



DORIAN ANTIPA

BASSOONIST & EDUCATOR

617 3rd Ave N, Great Falls, MT 59401
916 599 5460

dorian.antipa@gmail.com
www.dorianantipa.com

Studio Policy

Scheduling, attendance, and payment

Lessons are offered on a weekly basis with monthly payment due at the first lesson of each month. Once lessons are scheduled, that time is “yours” in my calendar and I therefore maintain a standard private lesson attendance policy. Missed lessons without at a minimum of 24 hours notice will not be made up. With a minimum of 24 hours notice, up to four lessons per year may be rescheduled to accommodate student activities/illness or unexpected conflicts. On occasions where my performance schedule or an illness interferes with a lesson, that lesson will be rescheduled. Inclement weather days will be determined by the public school district and on such days, lessons may be rescheduled for a later date.

Lessons are offered in 45 or 60 minute periods. High school students should take lessons for a full hour and some advanced middle school students will find the full hour to be useful as well. For every minute of lesson time, a student is expected to spend an equal minute practicing at home on a daily basis with one rest day a week. The success a student enjoys is directly proportional to the effort that student puts in. Daily practice is crucial to reinforcing the fundamentals learned in lessons and developing a level of continued improvement.

The cost of private lessons is \$40 or \$50 depending on the duration and reeds are available for \$15 each. I do not want cost to be the barrier between a student and private lessons so if the lesson rate is an obstacle, please contact me to discuss scholarship options available from GFPS, the Great Falls Symphony Association, or from me directly.

Video recording during lessons

My house is equipped with cameras so that all movement between the front door to and including offices where lessons take place will be recorded.

At Home

Students are responsible for developing a routine of daily practice. This is THE MOST CRUCIAL element to any musician’s success. Just like learning a language (or just about anything), music cannot be learned through last minute cramming. 45 minutes of practice a day are infinitely better than practicing for a couple hours just a few times a week. Parents are responsible for providing a disruption-free practice space away from TV, radio, cell phones, pets, etc. The ideal space will have a mirror in which the bassoonist can watch his/her positioning and posture. If a piano or electric keyboard is available, this is also a very helpful tool.

Materials

In addition to the bassoon itself, students are required to have a few essential accessories.

- Seat strap.
- Swab. One is needed for the boot joint as well as the wing joint which can be achieved through the use of two separate swabs or one specifically designed to be used to clean both pieces of the instrument – check the fine print before you buy.
- Reed case. You may purchase a bassoon reed case or use a container such as an Altoids tin. If the latter, be sure to poke/drill three holes in the lid and base. Then line it with paper towel or tissue to protect the reed. No holes = moldy reeds and sick students.
- Reed water cup. The easiest accessory and yet very important. Reeds must be soaked in water, not just in one's mouth as with a clarinet or sax reed. This can be as simple as a paper cup from the water cooler which is kept in the case and filled at the beginning of each rehearsal or practice session. I prefer a sealing container such as an old pill bottle or small jar to carry water safely in the case.
- Metronome. Available at any music store – this will be well used.
- Tuner. I don't rely on a tuner early in a student's development but it will become necessary eventually. If you're out buying a metronome, Korg makes a good tuner/metronome combination for about \$20. This is also the most effective at registering the lower notes which are missed by some other tuners. I use the Korg TM-50.
- *Method for Bassoon* by Julius Weissenborn. Please be sure to purchase the older edition which is called the "New Enlarged Edition by Fred Bettoney." There are many other editions that have modernized the language and updated exercise titles, but this version is comprehensive and includes other exercises which you will otherwise need to purchase separately. It has an olive-green cover with a giant white "CB" over the front and is published by Carl Fischer (The updated cover may now be white with the logo in green. If in doubt, email me a link to the book for sale and I can confirm that it is the correct one). This is the bible of bassoon and will be well used. Beginners usually start using this book within the first month of lessons.
- Other method books and repertoire as the need arises.

Some of these materials may be found at local music stores while others must be purchased from a more specialized supplier. Such stores with online retail include Trevco-Varner Music, Midwest Musical Imports, Forrests Music, and The Music Source.

Communication

Email should be used as the primary form of communication but phone or text is fine for last minute issues that may arise (running late, sudden illness, a pad just fell off and my bassoon doesn't work, etc.). Please feel free to communicate any questions or concerns with me as soon as they arise. Whether it's a question on a tricky fingering, lesson assignment, or anything else, please don't hesitate to email.

Studio Agreement

Please sign below indicating that you have read and agree to the above studio policy.

Student _____ Date _____

Email address (optional) _____

The parent's address will be copied on all emails unless requested otherwise by the parent.

Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian acknowledge the use of video recording during lessons (initial) _____

Email address _____

Phone (home) _____ (cell) _____