



2020 STUDIO POLICIES/HANDBOOK

Danqi Zeng, Violin Instructor



AUGUST 5, 2020
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Welcome to Danqi Zeng's Violin Studio!

I am a violin teacher in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and I provide weekly lessons designed to meet each student's needs and enhance their musical and personal growth. I strive to help students achieve their musical goals, prepare for competitions or other events, or help them to learn the instrument to play for enjoyment.

I began to teach a wide age range of students from children to older adults for over 5 years while I was working towards my Bachelor of Music degree in Violin Performance from the College-Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati. I am pursuing my Master's in Violin Performance and Master's in Chamber Music at the University of Michigan and teaching private lessons regularly. I am also an active solo, collaborative and chamber musician and have competed in and won several violin competitions. My lessons are focusing on helping students with building a solid foundation of the violin techniques as well as the ability to express personal emotions in the music. My teaching style is the combination of traditional methods, the Suzuki method, and the Sassmannshaus method.

I look forward to meeting you and working with you!

Danqi

About Danqi

Born in Guangzhou, China, Danqi Zeng began her violin studies at the age of four. She is pursuing her Master's in Violin Performance and chamber performance at the University of Michigan on a full scholarship under the tutelage of Prof. Danielle Belen. Ms. Zeng graduated summa cum laude from College-Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati with a BM in violin performance on a full Starling Scholarship with Professor Kurt Sassmannshaus.

As the youngest two-time winner of the concerto competition at CCM, she has won several international competitions including the Hong Kong International Violin Competition in 2011, the Beijing Forbidden City International Youth Violin Competition in 2013 and the Great Wall International Music Festival's Concerto Competition in 2014. In 2017, she won the College-Conservatory of Music's chamber competition.

Ms. Zeng has performed as soloist with CCM Concert Orchestra, CCM Philharmonia, and Starling Orchestra. She had been the concertmaster of the CCM Concert Orchestra for multiple seasons. She has performed for renowned violinists including Zakhar Bron, Donald Weilerstein, Augustin Hadelich, Yura Lee, Ben Sayevich, Feng Ning, Fabiola Kim, and Stefan Jackiw. In past summers, she has attended music festivals such as the Great Wall Festival, the High Peaks Music Festival on scholarship, the Innsbrook Festival on scholarship, and the Bowdoin Festival on a full scholarship. Most recently, she is the winner of the Marjorie Neville Collaborative Competition in 2018.

Ms. Zeng currently serves as the Concertmaster of University Philharmonia Orchestra at the University of Michigan and the Associate Music Director of the Metropolitan Seventh-Day Adventist Church in Michigan.

Lesson Policies

***COVID-19 UPDATES – All lessons and other activities will be held online until further notice. The lesson format would be on Zoom (preferred), Skype or Facetime. Please contact Ms. Zeng directly if you have technical issues.**

Contact Information

- (513) 655-8530 (text only)
- danqizeng@gmail.com

Lesson Rates

- 30-minute lesson = \$25
- 60-minute lesson = \$40

Payment

- Lesson fees are paid on a monthly basis for the appropriate amount of lessons to be held during each month. Students are expected to have weekly lessons. Additional lessons are allowed based on the teacher's availability.
- Payment is due by the first lesson of the month. Tuition is payable by cash, check, and Venmo (preferred). Chase Quick Pay is also accepted. Please make checks payable to "Danqi Zeng". Please contact Ms. Zeng for Venmo information.
- Late Fee: If tuition is not received before the tenth of the month, a \$10 late fee will be incurred, and lessons will be suspended until tuition is paid.
- Music and theory books can be purchased by the student (or the parent). I am willing to purchase them as well, and the amount will be applied to the next month's tuition.
- The first lesson for new students is free.

Expectations

- Practice:
 - Daily practice is essential and expected. At the end of each lesson, students have a specific assignment for daily practice, detailed in the assignment notebook.
- Attendance: Regular, on-time attendance with a polished assignment.
- Getting Ready for lesson:
 - Bring all materials to the lesson, which includes the instrument, shoulder rest, cleaning cloth, rosin, notebooks, music, and a pencil.
 - Nails should be kept short to ensure proper technique. Please unpack your violin and warm-up before the lesson. Always wash your hands before you play.

Absence & Make-up Policy

- No-show or cancellations with less than 24 hours' notice: You have forfeited the lesson and there will be no refund. A make-up lesson may be scheduled as my schedule allows for an additional fee.

- Advance reschedule or cancellation: I will do my best to accommodate requests to reschedule but I cannot guarantee a lesson can be rescheduled. Cancellations are considered excused for illness, family emergency, or severe weather.
- Teacher Cancellation: Lessons that I cancel for any reason will be rescheduled.
- No lessons will be scheduled on Memorial, Independence, Labor, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

Studio Classes and Workshops

- I offer performance classes once a month where students can play for each other in a supportive environment and get comfortable with the energy of performing. These are included in the tuition rate.
- Throughout the year, I offer various workshops that work on a variety of topics. Topics include sight-reading, orchestral or chamber music, music theory, music history and ear training. The workshops last 1.5 hours and I provide all materials for the class. The class ends with a pizza dinner or lunch, which is included in the fee. The fee for workshops is \$20/class.

Recitals

- There will be 2 recitals during the academic year. One will be held in the winter (December or January) and one will be held in the spring (April or May). Location and dates will be announced.
- All students are required to perform in at least 1 recital per year.
- If the student requires a professional accompanist, the student must directly pay the pianist (for her time) at each rehearsal. However, there is no violin lesson fee during a piano rehearsal.

Parental Involvement

- Students 10 years and younger must have a parent or guardian present at the lesson. The parent will take notes and act as the student's "home teacher". Parental involvement is welcomed and strongly encouraged for all students, but not required for students 10 years and older.

Withdrawal

- Students should consult with the teacher if they are considering discontinuing lessons to make sure there are not areas that can be resolved. If the student still decides to discontinue lessons, one month's notice is required. The lessons remaining in that month will be finished out or held for 6 months as credit in case of return. There are no refunds for withdrawals.

Discontinuation

- In an extreme situation, I reserve the right to discontinue lessons with a student at any time. Disrespect, continual lateness or absenteeism, or an ongoing breach of any studio policy may result in discontinuation. In this case, I will prorate the current month's tuition and refund any portion that has not been used.

Lesson Template

Sample Violin Lesson Template for 30-Minute lesson

0:00 – 5:00: Warm-up, Left-hand and right-hand technique exercises.

5:00 – 10:00: Scales, Arpeggios, Etudes.

10:00 – 20:00: Solo Repertoire.

20:00 – 28:00: School Orchestra, chamber music.

28:00 – 30:00: Recap.

Sample Violin Lesson Template for 45-Minute lesson (upon request)

0:00 – 10:00: Warm-up, Left-hand and right-hand technique exercises.

10:00 – 20:00: Scales, Arpeggios, Etudes.

20:00 – 32:00: Solo Repertoire.

32:00 – 42:00: School Orchestra, chamber music.

42:00 – 45:00: Recap.

Sample Violin Lesson Template for 60-Minute lesson

0:00 – 10:00: Warm-up, Left-hand and right-hand technique exercises.

10:00 – 20:00: Scales, Arpeggio, Etudes.

20:00 – 45:00: Solo Repertoire.

45:00 – 55:00: School Orchestra, chamber music.

55:00 – 60:00: Recap.