

John Sens – Private Instructor

Tenor/Bass Trombone, and Euphonium

673 38th Street

Des Moines, IA 50312

john.sens@gmail.com

www.johncsensmusic.com

Dear Students and/or Parents,

Thank you for the opportunity to teach your son or daughter to play a low brass instrument! Below are my lesson policies, expectations, and other related information.

I. Lesson fees, attendance, scheduling, and credit

\$25 per half hour lesson

\$40 per hour lesson.

Payment for lessons is requested at the end of each month. If this is not a feasible option, please contact me and we can discuss an alternative. I will keep track of lesson payments and notify students when payment is coming due.

We will establish a weekly time to have our private lessons. I am happy to accomodate changes to that time and work with students with proper notice.

If a student cannot make a lesson, please let me know at least 48 hours before our scheduled lesson time. If I am given less than 48 hours of notice or the student is a no-show, then I will require payment for the missed lesson, with exception of a family emergency or severe illness.

If I need to reschedule a lesson due to illness, family, or a work/performance obligation, I will contact you via phone or email to find an alternate date and time, if at all possible. Lessons missed due to my schedule will always be credited in the students favor

II. Practice Expectations

I ask that students practice at least 20 minutes a day in a focused setting. No distractions should be present or within arms reach, including phones, tv, computer, etc. I understand that many students use their phone as a metronome and/or tuner, which is fine as long as you restrict yourself to those uses while practicing.

Focused, daily practice will acheive suprising results as it lets you build your skills incrementally and creates your own pyramid of skill over time.

What: It is not necessary to practice every part of your assignment in every practice session, just make sure you cover everything thoroughly between lessons.

How: I will provide and demonstrate specific practice tips and techniques during your lessons giving you the tools to re-teach yourself every time you practice. My goal is for students to pay close attention to their playing so they can strive for improvement and enjoy the results.

Why: I will give you specific goals relating to Sound, Pitch, Rhythm, Technique and Style. It is critical that you keep these goals in mind every time you practice.

The Goal: I seek teach students to be good musicians, not just great trombone players. Music teaches skills that make not only successful musicians, but also creative and successful people.

III. Books, sheet music and other materials:

I will ask you to purchase various etude books, duet books, solos and other lesson materials. I strongly encourage students to own their own metronome and tuner, since they are also essential tools. All materials will be used thoroughly in lessons and in teaching essential techniques.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions!

John Sens