



PARENT & STUDENT HANDBOOK 2021-2022

The Arts Institute of Mansfield is an outreach program of
First Methodist Church Mansfield.

Arts Institute of Mansfield Parents,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the “AIM” family. The Arts Institute of Mansfield team is so excited to welcome back our returning families and excited to have the opportunity to get to know the new families that have joined us this year. We are thrilled to meet each one of you and look forward to developing a relationship with you and your children.

As the AIM Director, it is a privilege to be a part of this ministry for so many reasons:

First, and what we teach our students, is to honor God with our minds, bodies, and souls. Our instructors are committed to this team motto. Students at AIM are not only going to grow in their gifts and talents with high quality instruction, but they are going to learn how to worship God by using their gifts for His glory! We are excited about the impact God is having and will have on our students’ lives through The Arts Institute of Mansfield.

Also, First Methodist Mansfield is a place that is blessed, trusted, and is serious about reaching out to our Mansfield community. It is an honor to house The Arts Institute of Mansfield inside of a church that supports the youth in the community and is dedicated to helping each child find their inner strength and talent through this outreach program. We are truly grateful for this blessing.

And we are amazed by the team of instructors God has brought to The Arts Institute of Mansfield. Please recognize that we have a team of lead teachers who are absolute experts in their fields. What a blessing! The teachers/instructors that have united to build this program are incredibly passionate about nurturing our students’ God given gifts and talents. You couldn’t be at a better place.

Finally, YOU! We look forward to building a wonderful relationship with every AIM family. We open our doors to you and invite you to join us in a supportive partnership, as we foster gifts and talents in our students. We are committed to supporting, encouraging, and praying for our AIM staff and families. .

If you need to speak to me, please feel free to contact the office Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 9:00a-2:30p.

Beth LaMee

Director, The Arts Institute of Mansfield

AIM CLASSES

Classes

- The Arts Institute of Mansfield offers the following: Group Piano classes and Private Instruction (piano, organ, voice, violin, and viola)
- Our Arts Institute of Mansfield Program begins at the end of August and ends in May. Recitals will be held at the end of the school year.
- Class schedules are posted in on our website at www.aimfirst.org

The Arts Institute of Mansfield will be closed on the following days in accordance with the MISD school schedule:

August 23 rd :	First Day of AIM classes
September 6 th :	Labor Day
October 11 th :	Columbus Day
November 22 nd -26 th :	Thanksgiving
December 20 th - Jan 8 th :	Winter Break
January 17 th :	MLK Holiday
February 21 st :	Presidents Day
March 13 th -18 th :	Spring Break
April 18 th :	Easter Monday
May 19 th :	Last Day of AIM classes

SCHEDULE OF FEES

Payment Procedure

ALL FEES, including registration, tuition, etc., can be paid online or received by the AIM Evening Receptionist, located on the first floor of the A&E building when you enter through the wooden doors. If the Receptionist is not available, you may leave your payment in the drop box outside of the old AIM office on the music hall. If a student is dropping off the payment, please ask them to do this PRIOR to class. NO payments should be given to instructors, as they will be utilizing their entire time for instruction.

Registration Fee

A yearly non-refundable registration fee of \$45 per family is due at the time of enrollment. This fee will be required no matter what month of the year the student is registered. The only time a discounted registration fee will be available is at the Pre-registration time for the following year. Also due at enrollment is pre-paid tuition for the last month of the school year if pre-registering during the Fall or Summer. Payment for the first month will be due at the first lesson or class. If you are registering after August, to register you will be required to pay your first month, last month and registration fee at the time of registration.

Tuition Payments

Tuition may be paid monthly, by the semester or yearly by cash, check, online or automatic bank drafts.

The Arts Institute of Mansfield reserves the right to dismiss any student because of frequent absences, behavior, or missed payments. Please notify The Arts Institute of Mansfield office if dropping a class. A 30 day written notice is required, and your pre-paid last months tuition will be applied to the last 30 days as long as you are current on payments up until that point. If the 30 day written notice is not received, the last month's tuition will not be refunded if the student drops out!

All checks must be made payable to FUMC. Please write your child's name and class information on the memo line of all payments made by check.

Tuition can be paid online with credit or debit card.

Tuition may also be paid by auto-debit from your bank account. Please provide a voided check to The Arts Institute of Mansfield office to set up this procedure. There is no fee for utilizing this service. And you will never pay a late fee!

If paying with cash, please bring exact amount as the AIM office is not able to make change. If you do not have exact change, the remaining balance will NOT be credited toward your next monthly payment. If you will be leaving it in the drop box, please put the cash in an envelope with the students name on it.

Monthly tuition is due on the 1st, and late after the 10th of each month; a \$25.00 late fee will be charged for payments made after the tenth day of the month.

STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ATTEND CLASS
IF TUITION PAYMENTS ARE NOT MADE.

Monthly, Semester and Yearly Tuition Options

The cost of lessons is determined by taking the number of lessons offered during the semester and dividing the cost evenly over the months that classes are being taken. We are doing this in order to achieve a monthly payment that is the same each month of the semester. Example: If you are taking private instruction in the Fall, we will take the number of lessons offered that semester (17 lessons) and multiplying that towards the lesson rate (\$30) and dividing the cost by the months of lessons that semester (Aug-Dec= 5 months). So $17 \times \$30 = \$510 / 5 =$ monthly rate of \$102 in August, September, October, November and December. We are also offering a 5% discount if an entire semester is paid for at one time and a 10% discount if payment is made for the entire year.

Makeup Lessons

All lessons within a month must be paid for unless there is an MISD holiday and our AIM offices are closed. If you cannot make your lesson, it is the responsibility of the family to contact The Arts Institute of Mansfield office at least 24hrs in advance. There is no refund or makeup for a missed group lesson.

Makeup Lessons (Student Absence)

PRIVATE INSTRUCTION: Your time is important to us, so when you pay a monthly tuition, your teacher has a standing appointment with you at your scheduled time. If you will be absent from a private instruction lesson, you must call our office (817.842.2366) and talk with Beth or leave a message 24 hours in advance to be eligible for a makeup lesson. A maximum of 2 makeup lessons will be available at the end of the school year or at the instructor's availability for absences with proper notice. There will be no credits given on tuition costs for missed lessons.

If you do not call 24 hours before your lesson, there will be no makeup and no refund.

GROUP CLASS: There is no makeup and no refund if a student misses a group class.

Makeup Lessons (Teacher Absence)

PRIVATE INSTRUCTION: If a teacher is absent from private instruction, a maximum of 2 makeup lessons will be available at the end of the school year or at the instructor's availability.

GROUP CLASS: If a teacher is absent from a group class, a makeup lesson will be scheduled & completed within 30 days of the absence.

Virtual Lessons

Virtual lessons may continue to be offered depending on the teacher, availability and circumstances. Virtual lessons may also be considered in case of sickness precluding the student from being able to attend lessons in person. Please talk to your teacher to see if virtual lessons are a possibility.

AIM POLICIES

The Arts Institute of Mansfield Office

All business is handled through The Arts Institute of Mansfield Office in Building A at First United Methodist Church of Mansfield at 777 N. Walnut Creek Dr., Mansfield, TX 76063. AIM email address is bethl@fmcm.org. Our office number is 817-842-2366. AIM office hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursdays from 9am-2:30pm. Visit our website at www.aimfirst.org.

Attendance and pick-up

Please be prompt for your scheduled class. Tardiness and/or missed classes can negatively affect the student's progress and is disruptive to the class. It will be addressed if it becomes a recurring problem. Also please be prompt in picking up your student so the teacher may move on to their next class or lesson. In case of being late for pick-up, contact The Arts Institute of Mansfield office.

Covid and Sickness

If you or anyone in your family has tested positive for or been diagnosed with COVID or another communicable disease within the last 7 days, please do not come to your lesson that week. Also if, you are experiencing any of these symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath/trouble breathing, persistent pain in chest) do not attend until clear of symptoms or have a Doctor note stating that you are allowed to be at lessons.

We will do our best to keep everything clean and sanitized, especially equipment used by multiple people. We will also have hand sanitizer available in all of our rooms and will ask that students sanitize before touching equipment. We will be following the church's recommendation on mask use, if needed.

Piano students will be asked to bring their own set of headphones to their group lessons to minimize the sharing of equipment.

Weather Closings

The Arts Institute of Mansfield will follow Mansfield ISD schedule regarding school closings. In the event of inclement weather, please go to www.WFAA.com or tune to channel 8 for information on the current status of lessons and other scheduled events. We will also notify our families by the email provided as the status changes.

Dismissals

The Arts Institute of Mansfield has the right to dismiss a class that does not meet the minimal attendance requirement for that department before the beginning of the school year. If a class is dismissed before the beginning of the school year, then all tuition paid up to that point will be refunded.

If the class drops below the minimum class requirement of 3 students, the Director will discuss other options with the parents including semi-private or private lessons. If no other options are suitable to the families involved, the class will be dismissed. Tuition up to that point and registration fees are non-refundable.

Preparation for lessons

We understand that all of our students and families have busy lives, but we also want to teach our students that giving our best to God means preparing adequately. This includes home practice and bringing all of their materials to their lessons. Please strive to make this a priority!

Conduct

AIM subscribes to the highest standards of conduct and behavior. Moreover, AIM seeks to be a good steward of the facilities generously made available by FUMC, Mansfield. Any conduct unbecoming to both AIM and the church may result in immediate dismissal from the program. No gum, food or drinks are allowed in any of the class rooms. Water Fountains are available throughout the building.

Family Accommodations

While waiting, families are invited to wait in the atrium area, downstairs in Building A, and/or the Recreational Area upstairs in Building A. Please help us in keeping the corridors quiet so students in classes and church staff members are not distracted. Siblings need to be with their parents at all times while waiting for a student.

Special Considerations

Please let the teacher know if there are any special needs regarding the student that she/he may need to know (e.g. allergies, medications, old injuries, medical conditions, who may or may not pick up the student, etc.)

Drop-Off, Pick-Up

Please be prompt for pick up and dismissal. The teachers would like to make sure they can utilize all of their class time to its greatest potential. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Toys

Please leave toys and other items that may distract the student at home. We are not responsible for any lost or stolen items.