



COVENANT CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

SCHOOL OF THE ARTS (SOTA) Parent/Student Contract 2026-2027 School Year

Program Overview

- The SOTA year will consist of 12 lessons per semester, with two (2) recitals:
 - Christmas recital on Saturday, December 5th
 - Spring recital on Sunday, April 25th
- A \$50 non-refundable registration fee per student will be charged at registration each semester.
- Private Lessons (Piano / Guitar / Drums / Voice)
 - Students register for and receive the twelve (12) 30-minute lesson tuition package, with the option to pay the full semester tuition upfront via credit card or 4 monthly payments, the first of which is due at the time of registration.
 - Each instructor establishes his or her own maximum number of students. If your preferred instructor is unable to accommodate your student, you may be given the option to enroll with another instructor (depending on availability) or you may choose to cancel your registration for a full refund of any amount of tuition paid at registration. The registration fee is non-refundable.
 - Upon receipt of your registration, which includes the registration fee and the first month's payment (either in full or first installment), your contact information will be provided to the instructor and he or she will work directly with you to schedule lessons. Lessons will begin following daily building dismissal.
 - Lessons begin the week of August 24th
- Group Lessons / Classes / Activities (PALS Piano Lessons / SOTA Dance Class)
 - Students register for and receive the twelve (12) class tuition package, with the option to pay the full semester tuition upfront via credit card or 4 monthly payments, the first of which is due at the time of registration.
 - Each instructor establishes his or her own maximum number of students. Registration will be CLOSED for the class / activity upon reaching the maximum number of students.
 - Classes begin the week of August 24th.
- Group Activity (Elementary Honor Choir)
 - Students register for and receive the Fall Semester package, with the option to pay the full semester tuition upfront via credit card or 4 monthly payments, the first of which is due at the time of registration.
 - Parents, please email [Mrs.Crist](#) to set up an individual audition time for your child (Aug 20th or Aug 27th).
 - Returning members **DO NOT** need to audition again.
 - **First Rehearsal:** September 3rd
 - **Last Rehearsal:** December 10th

Registration and Payment

- Returning students will be given preference through August 15th.
- Registration and payment is online only.
- If selecting the monthly payment option, a registration fee of \$50 plus one month's payment is due at the time of registration.
- By registering and checking the "I agree" box in the registration form, you are agreeing to abide by the policies in this contract.

Tuition and Fees

Registration Fee (non-refundable) **\$50.00**

Due at the beginning of each semester

Individual Lessons

Semester Cost

Individual Lesson Fee

(30 Minute Private Lesson)

12 weekly lessons \$600.00

Piano (Teachers: Steve Dowdy, Rhonda Dunn, & Lisa Schreiber)

Guitar (Teacher: Steve Dowdy)

Drums (Teacher: Steve Dowdy)

Voice (High School Only) (Teacher: Cindy Franklin)

Group Lessons / Classes / Activities

Group Lessons / Classes / Activities	Class Length	Semester Cost
FALL 2026		
Elementary Honor Choir (3rd -5th Grade - Audition) (Teacher: Mary Lou Crist)	Fall Semester	\$250.00
PALS Group Piano Lessons (Teacher: Lisa Schreiber)	12 weekly lessons	\$450.00
SOTA Dance Class (Teacher: Olivia Singh)	12 weekly lessons	\$200.00

Lessons

- All private lessons must be taught on CCA property or virtually. Instructors will not come to the student's home to teach a regular or make-up lesson, nor may a student go to an instructor's home. ***In the event of a school shut down or student/teacher illness, virtual lessons may be held.***
- Instructors strive to stay on schedule. Should you wish to talk with them, please make arrangements to contact them at a time other than immediately before or after your student's lesson.

Lesson Readiness and Practice Goals

- Students will bring instrument, pencil, folder, and other required materials to the lesson each week.
- Parents will provide the student with an acceptable instrument and required music.
- Students will practice during the week as instructed by the teacher. Practice is crucial to the development of the child's gifts. Practicing for a short amount of time each day is much better than practicing for a long amount of time on one day.
- Parents will encourage practice time at home by preparing a place for practice and helping the student to achieve his/her weekly practice goal.
- Students will be punctual and will arrive at the lesson on time. Lesson time missed for tardiness will not be subtracted from the next student's lesson time, nor made up later.
- Students will respect the teacher and other students at all times.
- Students will participate in SOTA recitals (any exception will be determined by instructor)

Student Drop-off and Pick-up Procedures

- For the safety of all, the outer doors of the buildings are locked during the day. **Under no circumstances should outer doors be propped open.**
- For lessons beginning immediately following school dismissal: K-4th grade students will be picked up at the homeroom classroom or from the carline by the instructor. When bringing students younger than 7th grade to lessons, a parent or guardian must WAIT WITH THE STUDENT for the instructor to let him or her in at the designated door, unless he or she is in Cougar Club (*see Cougar Club After-School Care section below*)
- Instructors will only release students to parents or a designated adult (when arranged ahead of time with the instructor). **Anyone other than the parent will need to show ID to pick up the child.**
- If a parent is late picking up a student, the child will go to Cougar Club after-school care and the parent will be charged a drop-in fee.

Cougar Club (CC) After-School Care

- Parents may choose to arrange for after-school care with Cougar Club on lesson days by contacting the Cougar Club program manager at CougarClub@CovenantChristian.net. A CC worker will walk the student to the lesson and back.
- Parents are responsible for notifying Cougar Club if a student will be missing a lesson.

Absences/Makeup Lessons/Tardiness

- Parents should contact the teacher directly via two methods (phone call, text and/or email) with at least 24 hours notice (when possible) if a student will miss a lesson for any reason, including participation in any CCA event, *i.e. Cub Cheer, athletic practices, etc.*
- If 24-hour advance notice cannot be given (*i.e., a student goes home sick from school*), please notify the instructor of the absence via phone call, text and/or email as soon as possible.
- When giving proper notice, (at least 24-hours in advance) a parent may request up to two (2) makeup lessons PER SEMESTER.
- Without proper notice, (at least 24-hours in advance) no makeup lesson will be given, nor will tuition be refunded.
- Should an instructor need to miss a lesson due to illness, family emergency, etc., he or she will notify the parent via email and text at least 24 hours in advance if possible, and the student will be entitled to a makeup lesson.
- Lessons that are canceled by the teacher will be made up at a mutually agreed date/time.
- If a student is tardy for a lesson, time will not be added to the lesson to make it up.

Performances

- All students are strongly encouraged to perform in a Christmas recital and a spring recital hosted by CCA.
 - Christmas recital on Saturday, December 5th
 - Spring recital on Sunday, April 25th

Concerns/Withdrawal/Dismissal

The success of the SOTA program depends largely on maintaining excellent communication between parents, students and instructors to achieve clearly defined goals related to the development of a student's skills. Students who commit to healthy practice habits as assigned by the instructor are the most successful!

- As with any other CCA class or activity, any concerns or questions related to a student's SOTA experience should be discussed directly with the instructor, to give him or her the opportunity to clarify, correct and/or adjust accordingly within a reasonable amount of time.

It is very rare, but if a student consistently exhibits poor behavior, lack of respect, extreme disinterest or lack of practice and/or preparedness, an instructor may have to make the difficult decision to dismiss him or her. However, it is important to understand that if a student is dismissed by an instructor for any reason from SOTA instruction, it does not mean that the student may not enroll in future SOTA sessions.

- If an instructor has concerns or questions related to behavior, practice habits, etc., he or she will contact the parent to discuss and establish a reasonable improvement plan.
- If, after an initial conversation has been conducted and a reasonable improvement plan has been established and followed, a parent still wishes to withdraw a student, the following procedure should be implemented:
 - The parent should notify the instructor in writing that the student will withdraw.
 - The instructor will notify the program manager and the business office representative that the student wishes to withdraw.
 - If tuition has been paid in full, after paying the instructor for lessons already fulfilled plus one month of tuition due, the business office will process a refund of the remaining tuition amount that was paid at time of registration.
 - If tuition is paid monthly, any balance due for lessons already fulfilled, plus one full month's tuition, will be due before the end of the month in which the student withdraws.
- In the event that an improvement plan is unsuccessful and an instructor must dismiss a student, the following procedure should be implemented:
 - The instructor will notify the parent in writing no later than one week prior to a scheduled lesson that the student will be dropped from the program.
 - Upon a written acknowledgment of the notice, the instructor will notify the program manager and the business office representative that the student will not be continuing in the program.
 - If tuition has been paid in full, after paying the instructor for lessons already fulfilled, the business office will process a refund of the remaining tuition amount that was paid at time of registration.
 - If tuition is paid monthly, any balance due for lessons already fulfilled will be due before the end of the month in which the student is dismissed.