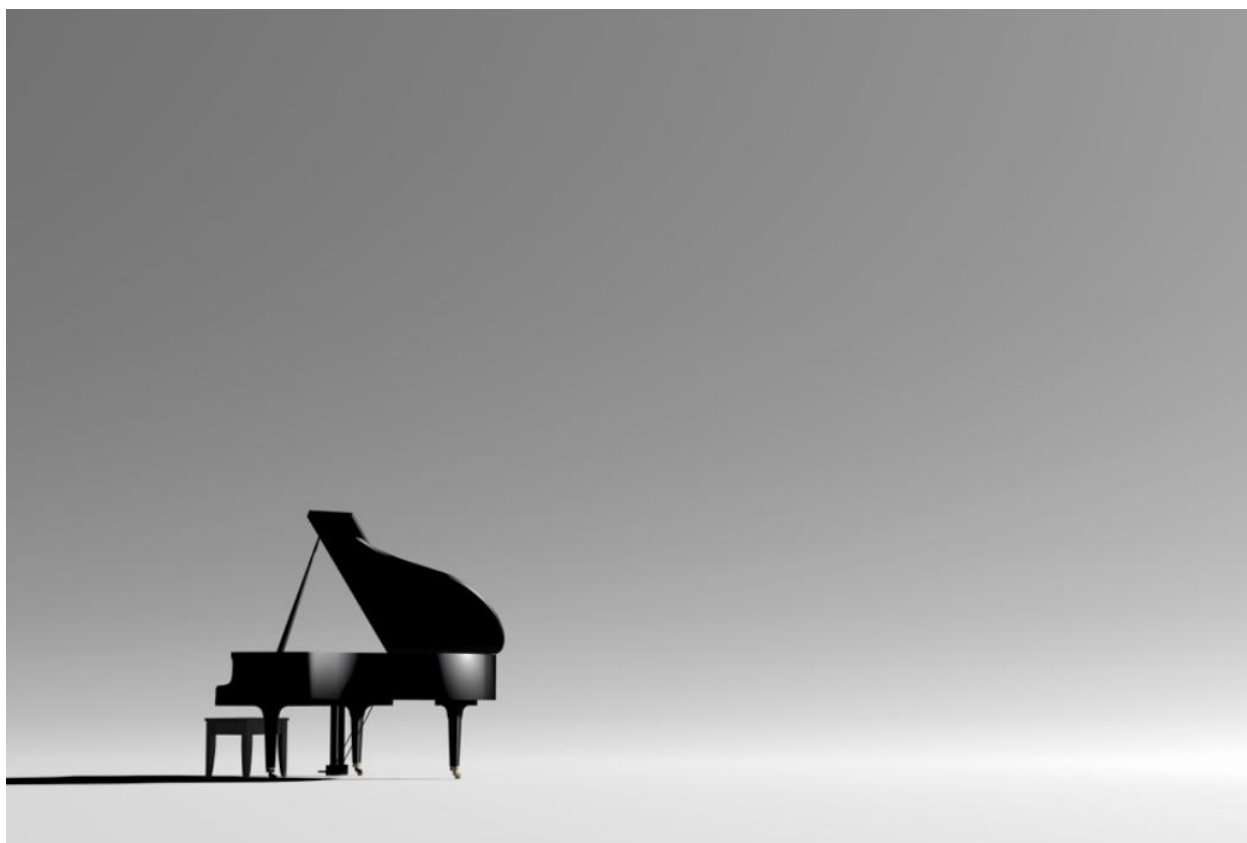


Peabody Preparatory

Piano Department Handbook

- 2025/2026 -



Dear Piano Department Students and Families:

Welcome to a new academic year at the Peabody Preparatory Piano Department! We are delighted to have you join our vibrant community, where passion for music, excellence in performance, and a commitment to artistic growth are at the heart of everything we do. Our department is proud to offer a unique and comprehensive experience that nurtures both aspiring pianists and seasoned musicians alike. Whether you are beginning your journey with us or returning to continue your studies, know that you are part of a rich tradition of musical education that is unmatched anywhere else.

Our faculty consists of world-class pianists and educators who bring a wealth of knowledge, experience, and dedication to their teaching. They are committed to helping you reach your full potential as a musician, offering individualized attention and mentorship tailored to your unique needs and aspirations. With our rigorous curriculum and dynamic environment, you will have the opportunity to engage deeply with the art of piano performance and musicianship, refining your technical skills while expanding your artistic expression.

Our facilities provide an inspiring and supportive setting for your musical development. From our branches throughout the greater Baltimore area to performance spaces that have hosted countless memorable concerts, every aspect of our department is designed to enhance your learning experience. The Peabody experience is truly one-of-a-kind, offering a blend of tradition and innovation that empowers students to excel not only in their musical pursuits but also in their personal growth. We look forward to an exciting year of music-making, learning, and community, and we are thrilled to have you with us on this journey!



Chad R. Bowles

Chair, Piano Department

Peabody Preparatory

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Piano Department Structure and Contacts

Leadership:

Chad R. Bowles, Chair of Piano cbowles3@jhu.edu

Michael Angelucci, Associate Chair of Piano mangelu1@jhu.edu

Teodora Adzharova, Musicianship for Pianists Coordinator tadzhar1@jhu.edu

Faculty:

Elizabeth Azcona-Hartmark

Natalia Efremova

Hai Jin

Irina Kaplan-Lande

Amelia Killian

Jiin Kim

Bonghee Lee

Grace Liu

Katie Ostrosky - *Musicianship for Pianists*

Hyun-Sook Park - *Piano Academy Co-Director*

Min Young Park - *Musicianship for Pianists*

Catherine Renggli

Soyoung Ryoo - *Musicianship for Pianists*

Ramilya Saubanova

Anna Soukiassian

Min-Chi Wu-Phillips

Jung-Yeon Yim

Department and School Policies and Procedures

Semester Schedule

The Preparatory offers 16 weeks of instruction each semester: 15 weeks of lessons plus 1 week of studio recitals and certificate exams. Lessons are not taught during studio recital/exam weeks as faculty are engaged to adjudicate exams, attend meetings, and manage various other departmental obligations. Please consult with your teacher regarding any adjustments to your usual lesson schedule.

Attendance and Lesson Flow

Regular attendance is essential for progress and is expected of all students. Please plan to arrive 5-minutes early and have all assigned music and materials with you. Students should wait quietly in the hallway or common area until your teacher invites you in for the lesson. Note that lessons conclude a few minutes early to allow for final comments, packing up, etc. prior to the next student. If you are late, your teacher will use whatever time remains. Faculty are free to leave if a student is 15 minutes late for a lesson. Whenever possible, please alert your teacher in advance if you are running behind or planning to be absent.

Missed Lessons and Make Ups

There are 2 weeks built into the calendar devoted exclusively for faculty to teach lessons they miss. These make up periods occur at the end of the fall and spring semesters (see Academic Calendar for dates). Regular lessons are not taught during these weeks and are not included in your tuition. Additional make up options may also be arranged in consultation with your teacher. Any scheduled make-up lesson that is missed by the student will be forfeited.

Preparatory policy is that faculty will make up any lessons they miss, but do not make up lessons missed by the student. Our faculty are busy teaching late into the evenings and on Saturdays and cannot accommodate additional hours in their schedules. **Please — do not ask your teacher to make up or reschedule a missed lesson.** We thank you in advance for respecting this policy.

Practicing and Instruments

All students are responsible for maintaining a daily practice routine outside of lessons. Your teacher will communicate any expectations in this area. It is *highly recommended* that all piano students have regular access to an acoustic (non-electronic) upright or grand piano. A weighted, 88-key digital piano with pedals is acceptable provided students transition to an acoustic instrument within the first two years of lessons. Please speak with your teacher if you need assistance.

Substitute Teachers and Online Instruction

The Preparatory reserves the right to secure a substitute to cover lessons and classes as needed. These are considered regularly scheduled meetings and will not be made up if missed by the student. On occasion, online instruction may be offered in place of the traditional in-person format. Online lessons are arranged at the discretion of the faculty in consultation with the student/parent.

Summer Instruction

Summer instruction is optional and dependent on mutual student/teacher availability. Students may choose a 4, 6, 8, or 10-week private lesson package. These lessons are billed separately from your regular tuition. Be sure to speak with your teacher before registering for summer lessons to ensure your schedules are compatible.

Commitment

All students taking lessons at the Preparatory commit to having lessons with one teacher at a time. Preparatory students may not take concurrent lessons outside of Peabody with a secondary teacher. Failure to abide by this policy may result in dismissal from the piano program.

Piano Department Calendar: 2025-2026 Academic Year

The piano department sponsors numerous student performances every year. Please review the calendar below for a complete listing of events. Additional information and descriptions of each activity can be found in subsequent pages. The majority of departmental events are held at the downtown campus, except where indicated. Be sure to consult the Preparatory webpage as dates/times are subject to change. As always, please check with your teacher prior to registering for any performance activity.

At-A-Glance: Departmental Activities and Events

Repertoire Classes	Saturday 10/11/25	Class #1: 12:30-2:30 PM Class #2: 2:30-4:30 PM	Cohen-Davidson Theatre (Downtown)
Halloween Recitals	Saturday 10/25/25	1:30 PM, 3:00 PM, & 4:30 PM	Cohen-Davidson Theatre (Downtown)
Adult Performance Class	Saturday 11/1/25	1:30 PM	Centre Street Studio (Downtown)
Autumn Festival Recital	Saturday 11/8/25	1:30 PM & 3:00 PM	* Steinway Gallery (Hunt Valley, MD)
Master Class: Boris Slutsky (The Peabody Conservatory)	Saturday 11/15/25	12:30-2:30 PM	Goodwin Recital Hall (Downtown)
Faculty Studio Classes	Saturday 11/22/25	10:00 AM-2:00 PM	Centre Street Studio (Downtown)
Repertoire Classes	Saturday 11/22/25	Class #3: 12:30-2:30 PM Class #4: 2:30-4:30 PM	Cohen-Davidson Theatre (Downtown)
Adult Performance Class	Saturday 12/13/25	1:30 PM	Centre Street Studio (Downtown)
Certificate Exams (Elementary/Intermediate)	Saturday 12/6/25	Individual Exams	Studio locations TBA (Downtown)
Certificate Exams (Advanced)	Tuesday 12/9/25	Individual Exams	Goodwin Recital Hall (Downtown)

At-A-Glance: Departmental Activities and Events (Continued)

Piano Academy Fall Recital	Saturday 1/10/26	4:00 PM	Goodwin Recital Hall (Downtown)
Musicianship Presentations	Sunday 1/11/26	1:00-5:00 PM	Cohen-Davidson Theatre (Downtown)
Valentine Recitals	Saturday 2/14/26	1:30 PM & 3:00 PM	Cohen-Davidson Theatre (Downtown)
Frances Cheng-Koors Concertino Event	Sunday 3/1/26	3:00 PM	*Auditorium (Towson Campus)
Spring Recital	Saturday 3/14/26	3:00 PM	Goodwin Recital Hall (Downtown)
Repertoire Classes	Saturday 3/21/26	Class #5: 12:30-2:30 PM Class #6: 2:30-4:20 PM	Cohen-Davidson Theatre (Downtown)
Adult Performance Class	Saturday 3/28/26	1:30 PM	Centre Street Studio (Downtown)
Master Class: Jarred Dunn (McGill University)	Saturday 4/18/26	12:30-2:30 PM	Goodwin Recital Hall (Downtown)
Annual Towson Spring Event	Sunday 4/19/26	3:00 PM	*Auditorium (Towson Campus)
Faculty Studio Classes	Saturday 4/25/26	12:00-4:00 PM	Centre Street Studio (Downtown)
Repertoire Classes	Saturday 4/25/26	Class #5: 12:30-2:30 PM Class #6: 2:30-4:30 PM	Cohen-Davidson Theatre (Downtown)
Repertoire Classes	Saturday 3/21/26	Class #7: 12:30-2:30 PM Class #8: 2:30-4:20 PM	Cohen-Davidson Theatre (Downtown)
Adult Performance Class	Saturday 5/2/26	1:30 PM	Centre Street Studio (Downtown)
Certificate Exams (Elementary/Intermediate)	Saturday 5/9/26	Individual Exams	Studio locations TBA (Downtown)
Musicianship Presentations	Sunday 5/10/26	1:00-5:00 PM	Cohen-Davidson Theatre (Downtown)
Certificate Exams (Advanced)	Tuesday 5/12/26	Individual Exams	Goodwin Recital Hall (Downtown)
Piano Academy Spring Recital	Saturday 5/16/26	4:00 PM	Goodwin Recital Hall (Downtown)

Musicianship for Pianists

The Musicianship for Pianists program is a vital component of the education offered at the Peabody Preparatory. With a range of classes designed for students at every level, the program embodies our core belief that music is a discipline that must be studied deeply to be fully appreciated and mastered. To achieve this, our classes emphasize a comprehensive understanding of music's fundamental elements through the study of music theory, the exploration of the distinctive characteristics of each musical era, the development of aural skills, and the building of performance confidence and stage presence. As a complement to private piano instruction, this program enriches and accelerates the learning process through collaborative peer interaction in a supportive and welcoming environment.

We warmly invite you to join us in class as we embark on this exciting journey of music-making together.

T. Adzharova →

Teodora Adzharova

Musicianship for Pianists Coordinator

Musicianship for Pianists Faculty

Teodora Adzharova, Program Coordinator

Katie Ostrosky

Min Young Park

Soyoung Ryoo

Class Titles, Length, and Ages for Participation

BACH (45 min) 5-6 y/o	SCHUMANN (60 min) 7-10 y/o	DEBUSSY (60 min) 13-18 y/o
HAYDN (45 min) 7-9 y/o	CHOPIN (60 min) 9-12 y/o	PROKOFIEV (60 min) 13-18 y/o
BEETHOVEN (60 min) 7-9 y/o	LISZT (60 min) 10-14 y/o	BERNSTEIN (60 min) 15-18 y/o
	BRAHMS (60 min) 11-14 y/o	

MUSICIANSHIP FOR PIANISTS SCHEDULE AND REGISTRATION

Enrollment in Musicianship for Pianists classes requires students to also enroll in private lessons

For full class descriptions, please visit us here:

<https://peabody.jhu.edu/preparatory/ways-to-study/departments/piano/musicianship-for-pianists/>

Music Certificate Program

The Music Certificate Program has long been an important part of the Preparatory curriculum. It exists specifically for motivated students who practice regularly, enjoy performing, and are interested in acquiring a comprehensive music education. Through the program's two core components — individual instruction (private lessons) and music theory classes (Musicianship for Pianists) — students develop skills that improve not only their playing, but also their ability to listen and communicate more effectively through music.

Beyond individual instruction and theory classes, students in the Certificate Program must also participate in performance exams. Often referred to as “juries,” these exams assess student mastery of repertoire and technical skill acquired in private lessons. Certificate exams are conducted at the conclusion of each semester.

What Does Receiving a Certificate Mean and When Does it Happen?

Receiving a certificate is recognition for the time and effort students put into earning it. While it is not a diploma or degree, it is significant as the skills and discipline learned during exam preparation and theory classes stay with students long after they have left the Preparatory. The Preparatory holds an annual awards ceremony in June celebrating student accomplishments. Students who have successfully completed the requirements for one of the culminating certificate levels are invited to the ceremony where they receive their award from the Director of the Preparatory.

Piano Certificate Exam Dates for 2025/2026:

Saturday, December 6, 2025 (Elementary & Intermediate)

Tuesday, December 9, 2025 (Advanced)

Saturday, May 9, 2026 (Elementary & Intermediate)

Tuesday, May 12, 2026 (Advanced)

For more information about the Music Certificate Program, please consult with your teacher.

You may also read more about the program here:

<https://peabody.jhu.edu/preparatory/ways-to-study/departments/musiccertificateprogram/>

Peabody Piano Academy

The Peabody Piano Academy is an intensive program aimed at developing young pianists (ages 12-18) through rigorous training and artistic growth. Admission is by audition, with students receiving private lessons, group performance classes, and comprehensive musicianship training. The Performance Class is designed as a group-learning experience, where students perform for each other, receiving feedback from the instructor as well as their peers and guest teachers. The Musicianship Class works on core elements such as ear training, theory, ensemble playing, and keyboard skills. The Piano Academy offers numerous performance opportunities, masterclasses, and workshops, encouraging students to practice 2-3 hours daily. Classes are held on Saturdays from 12:15-3:00 PM.

The audition process for the Peabody Piano Academy requires students to perform three pieces in contrasting styles, with younger students (ages 12-15) preparing 10 minutes of music and older students (ages 16-18) preparing 15 minutes of music. Additionally, candidates must perform scales (three major and three minor harmonic) and complete a short sight-reading exercise. A theory test covering key signatures and primary triads may also be part of the audition. Playing at the suggested repertoire level does not guarantee acceptance.

Peabody Piano Academy Faculty

Chad R. Bowles, Co-Director

Hyun-Sook Park, Co-Director

For a full description and audition dates, please visit us here:

<https://peabody.jhu.edu/preparatory/ways-to-study/departments/piano/piano-academy/>

Summer Programs

Peabody Piano Week

Peabody Piano Week is an immersive, week-long (M-F) program designed for middle school to college-aged pianists aiming to advance their skills, musicality, and potential. Participants receive personalized instruction, masterclasses, and musicianship training, with daily practice sessions to reinforce lessons. The program includes evening recitals by faculty, fostering a vibrant musical experience, and culminates in a student recital to showcase progress. It's ideal for those seeking intensive musical development in a supportive, professional environment.

For more details, please visit [Peabody Piano Week](#).

Piano at Peabody

Piano at Peabody is a week-long program for adult pianists of all levels, offering an immersive experience in both classical and jazz piano. Participants engage in masterclasses, lectures, workshops, and can opt for individual lessons. Faculty recitals and optional student performances are key highlights, fostering a strong sense of community. The program is designed to deepen musical knowledge, provide artistic inspiration, and build camaraderie among piano enthusiasts.

For more details, please visit [Piano at Peabody](#).

Repertoire Classes

A repertoire class (or “rep” class, for short) allows students to perform in a small, intimate setting for a member of the piano faculty. The instructor leading the class works with each student for 15–20 minutes, providing technical and artistic feedback on their performance while the other students observe. Rep classes are an opportunity for students to try out pieces for the first time, receive critical feedback from a different perspective, gain exposure to new literature, and meet other pianists in the program at all levels of development. Each rep class focuses on a particular genre or topic (subject to revision). Several classes are devoted exclusively to certificate exam preparation. The faculty rotate teaching these classes.

The department holds 8 rep classes per year (4 each semester) at the downtown campus. Unless noted otherwise, downtown rep classes are taught in Cohen-Davison Theatre. Additional classes are also scheduled at the Towson and Annapolis campuses. Students are welcome to perform in any rep class they wish. Whenever possible, it is recommended students perform for a faculty member other than their regular teacher. The maximum enrollment for each class is 6 students. A minimum enrollment of 2 students is required for the class to run or it will be canceled. Any current Preparatory piano student may attend and observe rep classes even if they are not registered to perform.

- Fee: NONE. The cost is included in your individual lesson tuition.

- Registration: Please use the following weblink:

<https://peabody.jhu.edu/preparatory/ways-to-study/departments/piano/repertoire-classes/>

- Downtown Dates/Topics (see below):

FALL DATES	TOPICS	SPRING DATES	TOPICS
<u>Class #1:</u> Saturday, 10/11/25 12:30–2:30 PM	Open Repertoire	<u>Class #5:</u> Saturday, 3/21/26 12:30–2:30 PM	Open Repertoire
<u>Class #2:</u> Saturday, 10/11/25 2:30–4:30 PM	Baroque & Classical Literature	<u>Class #6:</u> Saturday, 3/21/26 2:30–4:30 PM	Romantic, Impressionist, & Modern Literature
<u>Class #3:</u> Saturday, 11/22/25 12:30–2:30 PM	Certificate Exam Preparation	<u>Class #7:</u> Saturday, 4/25/26 12:30–2:30 PM	Certificate Exam Preparation
<u>Class #4:</u> Saturday, 11/22/25 2:30–4:30 PM	Certificate Exam Preparation	<u>Class #8:</u> Saturday, 4/25/26 2:30–4:30 PM	Certificate Exam Preparation

- For Towson and Annapolis Dates/Topics: Please consult with your teacher.

Faculty Studio Classes

Studio classes are an opportunity for faculty to gather their students together in a collegial performance environment. Class format will vary from one studio to the next. Very often, these classes are used as a preamble for end-of-semester performances and exams. Each faculty member holds one or more 50 to 60-minute studio class per semester according to their needs and schedules. Though it is not a requirement, students are encouraged to perform if invited to do so by their teacher. Your teacher will relay any information about their expectations in this area.

- Fee: NONE. The cost is included in your individual lesson tuition.
- Registration: NONE. Your teacher will advise regarding dates/times and campus location.

Studio Recitals

Studio recitals are the culmination of faculty teaching and student progress for the semester. Each faculty member produces an end-of-semester program reserved for students within their current studio. On occasion, faculty may combine forces and host a joint studio program. Studio recitals are arranged according to scheduling needs and hall availability. Your teacher will relay any information about their expectations in this area.

- Fee: NONE. The cost is included in your individual lesson tuition.
- Registration: NONE. Your teacher will advise regarding dates/times and campus location.

Master Classes

The piano department regularly welcomes preeminent artist-teachers to the Preparatory to coach students in a public lesson performance. Participating students must be capable performers with polished solo repertoire suitable for the master class experience (method book pieces, movie themes, holiday arrangements, etc. are not appropriate). Student performers are invited by the department chair at the recommendation of the faculty. Unless noted otherwise, master classes are held at the downtown campus and are open to the public. It is recommended that all students, regardless of level, attend at least one master class per year.

- Fee: NONE. The cost is included in your individual lesson tuition.
- Registration: By faculty recommendation.

Piano Department Recitals

Public performance is central to the educational and artistic life of our department. Every year, the piano department sponsors a diverse range of concert programming reserved exclusively for Preparatory pianists. A number of events are age-specific, allowing students at all levels of study to share their love of music with the broader community. A complete list of departmental recitals is included below. There is no fee to participate in or attend any piano department event. Students and families are encouraged to enjoy as many of these activities as possible throughout the year.

EVENT NAME	DATE and TIME	LOCATION	AGE/LEVEL	NOTES
Halloween Recitals	<u>Saturday, 10/25/25</u> 1:30, 3:00, & 4:30 PM	Cohen-Davidson Theatre (Downtown)	Elementary	REPERTOIRE/ATTIRE: <i>All students limited to ONE piece each. Costumes encouraged!</i> 🎃 🎃 🎃
Adult Recital #1	<u>Saturday, 11/1/25</u> 1:30 PM	Centre Street Studio (Downtown)	Adults	
Autumn Festival Recital	<u>Saturday, 11/8/25</u> 1:30 PM & 3:00 PM	Steinway Gallery (Hunt Valley, MD)	Middle and High School	
Adult Recital #2	<u>Saturday, 12/3/26</u> 1:30 PM	Centre Street Studio (Downtown)	Adults	
Piano Academy Fall Recital	<u>Saturday, 1/10/26</u> 4:00 PM	Goodwin Recital Hall (Downtown)	Piano Academy Students	
Valentine Recitals	<u>Saturday, 2/14/26</u> 1:30 & 3:00 PM	Cohen-Davidson Theatre (Downtown)	Elementary	REPERTOIRE: <i>All students limited to ONE piece each. Valentine colors encouraged!</i> ❤️ ❤️ ❤️
Frances Cheng-Koors Concertino Event	<u>Sunday, 3/1/26</u> 3:00 PM	Auditorium (Towson)	Pre-college students (all ages)	REPERTOIRE: <i>One movement of a concerto or divertimento by F.J. Haydn</i>
Spring Recital	<u>Saturday, 3/14/26</u> 3:00 PM	Goodwin Recital Hall (Downtown)	Middle and High School	
Adult Recital #3	<u>Saturday, 3/28/26</u> 1:30 PM	Centre Street Studio (Downtown)	Adults	
Annual Towson Spring Event	<u>Sunday, 4/19/26</u> 3:00 PM	Auditorium (Towson)	Pre-college students (all ages)	REPERTOIRE/THEME: <i>"Music of the Americas: From Buenos Aires to the Colorado Rockies"</i>
Adult Recital #4	<u>Saturday, 5/2/26</u> 1:30 PM	Centre Street Studio (Downtown)	Adults	
Piano Academy Spring Recital	<u>Saturday, 5/16/26</u> 4:00 PM	Goodwin Recital Hall (Downtown)	Piano Academy students	

Recital Etiquette and Expectations

For Performers:

- Students must check-in with the faculty host at least 10 minutes before the recital begins regardless of their position on the program. **All performers are expected to remain for the duration of the recital.** Those who “play and leave” are a distraction to themselves and others and often do not perform as well as a result.
- Appropriate concert attire is expected of all performers. **ABSOLUTELY NO JEANS, SHORTS, T-SHIRTS, FLIP FLOPS/CROCS, OR TENNIS SHOES.** With the exception of themed recitals, where costumes and other clothing is allowed, performers should dress as follows:
 - Attire For Boys: Collared dress shirt and pants. Coat and tie are optional.
 - Attire For Girls: Pants/skirt and blouse, or street length dress.
- Performers should acknowledge the audience before AND after their performance. If you have never taken a bow before, please ask your teacher how to do it!

For Audience Members:

- Please try to arrive at least 5 minutes prior to the published start time. Arriving late causes distractions which may prove stressful to the performers.
- **All attendees are expected to remain for the duration of the recital.** Students work very hard for the opportunity to play in front of an audience. Watching audience members leave as you walk on stage is very deflating. We thank you in advance for supporting all performers equally.
- Attentive audiences make the best audiences. Young children in the audience should be kept as quiet as possible during the performance. Talking and other background noise is extremely distracting to the performers.
- The recital hall doors will be closed once the program begins. Audience members should refrain from leaving unless there is a break between performers. Late arrivals will be seated between performances (listen for applause as your cue to enter.)
- Please turn off any electronic device that might disturb the performance.
- Parents: You are welcome to record your child’s performance but may not record the performances of other students. Video recording is allowed; however, please sit towards the back of the hall so as not to obstruct the view of others in the audience.

Preparatory Academic Calendar (2025-2026)

Academic Calendar:

June 1: Fall Registration Opens

August 23: Placement Day

September 1: Labor Day Holiday (Office closed)

September 3: Fall Semester Begins

***September 6:** Downtown campus closed (lessons and classes moved to December 20; all other campuses open)

***October 31:** Halloween (some classes may be moved to January 2; please check with your teacher)

November 26: Thanksgiving Break (Office open, NO CLASSES)

November 27-30: Thanksgiving Break (Office closed, NO CLASSES)

December 20: Make-up day; Downtown lessons/groups meet for regular classes

December 22-23: Winter Break (Office open, NO CLASSES)

December 24-Jan. 1: Winter Break (Office closed, NO CLASSES)

***January 2:** Optional make-up day for Halloween

January 10: Last day of scheduled classes for the Fall Semester

January 12-16: Make-Up Days for the Fall Semester

January 19: Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday (Office closed, NO CLASSES)

January 20: Spring Semester Begins

March 30-April 4: Spring Break (Office open, NO CLASSES; Easter Sunday is April 5)

May 18: Last day of scheduled classes for the Spring Semester

May 19-22 & June 1: Make-Up Days for the Spring Semester

May 25: Memorial Day Holiday (Office closed, NO CLASSES)

June 19: Juneteenth (Office closed, NO CLASSES)

June 20: Summer Session Begins

July 4: Independence Day Holiday (Office closed, NO CLASSES)

August 1: Last day of scheduled classes for Summer Session

August 3-8: Make-Up Days for Summer Session

For a PDF version of the academic calendar, please visit us here:

[PREPARATORY ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2025-2026](#)

www.peabody.jhu.edu/preppiano