

## **Antonina Styczen Boutique Flute Teaching Studio Policy**

Welcome to my Flute Teaching Studio! To ensure a productive and enjoyable learning experience, I have established the following policies:

### **Commitment to Practice**

Daily Practice: Students are expected to practice for at least 45 minutes every day. Consistent practice is crucial for progress and skill development. If a student would like to participate in competitions or auditions, or to prepare for college auditions, 1-3h daily will be recommended.

### **Lesson Frequency:**

For students who are taking lessons as an addition to their school's music programs I recommend one lesson a week, 45 min or 1 hour long. In 45 minutes we can briefly work on technique and sound development and then on the assigned music. For more advanced students, I recommend 1 hour lessons where we have more time for sound and technique development as well as music preparation.

*For students committing to auditions and competitions, I highly recommend scheduling two lessons per week to ensure adequate preparation.*

### **Lesson Preparation**

- Be Prepared for Lessons: Students should come to each lesson prepared, having practiced assigned pieces and exercises. This ensures we can make the most of our time together.
- The student should own or rent an instrument in working condition, adequate to the level of the player. Sometimes it will be recommended to upgrade an instrument if needed. The instrument has to be maintained and serviced - I highly recommend using Seung Jeon Flute Services based in DTLA: [seungjeonfl@gmail.com](mailto:seungjeonfl@gmail.com) (301) 525-4986.
- Music stand that is tall enough for the student. Recommended height is as tall as students eyes level - this will help in maintaining the correct position during the practice and lessons.
- Homework in Music Theory and Ear Training - small assignments will be distributed during our lessons. If participating in Certificate of Merit, please make sure to follow all directions.
- Tuner and Metronome. Any app that has metronome and tuner can be used but I can recommend the TE Tuner App or Smart Metronome & Tuner.

### **Studio Recitals**

Biannual Recitals: studio hosts two recitals each year, one in December and one in June. These recitals provide students with the opportunity to perform and showcase their progress and collaborate together in chamber music groups and ensembles. Professional pianist is being hired for the recitals and rehearsals prior for an additional fee.

### **Studio Classes and Recital Preparation**

There will be 2-3 Studio Classes available to participate for students: two before recitals as a preparation and one in the summer, before the school year if time allows. Students will prepare chamber music and ensemble pieces. Rehearsals with a professional pianist will also be scheduled before recitals to ensure readiness for the recital and competitions.

### **Audition and Competition Preparation**

Preparation for audition placements, orchestra auditions, band placements and competitions. Participation in competitions and auditions is encouraged for those interested but not required. Students who would like to compete are encouraged to schedule 2 lessons a week to ensure quick progress. For competitions, professional pianist will be required to hire for rehearsals and events for an additional fee. *In the annex below you can find the list of auditions, competitions and other opportunities that are available to participate in my studio.*

### **Summer Back to School Intensive**

The Intensive Package includes 3 private lessons and one studio class in one week. This package is designed to jump-start the practice routine after the summer break and prepare the student for the upcoming school year. (Dates TBD individually)

### **Payment Policy**

- Monthly Payments: Payment is appreciated in advance for the month, available in packages of 4 or 5 lessons.
- Payment Methods: Payments can be made via Venmo, check, cash, or Zelle.
- Financial responsibility: 1h lesson: 100\$, 45 min lesson: 80\$, 30 min lesson: 55\$ (only for beginners)

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School and grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Name/Email address of band/music teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Student/Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

I look forward to helping you achieve your musical goals and enjoying your flute-playing journey!  
If you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

## **Southern California School Band & Orchestra Association**

This is a competitive audition accepting only a few students from all Southern California regions. It's worth trying it out as it requires both scales and music. Usually the audition and application deadline is around the beginning of December.

### **Honor Group Grade Levels**

#### **Elementary: 4th-6th Grade**

\*6th graders participating in Elem. Honor Groups must audition using the Elem. solos & scales

#### **Middle School: 6th-8th Grade**

\*6th graders participating in MS Honor Groups must audition using the MS solos & scales

#### **High School: 9th-12th Grade**

\*Students auditioning for both SCSBOA Concert and Jazz Honor Groups can only be chosen to participate in one due to the rehearsal schedules conflicting.

### **Eligibility**

- Applicants **must be** enrolled as a student in good standing in their school music program during the 24-25 school year.
- Students who do not have a school instrumental music program may submit an audition through their private teacher or parent, and must provide a letter on school letterhead, signed by the principal confirming there is no instrumental music program at the school. This letter must be emailed to [scsboa@gmail.com](mailto:scsboa@gmail.com) before Dec 1st.
- The School Director must be a member of SCSBOA.
- Home school students must provide proof of home school enrollment to [scsboa@gmail.com](mailto:scsboa@gmail.com) before Dec 1st.

### **Pacific Symphony** (audition information available in March)

- **Youth Orchestra**

Grades 9-12

Highly competitive, not every year they have openings for flutes and piccolo.

Recommended for advanced and serious students who consider majoring/minoring in flute performance in college.

Only three flutists are needed each year but availability of these seats depends on the year and graduating students.

- **Wind Ensemble**

Grades 9-12

Competitive but with more seats available at the auditions (depends on the year).

Advanced repertoire, a lot of fast paced music in high register,

- **Concert Band**

Grades 6-9

Competitive audition for middle schoolers. Advanced techniques needed like double tonguing and/or fast single tonguing.

[Orange County Youth Symphony](#) (auditions held in May)

Auditions available for middle schoolers, high schoolers and college students. Highly competitive, not every year they have openings for flutes and piccolo. Recommended for advanced and serious students who consider majoring/minoring in flute performance in college.

[The Irvine Classical Players Youth Orchestra](#)

A little bit less competitive as their winds program just started a year ago. Their focus is mostly on string instruments but they have a full program of concerts, solo opportunities available and each year an international tour. The downside is the cost as it is pretty pricey.

Auditions are based on two excerpts of the student's choice if not directed otherwise. Usually the deadline is the end of summer.

- **Seraphin Winds: Grades 8-12**
- **Seraphim Symphony: 9-12**

[Four Seasons Youth Orchestra](#)

Less competitive orchestra open to all students 8-18 years of age from the Southern California Area. At least 2 years of experience playing your instrument is required.

The students are required to be an active participant of their school's music program. If the school does not have an instrumental music program or they are homeschooled, they are exempt from this requirement.

The audition materials for the 2024-2025 season has not been released yet but based on the last year's they usually require a pair of contrasting solo passages of student's choosing: technical and lyrical as well as mandatory orchestral excerpt.

[Community Youth Orchestra of Southern California](#)

Less competitive orchestra. Upper Elementary, Middle, and High School Full Orchestra. The symphony includes advanced players from upper Elementary to the end of High School, including all strings, woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. Auditions are held in person, the application deadline is usually the middle/end of January.

**Competitions and other performance opportunities:**

[San Diego Flute Guild](#) SDFG is the most active flute membership club in California, offering multiple performances, competitions, masterclasses and scholarship opportunities each year. I am serving as a president of the SDFG from 2022. The membership is affordable: 35\$ a year plus additional fees for the participation in events. It's highly worth it and their Spring Festival

each year brings hundreds of flutists to Southern California for 2 days of flute events!

### **SDFG Competitions:**

- Elementary Youth Artist: Through and including 6th Grade. Cash prizes. Competitive.
- Junior Youth Artist: Through and including 9th Grade. Cash prizes. Pretty competitive.
- Senior Youth Artist: Through and including 6th Grade. Cash Prizes. Very competitive.
- Rising Star Scholarship: Currently-enrolled 12th graders who will graduate in Spring 2025. Pursuing music (as a major or minor) at an accredited university.
- Young Artist: open to flutists age 18-30, professional level, very competitive.
- Festival Division: All grades and levels. No cash prizes, less competitive and friendly atmosphere. Perfect first competition experience!

### **SDFG Performance Opportunities:**

- Members Recital (Fall)
- Holiday Flute Choir Recital (December)
- Spring Flute Festival (March-April)
- Chamber Fest (February)
- Guest Artist Performances and Masterclasses (during Spring Festival and more!)

### **[Music Teachers' Association of California](#) Starting in September 2024!**

**VOCE** is a prestigious competition for vocalists, strings, winds/brass, and chamber music at the Regional and State levels. Students first perform at Regional Competitions against students in their respective regions. Students in both solo and ensemble categories will compete according to their age divisions and before a panel of instrument specialists. Students who earn high enough scores in the Regional Competitions will advance to the final round of competition. The competition is open to both soloists and ensembles with students between the ages of 5 – 20.

Teachers may also enroll their students in the non-competitive track, allowing participants to perform for judges' comments without the pressure of competing.

### **[Certificate of Merit](#) - Starting in September 2024!**

Certificate of Merit® provides a standardized music curriculum for musical excellence in performance, technique, ear training, sight reading/singing and music theory. Each instrument has its own 10-level or 11-level syllabus, detailing a specific set of requirements. Teacher will decide the appropriate level for each student. Students and teachers work together on level-appropriate selected repertoire, technique elements, sight reading, theory, and ear training. Students participate in an annual Evaluation between mid-February and March and receive a musical assessment. Students complete a written theory exam which includes an ear training component.