

Rachel C's

FLUTE STUDIO HANDBOOK





Welcome!

I'm so excited to welcome you to my flute studio! I look forward to getting to know you better in our private lessons.

With over 7 years of teaching experience, and a once-budding student myself, I personally know what an honor it is to be a part of your musical and creative journey.

I believe music is an extremely rewarding art form and I hope that as we work together you will be able to gain a better sense of creative purpose in your life.

This handbook will outline my personal teaching philosophies, what is included in my studio, and what you can expect in our lessons together.

Thank you for being a part of the studio! I am excited to welcome you and I will support you every step of the way.

Rachel C.

Teaching Philosophy

I grew up in Utah taking private lessons and received my Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Flute Performance at Brigham Young University. Throughout my educational experience, I won several competitions, traveled the world, and fell in love with teaching!

In that time, I realized something that changed the course of my education. So often we depend on waiting for results to reward ourselves with feelings of worthiness and belonging, when really the basic human need that satisfies these cravings is to create. I believe the desire to create is innate and music is one of the best ways to implement that creativity in our lives.

To support that, studies show that being involved in music activities increases self-confidence, personal achievement and creative expression. It is one of the most enjoyable and rewarding ways to practice discipline and the value of hard work.

To help my students achieve the same result, I hope to provide proper learning technique and music theory comprehension. My own discovered creativity blended with the creative intuition of my students will result in more connected and confident playing.

Throughout my experience, both as a student and as a teacher, I've refined a methodology to provide for the individual needs of my students. I believe that by applying my knowledge and experience, you can better achieve your creative goals.

Methodology

Proficiency

The student should have a basic knowledge of everything on the page. Rhythm, notes, articulation, and dynamics are the essentials in learning a piece of music and will lead to better habits that will allow your creativity to flourish beyond what's written on the page.

Style

So much of music isn't written, and that's what can leave us without creative inspiration. By researching the composer and listening to recordings, we can honor their intentions and take part in the composer's creative process.

Expression

This is our main goal! If we have the solid foundations of proficiency and style, the student can then express his or her own creativity. We explore expression in music by defining emotions, creating feelings, and connecting with others through performance.

Lesson Processes

Students can expect to arrive at their lessons prepared with answers to these questions:

What did you focus on this week?

What was confusing this week?

What did you succeed at this week?

We will then move through the lesson. This may vary for special circumstances, but I assign 3 main things:

TECHNIQUE - ETUDE - SOLO

I will first hold you accountable by having you play through the technique and etude, correcting mistakes as I see them. I will then assign the next weeks lesson, and then we will work on your solo by applying the principles of proficiency, style, and expression.

Materials & Expectations

RACHEL PROVIDES:

- Sheet music (billed in your monthly invoice)
- 3-ring practice binder
- Weekly lesson logs
- Resources to explore song choices in your level

STUDENT PROVIDES:

- Flute + cleaning supplies
- Materials ready every lesson
- Filled in practice logs

PRACTICE ROOM:

- Music stand
- Metronome
- Tuner
- Pencil
- Recording device (strongly recommended)

*Recommendations for supplies will be included in your practice binder when you sign up.

Beginning Students (0-2 years):

PRACTICE: 20-30 minutes a day, 5-6 days a week

1-6 months: Finger and name all the notes D1-D3 above the staff (including up to 2 flats and sharps). Understanding of basic rhythms and key signatures. Single-tongue, slur, legato, and staccato articulations. Completion of at least 4 new songs.

6-12 months: Major and minor key signatures up to 3 flats or 2 sharps. Sixteenth note rhythms and 6/8 time signature. Understanding of accidentals and other symbols. Extend range to low C - high G.

Intermediate Students (2-4 years):

PRACTICE: 30-45 minutes a day, 5-6 days a week

C1-A3, occasionally Bb3. All major and minor key signatures. Complex rhythmic combinations.

Familiar with all articulation and occasionally use multiple tonguing and flutter tonguing.

Introduction of vibrato. Control of the full dynamic spectrum. Able to read 75-100% of notes, at least 2 years of music experience, understanding of technique, shows improvement at each lesson

Advanced Students (4+ years):

PRACTICE: 1 hour + a day, 5-6 days a week

Able to quickly read 100% of notes, at least 4 years of music experience, assess and monitor their own progress. Self-paced study.

Responsibility Breakdown

Teacher Responsibilities:

- Creating individualized instruction, maintaining a positive atmosphere for learning, and encouraging each student to improve.
- Provide music and materials recommendations matched to individual student's needs, goals, and learning style.
- Offer performance opportunities.
- Continue to develop teaching skills and music knowledge by being a part of professional organizations, attending workshops, reading professional publications, and becoming better at the flute myself.

Parent Responsibilities:

- Be supportive and involved!
- Provide a well-maintained instrument by taking it in for yearly cleanings.
- Help reserve a regular practice session(s) each day.
- Provide a practice environment free from interruptions
- Be financially responsible and communicative. Check your student's notebook, studio website, and studio emails regularly and communicate any questions or concerns you have.

Student Responsibilities:

- Arrive at each lesson on time, well-prepared, and with all books and materials.
- Practice - in order to progress, daily practice is necessary.
- Participate in studio activities and performance.