

Welcome!

Thank you for enrolling in private lessons! I look forward to working with you and your child on their musical journey. I enjoy providing high quality, personalized and rewarding lessons. If you ever have any information about your child that would be a helpful consideration in lessons, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Warmly,

Sarah

Please list an email address to receive a copy of this completed form:

* Required

1. Email *

Contract

- 1) Practice Expectations & Student Resources
- 2) Lesson Day Expectations
- 3) Scheduling Lessons
- 4) Pricing, Payment & Referrals

Registration

- 1) Parent / Guardian Contact Information
- 2) Student Information
- 3) Previous Musical Experience



Practice Expectations & Student Resources

The following sections require initials to indicate all policies have been read and understood by you and your child.

Practice Expectations

Regular practice is essential and necessary for successful musical education.

Students are expected to practice at least five days a week, outside of lessons and band. It is imperative that horn students play almost daily as they are developing a unique set of muscles.

I strongly advocate quality over quantity. As a result, many students perform at high levels for their ages. I do not assign "busy work" and will not assign too many things at one time. As such, all pieces and exercises assigned should be completed to the best of the student's abilities. I am always happy to clarify or help with a piece, provided the student has practiced it and made their best effort already. Even five minutes of practice is very helpful!

Please note that lessons are not simply for additional band music review. School band programs teach instrumental music in a group setting. This is vastly different from private study. Group and private study work together to educate young musicians and both are critically important in that process. Private study addresses instrument-specific techniques, and explores more interesting and challenging music as ensemble horn parts tend not to be terribly "exciting" until you reach a fairly advanced level. Nevertheless, we will cover your school and ensemble music, and I will actively ask to hear excerpts from it. Also be sure to work on my assignments daily. They are the assignments that will move your playing along the most; they are horn specific and tailored to precisely where you are as a player,

I teach my students how to practice and how to problem solve. There are many effective and efficient paths we are able to take when finding what works best for them as individuals. Please practice as I have advised. As you do this, you will think of new ideas or notice specific things that are helpful. I love to hear about your personal take on each assignment and welcome your ideas! Practicing is more than repeating a part until it is correct.

Student Resources

I maintain a digital library of recordings, sheet music, and videos to aid in practice. I have shared specific materials with you on your assignment sheet. These materials are also on my website, www.sarahyounger.com.

Each of you has a personalized Google Sheet of your assignments and have been sent the link to access this. You are encouraged to use the practice log included in your Google Assignment Sheet (that which is tracked improves!). You are also responsible for accessing this document regularly to ensure you are practicing the appropriate materials. Please include any questions or ideas you want to jot down during the week to address in your lesson.

Students are to bring their own copy of any PDFs in print form or on a tablet. Within a few weeks, you will be expected to purchase the books the PDFs are from. I will send links to the books. The PDFs are meant to get you started and cannot replace the complete text.

We must be able to mark your music. If you choose to use a tablet, please install and be familiar with an app that will allow you to edit PDFs quickly. I recommend using ForScore, available for Apple devices.

2. Initial to acknowledge: *

Lesson Day Expectations

Materials to Bring to Every Lesson

Required:

- Pencil with eraser
- Assigned Music and Method Book(s) (hard copy or loaded into ForScore)
- Valve Oils & Slide Grease
- Metronome
- Headphones (online lessons only)
- Mouthpiece
- Instrument

Optional Materials: (bonus points!)

- Tuner
- Music you would like to try out!

Warm-Up Space at DGN

You are encouraged to arrive a few minutes early and warm up in a separate practice room. Should you need a practice room unlocked for your use, please knock on the door and I will open a room for you. Any open rooms are fair game to use without asking me first.

I forgot something! What should I do?!

Come to your lesson! Missing a week will slow development more than forgetting the horn itself. There are innumerable musical concepts we can explore without the horn or other materials!

Online Lessons

Online lessons are held via FaceTime or Zoom. The materials are the same as for an in-person lesson. Please note that a metronome and headphones are absolutely necessary for an online lesson.

Materials

- Same as in-person lesson
- Device with headphones dedicated to video chat
- Metronome: physical or an app on a 2nd device (apps rarely work with Facetime or Zoom running)
- If physical sheet music is unavailable, a large screen tablet will be needed.

Procedure:

- Prior to lesson, warm up and test all devices and internet. (5 - 10 minutes)
- Be ready to accept my call at the assigned lesson time.

It is the student's responsibility to ensure the internet connection is working properly and the device is running smoothly. You may need to reset a router, modem, and/or your device prior to your lesson, or elect to use data if the internet is unreliable. It is also the student's responsibility to ensure their device(s) are appropriately charged or plugged in at the time of the lesson.

3. Initial to acknowledge: *

Scheduling Lessons

Lessons are held weekly, at the same time each week. In-person lessons are held at Downers Grove North High School. Online lessons are also available.

Google Calendar Appointment Slots (how to schedule lessons)

I use an online booking tool through Google Calendar. It allows parents and students to see available time slots and reschedule when needed. In addition, Google Calendar will send:

- Confirmation email upon booking lesson
- Reminder email 3 days prior to the lesson.
- Reminder email 1 day prior to the lesson.

I will email you to set up a recurrent weekly time upon receipt of this contract.

Running Late?

If I am late to your lesson for any reason, I will make that time up to you.

If you are late to a lesson, we will meet for the remainder of your lesson slot. No refunds will be given for shortened lessons due to tardiness. Please plan accordingly for traffic and inclement weather.

In the case of online lessons, plan accordingly to charge your device and have a reliable internet connection.

For online lessons:

- I will try to contact you three (3) times total, via video chat, or text/phone within the first 15 minutes of your lesson.
- If you do not pick up on those three (3) attempts or call back during the first 15 minutes of your your lesson time, it will be considered a forfeited lesson.
- If you do call back, we will meet until your regular lesson time ends.

Inclement Weather & School Closings

In the case of school closure, we will meet via FaceTime or Zoom at your normal time. If you do not have your horn or other materials for an online lesson, there is still plenty to do. I will gladly share materials with you!

Cancellation & Rescheduling

It is expected that students and I will strive for perfect attendance. However, I recognize there will be occasions in which either the student or I will be unable to attend a lesson.

You may cancel or reschedule your lesson up to 48 hours prior to the lesson start time without forfeiture.

You are able to move your in-person lesson to be online at any time. Please email me to do so.

It is important to me that I provide as much advance notice as possible when cancelling a lesson. Although performing musician schedules are irregular, the vast majority of the time I am able to provide several weeks of notice about a change in schedule and offer make up options.

Forfeited Lessons

Lessons that are not cancelled according to the above procedure will not be rescheduled and will be charged for in full.

No make ups or refunds will be given for "no show" lessons.

Stopping Lessons

Two weeks' notice and payment is required before stopping lessons. Notice is to be submitted via email.

4. Initial to acknowledge: *

Pricing, Payment & Referrals

In an effort to keep lessons accessible, school districts set the hourly rate private instructors may charge while using their facilities. Please take advantage of this!

Outside of lessons, I also offer detailed feedback on any recordings you might be submitting for class or auditions. I am usually (though not always) able to provide a detailed response within less than a day. If you are in a big time crunch, please let me know and I will do my best to accommodate your timeline. Pricing information is below.

Lesson Rates

	Regular	Your home	Tuesdays @ DGN, 1/1/22-6/30/22	Tuesdays @ DGN, beginning 7/1/22
25 minutes (5a only)			\$28.00	\$30.00
30 minutes	\$50.00	\$63.00	\$32.50	\$35.00
45 minutes (occasional)	\$75.00	\$88.00	\$48.75	\$52.50
45 minutes (weekly)	\$73.00	\$86.00	\$48.00	\$51.00
60 minutes	\$100.00	\$113.00	\$65.00	\$70.00

Recording Feedback Rates

Recording Length (mm:ss)	Price
up to 2:00	\$15.00
each additional second	\$0.125 (\$7.50 per minute pro-rated by the second)

*Recording feedback to be paid via PayPal.me or Zelle request sent prior to reviewing.

*Edit out any sections you don't want feedback on. This includes set-up and false starts.

Payment Options

Weekly, at the time of the lesson - cash only.

Monthly, in advance by the 1st of the month - personal check, cash, Zelle, or PayPal.*

If you choose monthly, I will send an invoice via PayPal several days before the invoice is due.

Please make checks payable to "Sarah Younker."

*There is a \$5 charge per payment with PayPal. There is no additional fee for the other options.

Billing

An invoice will be sent via email several days before your payment is due.

By clicking “view invoice” in the PayPal generated email, you will see an expanded detail of the charges, including the date of service and individual lesson prices.

Lesson payment is due, in full, by the first of the month. This is reflected on the due date on your invoice. A late charge of \$25 will be assessed for each 15-day period in which payments are past due.

If you need to regularly move your due date to a different week, please let me know and I would be happy to assist you.

Referrals

Referrals are the highest compliment and each one is thoroughly appreciated! If you'd like to try bringing a horn friend to one of your lessons, please let me know and I would be happy to set up some duets/trios or just let them hang out and listen!

5. Initial to acknowledge: *

Student Info

6. Student FIRST NAME *

7. Student LAST NAME *

8. Student BIRTHDAY



Example: January 7, 2019

9. Student EMAIL *

Email account that is 1) regularly checked by student, and 2) can receive emails from Sarah at a non-school email accounts (often a problem with JH/MS email accounts).



10. Student PHONE *



11. Year of HIGH SCHOOL Graduation *
4 Digit Year of student's High School graduation



12. Current SCHOOL *



Mark only one oval.

- Clarendon Hills MS
- Downers Grove North HS
- Downers Grove South HS
- Herrick MS
- Jefferson JH
- Westmont HS
- Westmont JH
- Other: _____

Previous Musical Experience



13. Years playing Horn *

List any relevant info, including previous private lesson details.

14. Years playing Other Instruments *

List any relevant info, including previous private lesson details.

Parent / Guardian Contact
Information

Please provide contact info for one parent or guardian.

15. FIRST NAME *

16. LAST NAME *

17. EMAIL *

Email account that is regularly checked by the parent/guardian.

18. PHONE *

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