

**WCU School of Music Piano Accompanying Policies,  
Suggested Fees, and Procedures**

**Spring 2014**

Les Downes (405) 501-4035

Bradley Martin martinb@wcu.edu (828) 227-3726

Claire McCoy annaclaire.mccoy@gmail.com 828-335-4321

Prefers to work with vocalists and choral groups but is willing to do less advanced instrumental repertoire with adequate advance notice.

Heather McKee heather.e.mckee@gmail.com (515) 229-3849  
hemckee@email.wcu.edu

Kathy Geyer McNeil kathmckey@verizon.net (828) 456-1876

Ann Leigh annwleigh@yahoo.com 828-369-9556 (home)

Lillian Pearson 828-226-3352

Vance Reese vancereese23@gmail.com (828) 280-9698

Anne Rhymer-Schwabland towerunderconstruction@gmail.com

Ann Tiner Tiner85@aol.com (828) 226-1885

Prefers vocal students only.

**General Policies:**

To help pianists accommodate your needs into their schedules, accompanying requests should be made *at least* one month in advance for full recitals and two weeks for studio recitals or single pieces for the Student Recital Hour.

If your pianist does not have *all* of your music *at least two full weeks in advance*, he or she may choose either not to play that individual piece or not to play for the entire performance.

Always consult a pianist *before* scheduling a recital, performance, or other event. If you choose a date without *first* consulting a pianist, one may not be available to play for you.

### **Accompanying Fees:**

The fees listed below serve *only* as guidelines. Individual accompanists may raise or lower fees at their own discretion.

**Payment should be made at each rehearsal or *before* the final performance. Accompanists will not play for an event if full payment has not been made in advance.**

### **Basic Accompanying Fees:**

- \$50.00 per hour (\$25.00 per half hour) for rehearsals and/or lessons. This fee includes compensation for the preparation of accompaniments outside of the rehearsal time.
- \$10.00 to \$20.00 for accompanying an individual student on the student recital hour or events such as the Civic Orchestra Concert Competition, this fee is *in addition to rehearsal fees as described above*
- \$15.00 for juries, this fee is *in addition to any rehearsal fees as described above*
- \$40.00 to \$75.00 fee for a required public recital (depending on the difficulty of the music), this fee is *in addition to rehearsal fees as described above*
- \$50.00 per hour for a recording session (any additional division of an hour or additional hours require further \$40.00 payment), this fee is *in addition to rehearsal fees as described above*

### **Instrumental Studio Recitals:**

- \$20.00 basic fee per student includes the group studio rehearsal *and* the recital itself. Additional rehearsals are subject to the basic rehearsal fees listed above.

### **Voice Studio Recitals and Diction Class Recitals:**

- \$10 *per singer* that *do not* require extra rehearsal.
- \$15.00 *per singer* for one in-class rehearsal or one individual, *short* run-through *and* the recital.

### **Off-campus Events:**

Fees for off-campus events such as concerts or competitions will be charged at the discretion of the accompanist for time, travel, etc. If the event requires overnight stay(s), a private hotel room for the accompanist should be provided.

### **Returned Checks:**

If your check for accompanying fees is returned by the bank, you will owe the original amount of the check *plus all bank fees*. If full reimbursement is not made within one month of the incident, you will be required to find an off-campus accompanist for any future performances at WCU.

### **Lateness and Cancellations of Rehearsals and/or Lessons:**

- If *you* are late for a rehearsal or lesson, your accompanist is *not* responsible for making up the time.

- If your *accompanist* is late for a rehearsal or lesson, the time will be made up as soon as possible.
- Should you need to cancel a rehearsal or lesson, do so with 24-hour notice when possible. *You will be charged the full amount for the time if you do not give your accompanist prior notification.*

## Working with an Accompanist

### Before You Contact an Accompanist:

1. Know the exact date, time, and location of your event. Remember: You must contact the accompanist at least *one month* in advance for full recitals and JQs and *two weeks* in advance for studio recitals or single pieces for the Student Recital Hour.
2. Know exactly what repertoire you need to be accompanied. For example, if it's only the second movement of a sonata, make that fact clear to the pianist.
3. Discuss your accompanist's fees *in advance* and make certain that you are prepared to pay. Failing to pay your accompanist is unprofessional and reflects badly on you and the WCU School of Music.
4. For accompanists who are coming from off campus, arrange a rehearsal space in advance. You may want to schedule a classroom or the recital hall. Don't waste time searching the building for a room just before a rehearsal.
5. Stay in contact by phone or e-mail and always return communications promptly. If a rehearsal or lesson time changes, contact your accompanist; and if your literature or performance date change, contact your accompanist *immediately*.

### Rehearsing with Your Accompanist:

1. Be on time; if you are late do not expect an accompanist to go overtime for you.
2. *Be prepared to rehearse*. Don't take time practicing your part in front of your accompanist.
3. Know what you want to rehearse. Don't waste rehearsal time searching through your music for something to rehearse. Also, manage your time well. If you have an hour to rehearse six pieces, know what pieces or sections will take the most time.
4. Study the piano part in advance for musical cues; asking questions about the piano part in the rehearsal wastes time. Write in cues and other features of the accompaniment that will help you.
5. Specific metronome markings are helpful. No accompanist will expect you to play like the metronome, but markings that guide the pianist toward your tempo are always appreciated.
6. Be polite: "please" and "thank you" are always welcome. A pianist is a human being, not a SmartMusic machine. Remember, you are *collaborating* with your accompanist; build a musical partnership *with* him or her.
7. If you provide photocopied music, make sure that you have not cut off any of the piano part, especially at the bottom or side of the page. Always ask the accompanist how they prefer to have photocopies given to them: single- or double-sided, in or out of a binder, etc.