REGISTRATION
TBA or by appointment. Please call Dr. Fritz Gechter for information at 956-326-2639.
*Late registration permitted as spaces allow, but semester tuition cannot be prorated.

DATES
Lesson dates: Day and time arranged individually, Jan. 6, 2014 – May 24, 2014
Spring Recital Rehearsal: Saturday, May 10, 2014, 3:00-4:30 p.m.
Spring Recital: Sunday, May 11, 2014, 3:00 p.m. (call: 2:30pm)

Private lessons will begin the week of January 6, 2014 and will continue through May 24, 2014. Each student will receive one private lesson per week. Occasionally students will be required to attend extra rehearsals.

Lessons may be arranged with the instructor on days the University is closed, such as holidays and breaks, but not if the University is closed due to unforeseen circumstances such as inclement weather.

FEES AND PAYMENTS
Tuition is paid either in full, or may be paid in 5 equal installments, online, one for each month, January – May. For lessons with student-teachers payment for the full semester is $605 (with discount), or $125/month for 60-min. lessons; $93.75 for 45-min. lessons, or $62.50 for 30-min. lessons. For lessons with Dr. Gechter payment for the full semester is $1210 (with discount); or $250/month for 60-min. lessons, or $187.50/month for 45-min. lessons. If paying in installments, the 1st payment is due online immediately at registration (online), with subsequent payments due online the first week of the month thereafter. Payments made online are done through TAMU Market Place, which can be found at the following web address:
https://secure.touchnet.com/C20208_ustores/web/index.jsp

A lesson day and time will not be reserved for the student until all registration forms have been completed and turned in, and the first payment has been received.

Please note that you are making a semester-long commitment to the program. Tuition covers lesson costs, plus those incurred by the program for recitals and other events. Students who fail to pay, or who are excessively absent, will be removed from the program, and will be ineligible to perform on the recital. Those students will not be considered for re-admittance until the following semester.

Failure to make a payment by the second lesson of the month will result in forfeiture of that lesson and all subsequent lessons, until the monthly payment is made in full. No make-up lessons will be given for lessons missed due to failure to pay on time.

Failure to pay or attend for a full month will result in expulsion from the program, and students will not be eligible to perform on the recital.

ATTENDANCE POLICIES
Regular attendance at lessons is an issue of responsibility and choice on the part of parents and students. Students are expected to attend all lessons, rehearsals and performances on time, prepared, and with required materials.

The University shall not assume any financial responsibility for a student's absence(s), nor for failure to register before the beginning of the term.

Student Absences & Make-up lessons: If the student must miss a lesson, notice should preferably be given one week in advance, but not less than 24 hours, to receive a make-up lesson. Only 2 Make-up lessons will be permitted per semester. If less than 24-hours notice of an absence is given, there will be no make-up lesson. If it is necessary to cancel a lesson with less than 24-hours notice, please call no later than noon of the lesson day.
Tardiness of more than 15-minutes will result in forfeiture of that lesson. There will be no refund for missed or forgotten lessons. There are no exceptions to this policy.

Faculty absences: If the faculty member to whom you have been assigned must be absent due to illness, emergency, or professional performance obligations, a make-up lesson will be given.

Recitals and Performances
Students who complete the full semester of study will be eligible to perform on the Winter Recital in the TAMU CFPA Recital Hall.

Students who take part in this program commit to the event at the beginning of the term, thereby giving ample time to prepare their respective piece(s). Music for the recital will be selected by the teacher from music assigned during the current term. All music—except duets—is to be memorized.

Students scheduled to perform for recitals are required to attend and perform. Except in cases of family emergency or illness, students may not “drop out” from the recital program. Such behavior affects the entire recital, and is not fair to the other performers.

Performers must be at the facility no later than 30 minutes before the beginning of the recital. Participating students and their families are expected to remain for the duration of the entire recital, thereby providing ample audience and respect for all performers.

Repertoire Audition for Recital
In order to ensure that students will be secure with their piece(s) and that they will have a successful performance experience, all participating students will be required to audition their recital repertoire approximately 2 weeks before the recital (audition date/time TBA). Students will first audition their repertoire for their teacher at their lesson, and if they pass they will be allowed to play in the recital. If they do not pass they will be required to perform again at a later time for their teacher as well as Dr. Gechter; they must pass this audition or they will not be allowed to perform in the recital. Music must be memorized and performance ready when auditioning.

Music and Materials
Students will be required to purchase music, theory and technique books, and anthologies as assigned by the instructor. Some may be available from the campus bookstore, while others will need to be procured from an online or local music store. It is the student’s responsibility to obtain his or her scores in a timely fashion. Additionally, students should bring a three-ring binder with paper to all lessons so that weekly practice assignments can be recorded, and to secure any handouts or music provided by the instructor.

Instrument
Having a well-tuned and maintained piano at home on which to practice is required for private lessons. A full-sized digital keyboard (that is touch-sensitive and has a sustaining pedal) is ok, but a real (acoustic) piano is best. Students will not make much progress unless they have access to a piano on which to practice on a regular basis.

Practice and Parental Support
Scheduling a set time to practice every day is a good way to ensure that you, or your child, will devote the time needed to achieve musical goals. Learning the necessary skills to become proficient on an instrument will not occur by simply going to lessons. It takes committed practice on a daily basis during the week to put skills covered at the lesson into motion.

Additionally, parental support is an extremely important factor in musical training. You can help your child make progress by providing a well-tuned instrument to practice on at home in an area as free from distractions as possible, encouraging good practice habits, making sure they practice a minimum of 4-5 times a week (for at least 30 min. per practice session), and by seeing that your child attends all lessons on time, prepared, and with all required materials. Please feel free to contact the instructor with any questions or concerns.
Students and Parents, please complete the following form and turn in at registration with other forms and first month’s payment.

I have read and understood the TAMIU Private Piano Lesson Policies, and agree to comply with the rules listed therein.

Student Name (please print): ________________________________

Student Signature: ________________________________ Date: ____________

Parent Name (please print): ________________________________

Parent Signature: ________________________________ Date: ____________