THE STUDIO: PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS

OVERVIEW
Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School’s popular after-school arts program The Studio is thrilled this year to be opening a music division which will enable RGNS students to sign up for extracurricular private music lessons. Expert instructors from the surrounding area with extensive pedagogical training will be available to teach RGNS students in the following areas:

- Piano
- Voice: for Upper School students only
- Guitar: Group* and/or Individual
- Strings: violin and cello
- Woodwinds: flute, clarinet, saxophone
- Brass: trumpet and trombone
- Percussion
- Ukulele: Group* Lessons only

* Group lessons will be confirmed only when a minimum of 4 students enroll

Music lessons through The Studio provide an avenue for students to develop skills that will support them musically and academically. It is widely known that music education positively affects language development, increases IQ, develops spatial-temporal skills, and improves test scores overall. Learning a musical instrument also encourages character development, improves students’ abilities to focus, and builds self-esteem.

ROLE OF PARENTS
The decision to study a musical instrument is an exciting time in a child’s life – it is a new adventure, rich with rewards. Parents play an integral role in a child’s musical development – it is important to take an active interest in their study, and develop and support their daily practice habits.

What you can do to help your child:

- Provide a quiet place for your child to practice. Help your child find a time every day to practice without interruption, and help your child to stick to their practice schedule. Fifteen to twenty minutes a day in is sufficient in beginning, gradually moving towards half an hour, and later one hour.

- Be encouraging – there may be some strange sounds at first, but it will improve. Take notice of improvement you may hear.

- Provide the best possible instrument you can reasonably afford. This will insure the instrument will not hinder your child’s progress.

- Help your child take care of his/her instrument. Siblings should not have access to the instruments. Never leave an instrument in a place where it can be damaged. Never leave

For more information about music lessons at The Studio, please contact:
Allegra Boggess / Director of Orchestral Programs / aboggess@rbugap.org / 706.746.7467 x.1797
an instrument in a climate which would be uncomfortable for a human. Extreme heat, cold and humidity can damage the instrument.

- Remind your child to bring materials for their lesson: music folder, pencil, music, accessories (reeds, rosin, etc.) and their instrument.

**Providing an Instrument For Your Child**

Many instruments are offered by music stores on a rent-to-own basis. Rates vary from store to store, and vary depending on the instrument, but more rates are very affordable. Students always take more pride in their performance when they have their “own” instrument to use. RGNS recommends the following companies for instrument rental or purchase:

   2902 North Main Street
   Anderson, SC 29621
   864.225.4668

2. Paradise Music | [www.paradisemusicnc.com](http://www.paradisemusicnc.com) | [www.rentfromhome.com](http://www.rentfromhome.com)
   232 N.E. Main St.
   Franklin, NC 28734
   828.369.7227

3. Atlanta Strings | [www.atlantastringshop.com](http://www.atlantastringshop.com)
   115 Depot St.
   Lawrenceville, GA 30046
   770.338.5446

You may choose to purchase a new or used instrument for your child, however please ask your child’s instructor for his/her advice before you buy. There are many details to be aware of when making this important purchase.

**Fee Structure and Scheduling Information**

The Studio follows the Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School’s schedule for trimesters and holidays. Private lessons are offered on a weekly basis and fees are based on an 11 week trimester. A non-refundable $35 registration fee is charged when enrolling, separate from the lesson fees and will secure a spot for your child. Classes are filled on a first come, first served basis.

- 30 minute lesson | $415
- 45 minute lesson | $620
- 60 minute lesson | $760

The majority of private lessons will occur during weekday afternoon activities (4pm – 6pm) with exceptions made on a case-by-case basis depending on teacher and room availability. Should a conflict arise during the trimester and the student needs to reschedule his/her lesson, it is the responsibility of the student/parent to inform their teacher directly with at least 24-hour notice.

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If a cancellation occurs less than 24 hours before the scheduled lesson, it cannot be rescheduled. Trimester fees are non-refundable.

**Optional Recitals**
The Studio will present two showcase recitals, one in winter and one in spring. Children are encouraged but not obligated to participate. The Studio teachers will decide the final list of participants.

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