

KAREN LELA FERRY, VIOLIN

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Ferry Violin Studio 2025 Studio Policy

CORE VALUES

At Ferry Violin Studio, learning the violin is about more than music — it's about character, discipline, and joy in music-making. Our studio follows the principles of Dr. Shinichi Suzuki, who believed every child can learn in a nurturing environment.

- **Respect** — We treat ourselves, others, and our instruments with care.
- **Consistency** — Progress comes from steady daily practice and listening.
- **Joy in Music** — We celebrate effort and growth, not just results.
- **Community** — Group classes and recitals build confidence and connection.
- **Partnership** — Parents, students, and teacher work together as a team.

“The fate of a child is in the hands of his parents... What does not exist in the environment will not exist in the child.” — Shinichi Suzuki

EXPECTATIONS

For Parents/Adult Students

- Provide a positive and encouraging learning environment.
- Attend every lesson, take notes, and review them at home.
- Support daily listening to assigned repertoire.
- Guide consistent home practice (6 days/week).
- Ensure necessary materials and instrument are provided.
- Remain quiet and observant during lessons, unless asked to contribute.
- Consent to lesson photos/videos for practice support and teaching purposes (unless otherwise requested).

For Students

- Attend all lessons, group classes, and recitals.
- Bring all required books and materials each week.
- Listen daily to assigned recordings.
- Practice 6 days per week, including review and repetition.
- Arrive prepared, respectful, and ready to learn.

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POLICIES

Private Lesson Protocol

- Arrive 5–10 minutes early (front door). Late arrivals end at the scheduled time.
- If you are the first student of the day, please ring my doorbell. Otherwise, the door will be unlocked, and you can let yourself in and come up to the studio.
- Trim nails, wash hands, and unpack before the lesson begins.
- Siblings not taking lessons should not attend (or must remain in another room for virtual lessons).
- Phones should be silenced; parents may video record brief practice reminders (e.g., bow hold, posture).
- For online lessons: follow Zoom setup instructions in the Student Portal and be in the waiting room 5 minutes early.

Group Classes

Group classes are integral to the Suzuki Method and are held twice a month. Students learn ensemble skills, listening, music theory, and learn to give and receive peer feedback.

- Arrive early (front door) to allow time for tuning and setup. Attendance is expected.
- Be prepared to perform your most recent review piece.

Recitals

- One recital with dress rehearsal each semester. Participation is required. Includes solo and group performances.
- Accompanist fee is included in tuition.

Tuition & Payment

Monthly tuition is due on the first of each month. Semesterly tuition is due at the first lesson of the semester. Karen will send payment requests via Venmo or Zelle.

Private lessons:

- \$45 / 30 min
- \$62 / 45 min
- \$80 / 60 min

Group classes: \$35 / 45 min

Recital fee: \$35 (covers accompanist & dress rehearsal)

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Make-Up & Cancellation Policy

- Each student receives one makeup lesson per semester (exceptions: illness or true emergencies).
- No refunds for missed lessons.
- Families may arrange a swap with another student of equal lesson length.
- If Karen cancels and no makeup is possible, a tuition credit will be applied.

Additional Notes

- Families are encouraged to attend live performances whenever possible to enrich their musical journey (Karen performs as Principal 2nd Violin with both the Canton Symphony and the Akron Symphony. Concert schedules: Free or discounted tickets may be available upon request.)
 - Canton Symphony → cantonsymphony.org
 - Akron Symphony → akronsymphony.org
 - Cleveland Institute of Music → cim.edu
 - The Cleveland Orchestra → clevelandorchestra.com
 - Cleveland Chamber Music Society → clevelandchambermusic.org
- Studio feedback is always welcome.
 - Anonymous form available here: [Feedback Form](#)
 - Completion of this form is required at the end of each semester.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We have read, understood, and agree to the expectations and policies of Ferry Violin Studio.

Parent/Adult Student Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____