

# MATT RICHARD'S TRUMPET LESSONS

## STUDIO POLICY

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The following information applies to all students I teach, both at the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts, and online via Zoom.

### Lesson Schedule

Lessons are held once a week, for either 30, 45, or 60 minutes, decided in advance. Lessons are available year round, though many students prefer to start in September and go through until June. There are no lessons held between Christmas Eve and New Years, and lessons that would fall on major holidays are to be discussed between the student and teacher and scheduled appropriately.

### Lesson Payments

When possible, lessons should be booked in groups of one month (4) or one term (18). Rates for lessons are as follows:

	In person 1 lesson	In person 4 lessons	In person 18 lessons	Online Non-MCPA student 1 lesson
30 minutes	\$34	\$136	\$612	\$32
45 minutes	\$45	\$180	\$810	\$43
60 minutes	\$56	\$224	\$1008	\$54

Online lessons began in 2020 due to the global health situation at the time, and continue to be offered as a convenience. Rates for online lessons are lower because the teacher acknowledges that it is more difficult to provide the same standard and quality of education online. Students who register for online lessons must acknowledge and accept this reality as well. Students taking online lessons register directly with me, and do not receive the benefits associated with being students of the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts.

Receipts for online lesson payments are generally issued three times a year: end of December (for the fall), end of June (for the spring), and end of August (for the summer). If you require more frequent receipts, please discuss with me directly.

### Attendance

Sometimes things come up and people need to reschedule. I am able to accommodate most any situation: I guarantee that you get the number of lessons you pay for. Simply contact me in advance of the lesson if you are unable to make it and we will postpone to the following week. Frequent and unexplained abuse of such flexibility may warrant a discussion, but please know that you can reach out to me at any time if you need to reschedule for any reason, even the day of.

If I must cancel for any reason, you will know by phone (preferred) or email as soon as I find out, and that lesson will be postponed to the following week. As I said before, I guarantee you get the number of lessons you pay for.

It is strongly encouraged that students warm up at home before arriving for lessons, to maximize time in the lesson itself.

## **Equipment**

It is ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL that the student have:

- > A trumpet
- > Valve oil, sold at Long & McQuade, about \$5
- > A pencil
- > For online lessons, a device to call on with stable internet connection

It is STRONGLY ENCOURAGED that the student have:

- > A notebook, to record what is discussed in lessons
- > A cleaning kit, sold at Long & McQuade, about \$15
- > A metronome and tuner; free smartphone apps will suffice
- > For online lessons, a printer

## **Practicing**

The trumpet is an instrument based on momentum. The more consistently you can practice, the easier it will be and the faster you will improve. The longer you go without practicing, the harder it will be to start again when you do. Therefore, it must be understood that no matter how good the teacher, a student will only improve at the rate set out by their practice habits.

I also recommend students be in at least one band, whether a school band, all-city program, the Maritime Conservatory Brass Ensemble, or anything else. More opportunities to play means more opportunities to learn.

## **Lesson Structure**

I divide lessons evenly between exercises and pieces I assign for the student, usually in the classical idiom, and pieces the student requests for themselves. I encourage students to ask me any time they have a piece of music they're interested in learning, as I can find or create level-appropriate versions of most anything fairly easily. Pop songs and movie music are encouraged as well!

## **Beyond the Lesson**

As a member of both Conservatory Nova Scotia and the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts, I can offer access to scholarships, recital and performance opportunities, and workshops, and will keep students up to date via email and on my website. I also encourage students from ages 10-18 to consider participating in the Maritime Conservatory Brass Ensemble, led by Rod MacGillivray and aided by myself.