



Lesson Policies

Faculty

Violin & Viola	Valerie Prebys
Cello	Zlatina Staykova

Location

St. John's Episcopal Church

211 North Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL

Enter through the Calhoun Street entrance by the church office and proceed upstairs to the Elementary Sunday School rooms.

Parking: St. John's Bookstore and along Call and Calhoun Streets.

Waiting areas: Inside the lesson room with the student and teacher, or just outside in the hallway.

(Wi-Fi: saintjohnwifi)

Private Instruction

We offer 30-, 45-, and 60-minute private lessons for violin, viola, and cello. The family and teacher mutually agree upon lesson length and scheduling. Students may request a specific teacher at enrollment.

Our faculty are professional musicians holding advanced degrees in music who perform regularly in the Tallahassee area and beyond.

Group Classes & Outreach

Students enrolled in private lessons may attend group classes and ensembles. At the teacher's discretion, students may be invited to perform in community Outreach Performances.

Please let us know if you prefer your child's image not be used in publications or on our website.

Questions? Reach out to your teacher or contact Valerie Prebys at vprebys@gmail.com or 850-459-3195.

To enroll, visit our website, click [Enroll Now](#) and complete the online registration form.

Thank You

We're so glad to have your family as part of the Heartwood Suzuki School community.

We look forward to making music together!

A Note for Parents

St. John's Episcopal Church requires that an adult accompany all students under eighteen to lessons. The adult may observe directly in the teaching room or wait in the hallway — all doors have large windows.

Student "drop offs" at the door are not permitted.

We warmly invite parents to sit in on lessons and help guide daily practice at home. Your involvement is one of the greatest gifts you can give your child's musical journey.

For our youngest students, we ask that a parent or guardian observe lessons inside the teaching room and take notes.

Lesson Preparation

The more your child practices between lessons, the more fun each lesson becomes! We encourage daily practice at home, following your teacher's guidance.

For younger students, a parent or guardian practicing alongside is essential throughout the elementary years — not just as a helper, but as a learning partner. When you're in the room, your child feels supported, stays more focused, and progresses faster. You'll also know exactly what to work on each day, because you were there when the teacher showed you both.

Online Lessons

We're happy to offer online lessons via video call when needed:

- Student is ill or contagious and cannot attend in person.
- Student lives a significant distance from the studio.
- Other exceptional circumstances, at the teacher's discretion.

The same tuition, cancellation, and attendance policies apply.

Tuition & Fees

Lesson Rates

Current semester lesson rates are available on our website. Music books, supplies, and instruments are not covered by tuition and are the responsibility of the student's family. Your teacher will provide a list of required materials at the start of lessons.

Enrollment

New students must complete enrollment through our website before lessons begin. Returning students should confirm their intent to re-enroll each semester by contacting their teacher. Enrollment is not complete until the registration fee has been received.

Registration Fee

An annual registration fee of \$50 is due with the first tuition payment. For families enrolling mid-year, the fee is prorated: \$30 for January 1–March 31, \$20 for April 1–July 30, and \$40 for August 1–December 31.

Payment Schedule

- Fall tuition may be paid in one full semester payment or in four equal monthly installments (August/September combined through December).
- Spring tuition may be paid in one full semester payment or in five equal monthly installments (January through May).
- Summer tuition is à la carte based on the number of lessons scheduled with your teacher.

Invoicing & Payment Methods

- Invoices are sent by email via QuickBooks and are due within 10 days of the invoice date.
- Preferred payment: secure ACH bank draft through the emailed invoice link.
- Cash or check (payable to "Heartwood Suzuki School") is also accepted.
- Mail checks to: Heartwood Suzuki School, 1315 Chocksacka Nene, Tallahassee, FL 32301.
- Payment is due within 10 days of the invoice date, regardless of whether a lesson was missed or canceled by the student. Tuition is not refunded or credited for lessons missed by students.

Late Payments & Fees

Late fee	\$10 applied automatically after 10 days
Insufficient funds fee	\$20
Suspension policy	If a balance remains unpaid by the end of the month, lessons will be paused until the account is brought current.

Scholarships are available for qualifying students. Please reach out to us to learn more.

Attendance

- Students are expected to attend all scheduled lessons.
- No makeup lessons will be given for lessons missed by the student.
- Lessons canceled by the teacher will be rescheduled or refunded.
- If you have a conflict with a lesson date, please reach out to your teacher as early as possible.