

# Private Voice Lessons

*Will Hearn, Instructor - Bayou City School of Music*

**T**hank you for your interest in private voice lessons. This is great step in becoming a better singer and musician and I am excited to begin this musical collaboration. Through weekly vocal work and study, you'll begin to notice subtle changes in singing ability and vocal confidence.

Steady vocal progress requires continued work at home. I recommend each student practice singing and ideas worked on in studio, thirty minutes to an hour, four to five days a week and no less. This is the only way to ensure steady progress. Students must obtain a device to record all lessons. Recording lessons helps the student retrieve information and get immediate feedback on sounds being made in a lesson. Most smartphones are now equipped with excellent recording software. If your child does not own a recording device, one may be purchased from a local retail store (Best Buy, Target, Wal-mart...) for around \$20 - \$40.

As a professional singer and private teacher, I teach at several different high schools in the Houston area and own a private studio in Houston, the *Bayou City School of Music*. There are several weeks I will not be able to teach during the year due to travel and performance engagements. I will notify you and your child as soon as I know these dates for the semester so lessons can be rescheduled. Because of my varying schedule and daily changing location, I am not able to fit all students in the high school choir programs into an in-class or after school lesson time. Each class time is limited and I generate a lesson schedule based on the needs of the students. If I am not able to fit your child into an in-class lesson please consider an after school lesson. After school lessons are available from 3:35-7:30pm. If in-class and after school are still still not possible, weekend lessons are available at my private music lesson studio, Bayou City School of Music, located in Spring Branch off of Bingle and I-10 West in Houston. For further information please visit - [www.bayoucityschoolofmusic.com](http://www.bayoucityschoolofmusic.com).

Regarding communication, because I do not see your child on daily basis or teach at the school every day of the week, regular contact with parents and students is a necessity. I find the quickest and most efficient way to relay important information, such as schedule change is via text message and email. If text or email is not preferable for you or your child, I am happy to notify by phone call.

Recitals are a very important aspect of the studio. There will be two annual recitals in the Winter and one at the beginning of the summer. There is a \$30 recital fee per recital per student. Additionally, students are encouraged to sing in public as often as possible and to participate in contest events offered by the school, such as the Texas All-State choir auditions and UIL Solo & Ensemble contest. Other performance opportunities may include singing a solo at church or participating in a talent show in the area.

All students enrolled in voice lessons will receive 36 (18 per semester), one hour or half-hour voice lessons. All voice lesson payments must be submitted through the website in the form of ACH or debit/credit card. No check or cash payments are accepted. A monthly tuition fee will be debited from the account and accompanied by an emailed receipt. Additional studio fees include an enrollment registration fee of \$30.00, and a supply fee of \$20.00, charged once a semester in November and April. Bayou City School of Music owns a vast library of sheet music to be shared with students, inevitably though students will need new sheet music and other music study material for home use. A detailed outline of all Bayou City School of Music tuition information and policies can be found on our website. Registration and supply fees may be paid all at once at the beginning of the semester for a discounted rate of \$55.00.

Please carefully read the "Tuition and Policies" tab within the website before registering for lessons. **All students wishing to enroll in voice lessons must register through the website - bayoucityschoolofmusic.com.** Please note, students enrolled in choir at Brazoswood HS receive a discount in their tuition rate of \$10.00 per hour lesson, depending on the time and location of their lesson. Normal Bayou City School of Music rates are \$60.00/hour.

I look forward to working with you and your children. Please do not hesitate to contact me or the studio with any questions or concerns you may have. I am always available.

Best Regards,

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