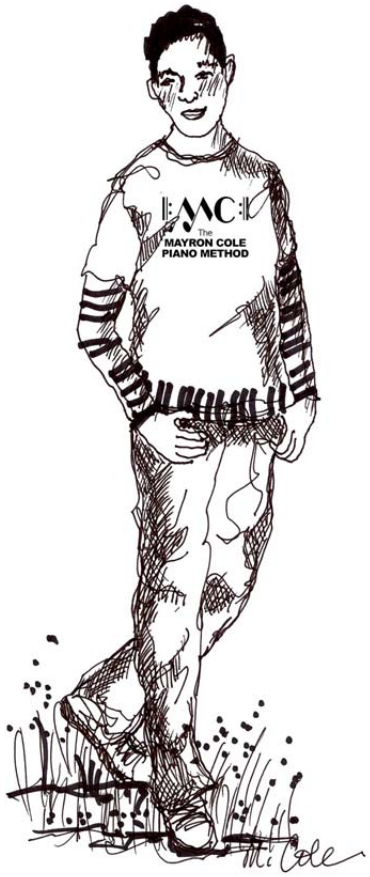
How to Teach Adult Classes
Webinar Outline

© 2007 The Mayron Cole Music Conservatory, Inc
Any reproduction of this material is strictly prohibited under the copyright laws of The United States of America.

How to Advertise for Adult Classes

- State in all of your usual ads and postcards "Now registering beginner classes for adults!"
- Rec Center or Continuing Education Program through the school district offers many different classes for adults.

Beginner Classes for Adults



- Do NOT mix adults and children in the same class!
  - "Mommy and Me" does not work with piano lessons.
- Many adults have had piano as a child. They will all be at different levels with various learning gaps.
- Many adults will say they are beginners, but they belong in considerably higher levels. They intimidate beginners and beginners will quit.
- Easiest to only take adults that have had NO piano.
- If you don't want to turn away adults that have had piano before, teach them privately.
  - Private lesson adult students very quickly fall into the habit of not practicing.
- Be prepared for the fact that adult students will quit.
  - Many adults have a very short attention span and want to be accomplished pianists overnight.
- Because adults quit at a faster pace than children, schedule adult classes at the end of the day. If they quit, you do not have a gap in your schedule.

Teaching Schedule for Adult Classes

- Follow your school year teaching schedule for children's classes.
- Do not have adults pay monthly…
  - They very often do not want to commit to an entire school year of piano.
  - They could take one month then quit.
- Divide your teaching schedule into 4 equal parts and divide your annual tuition into 4 equal parts. Have adults pay for those lessons up front.
- For example, if you teach 32 lessons in a school year for $600, then adults will pay $150 up front for 8 lessons four times during the year.
- Have adults sign a short policy when the register that states: NO REFUNDS. NO MAKE-UP LESSONS. NO TUITION CREDITS.
- See attached policy for adult classes.

Teaching Adult Classes

- Begin with Older Beginner Level 1, Older Beginner Level 2, Level 3A, etc
- 45 minute class; no game time; no time for worksheets.
- Review theory while at the pianos. Incorporate theory while learning music.
- Allow adults to warm up before playing homework for you.
- Some adults do not want to play homework in front of others. Just ask if they can play it and move on.
- Adult classes will move MUCH more quickly than children's classes.
    - Not only do adults learn faster than children, they are also spending the full 45 minutes at the pianos.
    - Let the class move at it's own pace.
    - If the class has learned a piece and there is time left, teach the next piece.
- Adults will not all progress at the same pace… more so than children.
    - Teach the class at a moderate pace… not the speed of the best and not the speed of the slowest.
    - Why not teach adult classes at the pace of the best?
        - Best students usually have careers and might not stick with piano for very long.
        - Moderate speed adults are the ones most likely to stick with piano.



Summer

- Some adults will not want to take the summer off from piano.
- If the entire class wants to take in the summer, continue with the text book.
- If only some of the class wants to take in the summer, teach extra-curricular material.
    - (Ideas for Summer Webinar)
- Be sure you take some time off from teaching to rejuvenate for the next school year.

The MAYRON COLE PIANO METHOD

www.MCpiano.com

800-527-6873

The Only Piano Method That Takes Students from Kindergarten to College

Piano Bayou
PIANO CLASSES FOR KIDS

RETURN THIS COPY WITH YOUR TUITION

Adult-Student Registration

Student's Name: _____ Daytime Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____ Evening Phone: _____

City: _____ ,TX Zip: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Agree to Piano Bayou's Policy...

POLICY

Please read the following POLICY. Below is an AGREEMENT to this POLICY. A student will be registered only after the agreement is signed, dated, and returned with a TUITION CHECK.

LENGTH OF COURSE

The "32-lesson Course for Adults" follows the GISD school year and runs from September through May. The 32-lesson course is divided into 4 quarters of 8 lessons each. An adult student will be placed in a small class that will meet for 45 minutes each week. Please refer to the attached class schedule for all scheduled holidays.

TUITION PAYMENT

The "32-lesson Course for Adults" is paid for in 4 equal quarters of 8 lessons each. The eight-lesson quarter costs $***XXX***.00 and is due in full prior to the first lesson of each quarter. The tuition payment holds a place for you in one of my classes; therefore it is NON-REFUNDABLE. An adult student is only committing to 8 lessons at a time. If the adult student chooses to terminate piano lessons before the end of May, please notify Piano Bayou before the next 8-lesson quarter begins.

MUSIC

Students should complete each music book in 8 - 16 lessons. The music book is required for the course and the cost is $25 (through level 4), and is paid for upon distribution. If a student withdraws from a class before the first lesson, although **the tuition is non-refundable**, the $25 for the music book will be returned to the student. If a student withdraws after classes have begun, the $25 for the music book as well as the full tuition will be **NON-REFUNDABLE**.

MISSED LESSONS

No tuition credits or make-up lessons are given. A student should call or e-mail Piano Bayou to find out what music was assigned that day if the student must miss a class.

I have read the above POLICY of Piano Bayou. I understand the policies, and I will abide by them. I agree to pay Colleen Cole dba Piano Bayou the $*XXX* tuition and any music charges on the first lesson of each 8-lesson quarter through May, 2009 I understand that my tuition for each 8-lesson quarter is non-refundable. I understand that I am only committing to one 8-lesson quarter at a time. If I want to quit piano lessons before the end of the full course in May 2009, I will notify Piano Bayou before the first lesson of the new 8-lesson quarter.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Class Time Information...

Your class will either meet in the evening on Mondays or Thursdays. If there is a specific time or times on either of those two evenings that you are **NOT** available to attend a piano class, please indicate below. This information will be used to schedule your class so please be thorough. Once classes are scheduled, they cannot be changed.

A confirmation of your piano class day and time will be mailed to you.

Piano Bayou ***CONTACT INFO HERE: ADDRESS CITY, ST ZIP PHONE E-MAIL***