

# Welcome to Kevin Hicks' Online Music Lesson Studio!

"I'm very excited for you to experience the future right now!" Education is ever changing in the digital age. Now, anyone with a computer and Internet access can explore subjects of interest with more ease than ever.

As a member of Kevin Hicks' studio, you and Kevin will create a custom plan to help you pursue your goals in music. You will be given links to digital tools, information, recordings, and more. You will be given materials to help you track your progress and stay focused. You will also learn skills you may not have realized would be important to achieving your goals in music. As a teacher, Kevin's main purpose is to give you feedback on your progress, expose you to materials and methods for practice, and give you model performances to mimic. Below are the things you must be aware of before beginning lessons.

## **Weekly Format**

Each week you will be assigned something to do before the next lesson. This may include practicing a scale, doing a worksheet, watching an instructional video, looking up something on the Internet, recording yourself, or a possibility of other tasks pertaining to music practice. Kevin will send you a PDF after each lesson with the notes about how you did in your lesson and the next week's assignments. You will also be given access to certain files via Dropbox that you will need to download and reference or work on and complete. Some files are audio files, some files are sheet music, some files are worksheets. You will also be asked to record yourself and send the recording at least 24 hours before the live video lesson. This is so Kevin can review a better representation of your playing than the live video chat.

## **What will I need before I start?**

### **Equipment:**

You'll need a computer, tablet, or smartphone with a built in camera and microphone. If you have a computer, but not a webcam or microphone, you will need to get this equipment and set it up before the first lesson. You will need access to a printer if you want to print out the worksheets. If you would rather not print, you'll need to figure out how to complete PDF worksheets through adobe premier or a similar program. If you do print, you will also need a scanner (or camera that can pick up the detail of your answers on the worksheets) so you can submit the completed assignments.

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## **Internet:**

You'll need to have working Internet. The faster the Internet connection you have, the clearer the audio/video quality will be. Plugging straight into the modem is faster than using WIFI.

## **Quiet location with few distractions:**

This sounds obvious enough but should be mentioned. Having your computer in a quiet place with few distractions is key to getting the most out of your lessons. Your timeslot is when it is. If it gets cut short for one reason or another, the time cannot be made up. If you have re-occurring distractions, another permanent timeslot can be worked out.

## **What else should I know?**

### **Schedule:**

You will choose your lesson time from a list of choices Kevin sends you. If none of the times work for you, coordinate another set of possible times with Kevin. Remember to mention what timezone you are in so he knows how much to convert the time.

### **Policy:**

The live one-on-one video lessons occur once a week. If you are going to need to reschedule a lesson, email Kevin at least 24 hours before the regular scheduled lesson to work out a reschedule time. If you need to cancel a lesson within 24 hours the lesson must still be paid for except in the case of emergency.

### **Payment:**

Payment is required at the end of lesson time. Using PayPal, you can pay for lessons over the Internet through an email invoice that will be sent to you. Paying for multiple lessons at a time is beneficial and rewarded with a discount in cases a discount isn't already in place.

You are joining in a truly innovative venture. Online music lessons are beginning to take off and you are in the front seat. Technology is steadily improving, allowing for more access to the information you want. Even universities are utilizing technology at a steep increasing rate. See you soon!

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