

WELCOME TO 2026 – 27 LESSONS

with Linda and Daylin

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Hello students and parents.

How exciting that our upcoming music-filled year is nearly here. As always, it is with such fondness that I send you all this letter.

Music plays such a key role in an individual's development regardless of age and ability. I'm so proud of all of you who worked diligently on your music this last year and built strong neurological connections, enhanced your performance skills, and most importantly fanned your passion. We had a lot of fun, and this year will be no exception.

It is such a pleasure to once again be offering a variety of musical experiences and lessons to you. Dive into voice, theory, harmonies, harp, cello, piano, guitar, songwriting, and group or shared sessions tailored just for you. There is more detail about lesson types on my website:

www.lindademersperformingstudio.com

AFTERNOON CLASSES

12:30 – 3:00 PM

The quietest, most focused hours in the studio.

Afternoon hours run at a different pace. There's no after-school rush — students aren't arriving straight out of a full day of classes, and no one is watching the clock for hockey or supper. The building is calmer, the lesson is unhurried, and the students who take these hours consistently move faster than I expect them to.

There's a reason for that beyond the quiet. Playing an instrument is motor learning — finger patterns, timing, coordination — and research on motor skill retention has found that skills practised in the mid-afternoon are held onto better a day later than the same skills practised in the morning. Early afternoon is when the body is warm, coordination is at its best, and the brain is primed to keep what it learns.

Who these hours suit:

1. **Homeschool families** — the schedule is yours to shape, and this is the best hour in it.
2. **Preschool and kindergarten students** — a five-year-old at 1:00 is a completely different child than a five-year-old at 5:30.
3. **Students who can take a lesson and still catch their bus home**
4. **Families with a grandparent, sitter, or older sibling doing pickup** — the driver doesn't have to be you.
5. **Parents with shift work, days off, or flexible hours** — anyone not on a fixed schedule.
6. **Adults and seniors** — I teach these as well, and afternoon is a perfect time for them.

If your work day allows for an afternoon, this is the block I'd encourage you to look at first. Many families find that one afternoon a week is within reach — a day off, a later shift start, a lunch hour that stretches, a grandparent who can drive. It's worth a look at your week before you decide.

TWO ROOMS, TWO TEACHERS

The studio now runs two teaching rooms at once — Daylin and I teach simultaneously, and students alternate between us each week. Over the course of a month, most students work with both of us.

That is deliberate. Two teachers means two sets of ears on the same student, two ways of explaining the same idea, and two people who know exactly where that student is sitting in their book. What one of us misses, the other catches. It is a level of attention a single teacher cannot give.

For families with more than one child in lessons, running two rooms also means **double slots**: both lessons at the same time, in separate rooms, one drop-off and one pickup. Thirty minutes at the studio instead of an hour.

If you have two or three children enrolled, tell me and I'll build your family around a single visit. A double slot depends on both rooms being free at the same time, so the earlier you request it, the more likely I can arrange it.

AFTER-SCHOOL CLASSES

3:00 – 5:00 PM

A student who finishes at three thirty still has their evening. That matters more than parents expect. Homework gets done, supper happens together, and — this is the part I watch year after year — **they practise the same day**. A student who leaves the studio during this time frame often sits down at the instrument again before bed, while the lesson is still live in their hands. That first practice is worth more than the next three combined.

These are the most-requested hours of the week, and they're assigned in the order they're requested. When those lessons fill, we extend into the early evening, finishing by 7:00. Lessons after 5:00 PM are \$2.50 more per lesson than daytime and after-school hours.

REQUESTING YOUR TIME

Please give a **first, second, and third choice**, along with any alternate day that also fits your schedule. The more room you give me, the closer I can place you into a slot that actually works for you.

In addition, if music is going to matter in your child's week, give it the best hour your family can secure. The hour a student is placed in shapes how much they get out of the year.

The studio runs two rooms through the afternoon and after-school hours, and one room through most of the evening. The 12:30–5:00 range holds several times the number of students that 5:00–7:00 does. Afternoon and after-school requests are placed first, and evening times fill in the order that after-school classes overflow.

THE STUDIO IS A PERFORMING STUDIO

The name is deliberate. Performing is not something we add at the end of the year — it is how the teaching works. A student who knows they will stand on a stage practises differently than a student who plays only in a lesson room. The goal changes, the preparation changes, and the playing changes with it.

Here is what a year in this studio includes.

1. **The year-end recital.** A full stage production — stage lighting, professional sound, a cameraman and a photographer, and a proper venue. Beforehand there is a full table spread with custom baking and coffee, set up jazz-house style. Students perform the way performers perform, and families are hosted the way an audience should be hosted.
 2. **Meadow Lake Music Festival.** Selection, preparation, entry coordination, and accompaniment arrangements for students who want to compete.
 3. **Group performance.** Students perform together, not only alone. Ensemble work builds timing, listening, and confidence that solo playing never reaches.
 4. **School and community performances.** I encourage students to perform at their schools, and I help with selections and arrangements. Where community opportunities come up, we take them.
 5. **Royal Conservatory examination preparation** in piano and voice, for students who want a formal pathway.
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ROYAL CONSERVATORY EXAMINATIONS

For students who would like to work toward Royal Conservatory examinations — particularly in piano and voice — this is something we can discuss. Exam preparation is a serious commitment and it changes the shape of a lesson: more repertoire, more technique, more theory, and a firm timeline.

Students preparing for RCM examinations require a **daytime slot**, and often a **double lesson** — an hour rather than thirty minutes. The preparation needs unhurried time and a settled student, and the afternoon hours are where that work is done properly. If your student is interested, let me know when you request your time and we'll build the year around it.

A LONGER TEACHING YEAR

This year there are more lessons, and a small lesson increase.

The studio runs **37 lessons** — two more than last year — and with the exception of Goodsoil School, **we teach through the school holiday weeks. Lessons run consistently throughout the year regardless of school holidays.**

At the studio we work toward specific goals across the year: festival, recital, exams, performances. Reaching them depends on regular lessons rather than gaps. Learning music is neurological work — every lesson lays down and reinforces patterns in the brain, and those patterns strengthen through repetition at consistent intervals. Interrupt the interval and the pattern weakens.

The studio closes for Christmas break and for statutory holidays only. When a lesson day falls on a statutory holiday, that lesson is diverted to the nearest Friday.

TUITION AND PAYMENT

Tuition is billed as a flat monthly rate covering the full teaching year, so the amount is the same every month no matter how many lessons fall in it.

Your tuition includes:

1. **37 private lessons** across the teaching year, September 14 through June 14.
2. **Lessons through February and spring break** — the studio closes only for Christmas and statutory holidays.
3. **A consistent monthly payment** — the same amount every month regardless of how many lessons fall in it.
4. **A place in the year-end recital** and every performance opportunity the studio runs.

Lesson Type	Per Lesson	Lessons	Monthly × 10
Daytime & after-school	\$38.50 + GST	37	\$149.57
Evening — after 5:00 PM	\$41.00 + GST	37	\$159.29
Goodsoil School	\$43.00 + GST	35	\$158.03

All lesson rates are quoted **plus GST**. The monthly figure in the final column is what you send — GST is already included in it.

Ten Equal Payments

Tuition is divided into **ten equal monthly payments**, September through June. Each payment is the same amount.

The September payment is due before your first lesson. Every payment after that is due on the first of the month — October 1, November 1, and so on.

If the studio has to cancel a lesson, that lesson is reimbursed to you in a **single payment at the end of the year**. Nothing changes mid-year and nothing needs to be recalculated month to month — your payment stays the same, and any reimbursement owing comes back to you in June.

Virtual Lessons

Virtual lessons are not a replacement for a regular weekly lesson. They are occasional, booked one at a time, for students who live outside Meadow Lake or who want extra work between lessons.

These are scheduled around the studio calendar as openings come up rather than held as a fixed weekly slot.

Virtual lessons are **\$38.50 plus GST per lesson** and are prepaid on the website at the time of booking. Cancellations require 24 hours' notice.

How to Pay

E-transfer works well for most families and is the simplest option: linda@lindademers.studio

If you prefer post-dated cheques or cash, those work as well. Date the September cheque for your first lesson, and the rest for the first of each month.

PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

Year-End Recital

The year-end recital is near the end of June. It is a fully staged production — stage lighting, professional sound, and a real theatre setting — and it gives our students something rare: the chance to perform in a real venue, in front of a live audience, and to celebrate how far they have come.

It is a joyful highlight of the year, and a moment many students remember for years afterward. This inclusive, confidence-building event showcases a wide range of styles and truly reflects the creativity and values of our studio. The date will be announced.

Meadow Lake Music Festival

Students who choose to participate in the local music festival have the option to do so. While I support festival preparation during lessons, my teaching schedule and multiple festival commitments may limit my availability to attend all performances in person.

If you would like to be part of this year's Music Festival, usually held in early April, please let me know. I will confirm the dates once the Music Festival Committee posts them, and will help with all the details and registration.

Entry fees are generally \$14 per selection, though the fee can vary from year to year. There is also a \$25 administration fee for Music Festival. It would be nice if students could do two songs. The accompaniment fee for vocalists is approximately \$50 per song. You may arrange your own accompaniment if you already have a pianist in mind. Extra lessons or rehearsals can also be slotted in before the festival if additional preparation is needed.

Please discuss with your student how many selections they would like to perform and let me know by **November 15**. We will select appropriate songs together. Please also let me know if your student is planning to enter any other Music Festival categories — piano and voice, for example — as festival organizers do ask me this.

ATTENDANCE

Your lesson slot is yours for the full year, and tuition covers the full teaching year.

If the studio has to cancel a lesson, that lesson is reimbursed to you in a single payment at the end of the year.

If a lesson falls on a statutory holiday, the class is diverted to the nearest Friday.

REGISTRATION

Registration is online again this year. Please scan the QR code below or visit my website to register.



[Linda Demers Performing Studio](#)

PRACTISING AT HOME

A consistent daily practice routine will greatly improve your results, but keep in mind the purpose of your musical journey — lessons are to be enjoyed and nurtured. Please let me know if you are having any struggles with practising at home. There are many learning and communication styles we can work with.

If there is passion, musicians will play. Fanning that passion will give music a much longer life in your student's future than a strict practice session ever will.

PERFORMING

Performing is part of our schedule. There will be one studio recital near the end of the year, and Music Festival is also an option. In addition, I encourage students to perform at their local schools and I'm happy to help with selections and arrangements. Where possible, we will also perform at other community events as opportunities come up.

I am looking forward to a wonderful musical season with you all. Thank you for your understanding and support — here's to a fantastic year of music together.

Warmly,

Linda

Cell 306.240.9524

linda@lindademers.studio



MUSIC SCHEDULE 2026 – 27

Linda Demers Performing Studio

Every lesson day totals 37 lessons. Bracketed dates are statutory holidays — those lessons move to the nearest Friday.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
September 2026				
	14	15	16	17
	21	22	23	24
	28	29	30	1
October 2026				
	5	6	7	8
	[12]	13	14	15
<i>Thanksgiving — Monday lessons move to Friday October 16</i>				
	19	20	21	22
	26	27	28	29
November 2026				
	2	3	4	5
	9	10	[11]	12
<i>Remembrance Day — Wednesday lessons move to Friday November 13</i>				
	16	17	18	19
	23	24	25	26
	30	1	2	3
December 2026				
	7	8	9	10
	14	15	16	17
<i>Christmas Break — December 21 to January 4</i>				
January 2027				
		5	6	7
	11	12	13	14
	18	19	20	21
	25	26	27	28
February 2027				
	1	2	3	4
	8	9	10	11
	[15]	16	17	18

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<i>Family Day — Monday lessons move to Friday February 19</i>				
	22	23	24	25
March 2027				
	1	2	3	4
	8	9	10	11
	15	16	17	18
	22	23	24	25
	29	30	31	1
April 2027				
	5	6	7	8
	12	13	14	15
	19	20	21	22
	26	27	28	29
May 2027				
	3	4	5	6
	10	11	12	13
	17	18	19	20
	[24]	25	26	27
<i>Victoria Day — Monday lessons move to Friday May 28</i>				
	31	1	2	3
June 2027				
	7	8	9	10
	14			
<i>Year-End Recital — near the end of June, date to be announced</i>				