

Student & Parent Handbook

Piano Studio Academy

Welcome

Welcome to CL Entertainment's Piano Studio Academy! We are excited to partner with you on your musical journey.

Our mission is to provide high-quality piano instruction in a positive, encouraging, and engaging learning environment where students can develop both musical skills and personal confidence. Whether you are a complete beginner, an aspiring church musician, a vocalist looking to accompany yourself, or someone seeking to strengthen your existing abilities, lessons are tailored to meet your individual goals and learning style.

You have enrolled in our **Foundations Program**, a comprehensive introductory course designed to equip students with the essential skills needed to become confident and capable musicians. Whether you are completely new to the piano or have limited prior experience, this program provides a strong musical foundation upon which future growth can be built.

Throughout the course, students will learn piano fundamentals including proper hand position and technique, rhythm, note reading, playing by ear, keyboard geography, scales, chords, and basic performance skills. In addition to traditional instruction, students will be encouraged to develop listening skills, musical creativity, and confidence at the instrument.

At CL Entertainment Piano Studio, we believe that music is more than simply learning notes and songs—it's about developing creativity, discipline, self-expression, and a lifelong appreciation for the art of music. Students are encouraged to explore their unique musical interests while building a strong foundation in technique, rhythm, musicianship, and performance skills.

Under the instruction of Malik Stowe, students receive practical, real-world instruction that connects traditional music education with today's musical styles and performance opportunities.

Our goal is not only to help students become better pianists, but also to cultivate confident musicians who are equipped to enjoy music, share their gifts with others, and continue growing long after their lessons have ended.

We are honored to be a part of your musical journey and look forward to helping you discover, develop, and celebrate your God-given talents through the power of music.

Developing Musicians. Building Confidence. Inspiring Excellence.

Meet The Instructor

Malik Stowe

Owner & Instructor, CL Entertainment Piano Studio

Malik Stowe is a professional keyboardist, vocalist, producer, educator, and Director of Music with more than 20 years of musical experience. Born and raised in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Malik developed a passion for music at an early age while growing up in a family deeply rooted in both music and ministry.

His musical journey began at age seven when he started piano lessons and began singing in the youth choir at his family's church. Over the years, his love for music continued to grow, leading him to perform professionally and develop experience across a variety of musical styles, including gospel, R&B, contemporary worship, and popular music.

Throughout his career, Malik has performed with numerous bands and ensembles, sharing the stage with talented musicians across North Carolina and beyond. His background as a performer, vocalist, producer, and church musician allows him to bring real-world experience into every lesson, helping students understand not only how music works, but how it can be applied in practical and meaningful ways.

In addition to his performance career, Malik is passionate about music education and helping students discover their potential. He believes that every student can learn to play and enjoy music when provided with the right guidance, encouragement, and opportunities to grow.

Today, Malik serves as the Director of Music at Goler Memorial AME Zion Church in Winston-Salem and is the owner of CL Entertainment. Through CL Entertainment Piano Studio, he is committed to helping students build strong musical foundations, develop confidence, and cultivate a lifelong appreciation for music.

Malik's teaching philosophy is simple: music should be educational, engaging, and enjoyable. His goal is to help every student grow not only as a pianist, but also as a confident and creative musician.

Enrollment Process

- Submit registration form
- Pay registration fee
- Schedule preferred date for piano assessment & goal-setting session
- Receive tuition invoice (see tuition schedule below for due dates)
- Submit tuition payment before the first instructional lesson

Tuition & Payments

Tuition will be invoiced after the Piano Assessment & Goal-Setting Session is complete. Tuition is divided into two separate installments. The first installment must be **paid-in-full** prior to student's first instructional lesson. **All payments are non-refundable.**

Foundations Program Tuition Schedule	
Registration Fee - \$50 <i>Covers piano assessment/goal-setting session Session 1</i>	Due by Sunday, June 21 st
First Tuition Payment - \$325 <i>Sessions 2-6</i>	Due by Sunday, June 28 th
Second Tuition Payment - \$325 <i>Sessions 7-11</i>	Due by Sunday, August 2 nd

Accepted Payment Methods

- Credit/Debit Cards
- Paypal
- Apple Pay
- Google Pay
- Afterpay
- Affirm
- Klarna
- Cash App

Attendance & Makeup Policy

Because the Foundations Program is a structured 12-week course, regular attendance is essential to student success. Each lesson builds upon concepts introduced in previous sessions, and consistent participation helps students stay on track with their musical development and recital preparation.

Students are expected to attend all scheduled lessons and arrive on time. Lessons will begin and end at the scheduled time. Students who arrive late will receive the remainder of their scheduled lesson time; lessons will not be extended beyond the scheduled ending time.

Absences

If a student is unable to attend a lesson, a parent or adult student should notify the instructor as soon as possible. Whenever possible, at least 24 hours' notice should be provided.

Make-Up Lessons

Because this is a 12-week course with a fixed schedule leading to the Student Recital, make-up opportunities are limited.

Each student is eligible for a maximum of **two (2) make-up lessons** during the duration of the Foundations Program, provided that:

- The absence is communicated in advance whenever possible.
- The make-up lesson can be accommodated within the instructor's schedule.
- The make-up lesson occurs before the conclusion of the course.

Please note that make-up lessons are not guaranteed and are subject to instructor availability.

Missed Lessons Without Notice

Lessons missed without prior notice ("no-shows") are not eligible for a make-up lesson and will count toward the student's allotted course sessions.

Extended Illness or Emergencies

The studio understands that unexpected circumstances may arise. In cases involving extended illness, family emergencies, or other significant situations, accommodations may be considered on a case-by-case basis at the instructor's discretion.

Commitment to Success

Students who attend consistently, practice regularly, and actively participate in lessons are best positioned to experience meaningful growth throughout the program and to perform confidently at the culminating Student Recital.



Practice Expectations

Students ages five to ten: **at least 15 minutes daily**

Students ages eleven to fourteen: **at least 30 minutes daily**

Students ages 15+: **at least 45 minutes daily**

Parent Expectations

Student success is greatest when parents, students, and the instructor work together. Parents play an important role in helping students develop consistent practice habits and a positive attitude toward learning.

Parents are encouraged to:

- Establish a regular practice routine at home.
- Provide a quiet, distraction-free practice environment.
- Encourage students to complete assigned exercises and songs.
- Ensure students arrive on time and prepared for lessons.
- Communicate scheduling conflicts, concerns, or questions promptly.
- Support recital preparation by encouraging regular rehearsal of the student's performance piece.

No musical experience is required to support your student. Encouragement, consistency, and involvement go a long way in helping students build confidence and achieve their musical goals.

Thank you for partnering with CL Entertainment Piano Studio as we help students develop musicianship, confidence, creativity, and a lifelong appreciation for music.

Recital Information

The Foundations Program will conclude with a Student Recital on **Saturday, September 5, 2026, from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM**. The recital serves as a celebration of each student's hard work, dedication, and musical growth throughout the course.

The recital provides students with an opportunity to showcase the skills they have developed during the program while gaining valuable performance experience in a supportive and encouraging environment. Family members and friends are invited to attend and celebrate the accomplishments of our students.

Performance Preparation

Each student will prepare and perform one piano selection of their choosing during the recital. Students are encouraged to select a piece that reflects their interests, personality, and current skill level. The instructor will provide guidance and approval to ensure that each selection is appropriate and achievable within the course timeline.

Beginning several weeks before the recital, lesson time will be dedicated to refining performance skills, improving musical expression, and building confidence for the stage.

Practice Expectations

Student success at the recital is directly connected to consistent preparation outside of lessons. Students are expected to rehearse their recital piece regularly at home leading up to the performance date.

Parents are encouraged to support students by:

- Establishing a consistent practice routine
- Providing encouragement and accountability
- Celebrating progress throughout the preparation process

Students who practice consistently will feel more confident and better prepared to perform before an audience.

Recital Etiquette

To ensure a positive experience for all participants, students are expected to:

- Arrive on time and prepared
- Dress neatly and appropriately for the occasion
- Demonstrate respect and encouragement toward fellow performers
- Remain attentive during the performances of other students

The recital is not intended to be a competition, but rather a celebration of musical growth, achievement, and the courage to perform.

Participation

Participation in the Student Recital is strongly encouraged. Performing in front of an audience is an important part of musical development and helps students build confidence, stage presence, and performance skills that extend beyond the piano.

Every student who participates in the recital and successfully completes the Foundations Program will be recognized for their accomplishments and will receive a Certificate of Completion from CL Entertainment Piano Studio.

We look forward to celebrating your progress and sharing an afternoon of music, growth, and achievement with family and friends.

Student & Parent Agreement

I have read and understand the policies outlined in this handbook.

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Signature: _____