow as a performer. So, please do your very best to swap lessons when a conflict arises. There are 30 lesson times available each week for you to choose from. When another student contacts you to swap, please do your very best to make it work –because the time will come when you need to make a swap. Thank-you for your understanding.

Please also note: Over the course of the year, you are going to miss a lesson or two for whatever reason. Please keep it in perspective. I offer so many “bonus” opportunities from longer workshops (Musical Theater History, Music Theory), to free masterclasses with Broadway performers to additional free rehearsal time for performances. I guarantee you that you will still see the value in your investment even if you miss a lesson during the course of the year. Thank-you!

INCLEMENT WEATHER

As I teach out of my home studio, I am always available to teach during lesson times. Thus, the studio will never be closed due to inclement weather. However, the safety of my students is of utmost importance to me. If you cannot make it to your lesson due to the weather please be sure to let me know as far in advance as possible. In rare circumstances (i.e. a hurricane) I will do my best to schedule a make-up lesson.

STUDIO CORRESPONDANCE AND CONTACTING KEVIN

I am very good at communicating with students and parents and making sure that everyone is “in the know” regarding studio lessons and events. By signing up for this studio, you are agreeing to read all studio email correspondence in a timely manner. I am very conscientious of your time and only send out succinct email information as it is absolutely necessary. Please refrain from using me as your personal concierge. While I am of course more than happy to speak with you regarding any questions or concerns that you may have, I do have to say that 90% of the emails and texts that I received this past year were questions that I had just addressed in my weekly to bi-weekly studio emails. Please refer to the studio calendar, the latest/greatest master lesson schedule, and studio email correspondence before making contact. Thank-you.

The best way to contact me 24 hours a day is by e-mail (kevin@kjpas.com). You are also welcome to call/text me at 843-251-9542.