

Montpelier Strings Studio

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Dear Most Awesome Cello, Bass, Violin, or Viola Student,

Thanks for being a part of my studio! This has been an unusual time for lessons to be sure. Please read this letter carefully, as it has lots of information; I would suggest keeping a copy of this email for reference.

Upcoming Events: Remember that you have your regularly scheduled lessons through the last full week of June. I can be flexible for the last couple of weeks because school is out, so mornings may be a possibility. We will have a recital on either June 12 at 3pm, or if it rains, June 13 at 3pm. If it rains both days, we'll cancel it. The week before, June 7-11, there will be **IN PERSON LESSONS!** This will be only for that week. I have arranged to rent Room 200 at the Center for Arts and Learning; it is a big room, with four windows for ventilation, so we can socially distance as necessary. Directions: The Center for Arts and Learning (CAL) is on 46 Barre Street in Montpelier. If you enter from the door with the roof on the right side of the building, and go up 1 1/2 flights of stairs, Room 200 is at the end of the hallway on the left. It has glass doors. For GMYS members, this is the room that you've often auditioned in.

Summer 2021 lesson sign-ups: Please see the 2021 Summer Schedule Form attached. For Summer (July and August) you may sign up for as many or as few lessons as you would like within the given dates available on the schedule. Please fill the form out as completely as you are able and hand it to me on or before June 11th. All lessons during the summer will be charged at the rate of \$70 per hour, \$55 for 3/4 hour, or \$40 for 1/2 hour due in full for the complete summer at the time of the first lesson. Please return the Summer Schedule form as soon as possible.

Fall 2021/Spring 2022 sign-ups: Regular lessons will continue through June 26th. In the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 semesters, I'll again provide you with a lesson slot assigned to you for a monthly tuition rate. Tuition will have a cost of living increase (the first since 2016!), and will be \$150 for 1/2 hour lessons, \$225 for 3/4 hour lessons, or \$300 for full hour lessons. Tuition is due at the first lesson of each month; if it is not paid by the end of the second week, a \$30 fee will be charged. I will continue to teach all day Tuesdays and Thursdays, and Friday afternoons. Fall lessons resume Tuesday, September 6; please fill out the enclosed Autumn Scheduling Form as thoroughly as possible. I know that some people's fall schedule is uncertain; just do your best. The form is due June 25th.

Where will lessons be? Well, that is an excellent question! Currently, for September my plan is to teach at my studio at the Center for Arts and Learning for everyone *who has been vaccinated*. I'm concerned about vaccinated folks being Covid carriers for people who aren't vaccinated, so no in person lessons unless you're vaccinated. The success of the virtual lessons makes it so they will definitely be part of my regular offerings, so people who come from farther away may want to continue them, and definitely things like snow days, illness, or travel challenges will be able to be compensated for more easily.

A reminder about lesson time conflicts: The studio schedule is the same every week, from September until the end of June. The studio schedule and contact information can be found on my website, www.cellobob.com. The monthly tuition fee is the same regardless; some months are shorter, some are longer. If I miss lessons for any reason, I will give you credit for it the following month or schedule a make-up lesson at our mutual convenience. If you miss a lesson for any reason,

I will not make it up; music lessons are like other academic pursuits and require a long-term commitment to attendance. You may, however, contact my other students to trade times or offer the student before or after you in the schedule the opportunity to take your lesson for a double-long time which they would then reciprocate later. I appreciate your help with this!

Thanks so much!

Bob