

College of Musical Arts Piano Policy

Updated 1/14/25

Faculty Studio Tuning and Maintenance

The piano technician will email faculty the first week of each semester requesting times that their studios are available for regular tunings and maintenance. Due to numerous variables involved in scheduling, appointments will not be scheduled in advance. Reserved times are requested between 9-5, M-F, and apply for the duration of the semester. Most reserved studio times will be shared with other studios, classrooms, halls, etc. Faculty needing to use their reserved studio tuning times may do so without notifying the piano technician. This happens seldom enough that it is not a problem, the piano technician will try again during the next scheduled time.

Faculty studio pianos will generally be tuned 2-3 times per semester. Piano faculty studio instruments are checked bi-weekly, resulting in approximately 5-8 tunings per semester. Piano faculty studio instruments used for faculty practice, teaching, and rehearsal, will also receive voicing and regulation as part of normal maintenance. Any additional servicing can be scheduled with a minimum two weeks notice and providing studio availability times.

Cleaning of studio pianos is done each semester by the piano technician. Additional exterior cleaning can be done by faculty if desired. Please use a damp cloth for keytops and a wax free cleaner for exterior finishes. The piano technician is not responsible for removing any items stored on the piano.

Concert Halls

Due to multiple instruments in our concert halls, it is the responsibility of the performer/event creator to inform the piano technician which piano(s) will be used for an event to ensure it has been prepped and tuned. These requests should be sent to the piano technician with a minimum of two weeks notice to assure the desired instrument is ready. That said, the hall pianos are also serviced on a regular basis depending on need, environmental conditions, etc...

Classrooms and Practice Rooms

Classrooms are scheduled bi-weekly for piano maintenance. Practice room pianos are provided for daily practice. Please refrain from using the classroom pianos for general solo practicing when possible as this shortens the life quality of the instruments and limits the piano's technicians ability to maintain the instruments at a high level.

Steinway CD333 in Kobacker Hall

The Kobacker Steinway CD333 is reserved for solo and chamber music performances and for special requests from piano faculty members. In all cases, requests to use the CD333 must be made in advance. Please email the piano technician with two weeks notice to have the piano prepared and unlocked for your event. If time is of the essence and the piano technician is unavailable, there is a key available in the main office. The secretary will need to see a cc'd email from you contacting the piano technician requesting access to the piano.

Moving

All piano moving is done by professional movers under the direction of the piano technician. Please consult the piano technician for any moving needs.

Accessories/Modifications

Any piano accessorizing or modification will first need piano technician approval. Please consult the piano technician first before attaching anything to or modifying a piano in any way.

Lid Removal

All lid removals are to be approved and supervised by the piano technician. Any lid removal requests need to be directed to the piano technician two weeks in advance.

Covers

Please use common sense in keeping the covers off the floors. The purpose of the cover is to keep the piano clean and protect it from minor abrasions. Covers will not protect the finish from items placed on the piano or careless moving.

Summer Session

Pianos are prepped and tuned for regularly scheduled summer events (e.g. Summer Music Institute). The majority of piano work during the summer session consists of repairs and rebuilding. All tunings and other piano maintenance are by request by contacting the piano technician with a minimum two weeks notice.

Food and Beverage

Food and beverage must be kept away from all pianos at all times. Ideally, the healthiest option is taking a short break and walking to the nearest drinking fountain to stay hydrated. A spill-proof container of water is permissible, but never placed on the piano or HVAC system as a shelf. Please use a chair or the floor to store a water container.

A warning will be issued for first violations to this policy, with notice to the appropriate applied piano faculty. Second offences will result with the loss of practice room/key privileges.

Practice Room Door Windows

For the safety of occupants and security of the pianos, please do not cover practice room door windows with music stands and/or coats and blankets. Those found doing so will be asked to remove the coverings. Repeated offences will result in the loss of practice room/key privileges.

Respect and Value our Pianos

The College of Musical Arts is fortunate to have a large inventory of quality pianos. The replacement value of our three Steinways in Bryan Hall alone is over \$500,000. The average replacement cost of our grand practice room pianos is over \$70,000 and upright pianos at \$8,000

each. Please view the use of CMA pianos as a privilege and treat our instruments with the respect they deserve, so to enjoy pianos that inspire for years to come.