

Bellingham Music Private Lessons 2023-2024

Details for Students and Families



Dear Students and Families,

Thank you for enrolling in our private lesson program in the Bellingham Public School District. We are excited for you and know that you will grow as a musician with our highly qualified private lesson teachers!

Payment Information for non-scholarship students

Approximate cost per lesson is \$25, 30 minute lesson.

6 lessons per quarter X \$25 = Total lesson per quarter = \$150

Please make payment directly to the lesson teacher and based on their preference for frequency (weekly, monthly, etc). If your family decides to take more lessons, please coordinate directly with the teacher but also keep in mind the school calendar of school vacations, holidays and early release days.

The family is responsible for adhering to the teacher's cancellation/sick policy.

Half Scholarship Information

Half Scholarship Information: Half Scholarships were awarded based on scholarship applications that were open in June of 2023. If your student has been awarded a half-scholarship toward private lessons - the amount is \$300.00 total for the school year. Here are additional following details:

A half scholarship allows you to take 6 lessons per quarter (30 minutes each), totaling 24 for the year. You will pay \$75 per quarter to the Bellingham Friends of Music, and BFOM will pay the teachers quarterly for the 6 lessons.

Total lesson amount for the year = \$600

Total Half scholarship amount = \$300

Total lesson per quarter =\$150

Family payment per quarter = \$75 (X 4 quarters) (this may vary by teacher lesson cost)

BFOM scholarship per quarter =\$75 (X 4 quarters)

Please make checks payable to Bellingham Friends of Music. If your student decides to take more than six lessons in a quarter, please coordinate those dates with your private lesson teacher and pay them directly for those lessons. Again, the scholarship program only accounts for **\$300** which is 24, 30-minute lessons throughout the course of the school year. While we encourage students to take as many lessons as possible, the student's family must pay for any additional lessons over the 6 allotted per quarter directly to the teacher.

If your lesson teacher has a different price per lesson, the scholarship amount does not change. The family is responsible for lesser or greater amounts as required.

If you are receiving a scholarship, the student and their family is expected to:

- Pay the BFOM up-front for lessons with the Installment Plan of 4 equal payments, due before each quarter.
- Be fully enrolled in the band/chorus program and have regular attendance at all in-school lessons and rehearsals.
- Students and/or a family member assist at two events throughout the school year, or serve a position on the board of the Friends of Music.
- Be prepared for and attend weekly private lessons on a regular basis.
- Demonstrate a willingness to attend all private lesson sessions for the semester. There is one make-up lesson allowed for each quarter. Please contact your teacher if you need to reschedule a lesson, and please give them at least 24 hrs notice. Unexcused/No-Show lessons will NOT be supplemented and cancellations made within

less than 24 hrs of the lesson time will be counted as a no-show. Students/families agree to pay the full price for unexcused absences.

- Be in good academic and attendance standing at your respective school.

Non-Scholarship Payment Information

**** If your student is not receiving a scholarship, you should coordinate and pay the lesson teacher directly according to their preferences****

Scholarship Payment Schedule -

for those students on scholarship, please use this calendar for checks to BFOM.

Please make checks made payable to BFOM or Bellingham Friends of Music

Checks can be sent with your student to school and given to your music teacher or mailed directly to:

Bellingham High School

Attn: Marie Forte, Music

60 Blackstone Street

Bellingham, MA 02019

Lesson Timeline:	Lesson Payments Due:
To Pay the Year in Full	September 20, 2023
Quarter 1: 9/25/23 – 11/3/23 (6 weeks)	Quarter 1: Friday, September 22, 2023
Quarter 2: 11/6/23 – 12/22/23	Quarter 2: Friday, October 27, 2023
Semester 1 Make-up/Extra Lessons: 12/18/23 – 12/22/23 *Extra lessons (past the allotted 6 per quarter) must be paid directly to the teacher.	
Quarter 3: 1/8/24 – 3/1/24	Quarter 3: Friday, January 5, 2024
Quarter 4: 3/4/24– 4/12/24	Quarter 4: Friday, March 1, 2024
Semester 2 Make-up/Extra Lessons: 4/15/24 – 4/19/24 *Extra lessons (past the allotted 6 per quarter) must be paid directly to the teacher.	

School calendar, early dismissals and snow days: I am linking the [Bellingham Public Schools calendar](#) to this document and I encourage you to make note of our professional development days, early dismissals and school vacations. I would not recommend having lessons the week of Thanksgiving. At BHS, we also have 3 days of mid-term exams in January that will be early dismissals. Please note that these early dismissal days typically do not have late buses and transportation could be an issue for some families. I have tried my best to build in extra weeks and make-up weeks into the suggested schedule. There is also additional time at the end of the school year if you run into a particular problem with the schedule, quarantine or other issues. Please realize that if you go beyond the 6 lessons per quarter or 24 lessons total for the school year, we cannot add to the scholarship amount from the BFOM without express permission from the BFOM board. If your student(s) are paying privately for lessons and wish to continue beyond the 6 lessons per quarter or 24 lessons total, that is perfectly fine with us.

Communication with students, families and lesson teachers - It is the policy of the Bellingham Public Schools to NOT allow faculty and staff to text or call directly with students. Please have parent/guardians text with lesson teachers and avoid having students texting. Please know that students in grades 5 - 10 cannot receive emails from non-Bellingham

email addresses. If you need to get a time-sensitive message to a student, you are always welcome to email or call the music teachers. We will do our best to help you with time sensitive communication!

Please let me know if you have any questions about the private lesson program this year.

Sincerely,
Ms. Forte
Private Lesson Program Facilitator

Marie Forte, Bellingham Fine Arts Department Coordinator, mforte@bpsdk12.org 508-966-3761 x. 1123
Kaitlyn Braman, Bellingham High School Music Teacher, kbraman@bpsdk12.org 508-966-3761 x. 1125
Timothy MacDonald, Bellingham Memorial School Music Teacher, tmacdonald@bpsdk12.org
Julie Signa, Bellingham Memorial School Music Teacher, jsigna@bpsdk12.org
Adam Stevens, Bellingham Memorial School & Stall Brook, astevens@bpsdk12.org

www.BellinghamMusic.org