Piano Policy

Our school has a collection of fine piano instruments, numbering over 170. Most of these are Steinway pianos. As these pianos are used by all members of the community, it is important to have a set of guidelines to maintain the quality of the instruments.

MOVES AND LIDS

Piano lids may only be removed with the assistance of Production staff. In the case of an emergency move, please call Piano Technical Services at 917.493.4425 or email: pianotechlists@msmnyc.edu

Performance spaces
- Piano position may only be moved by Production.

Classrooms
- Do not move pianos unless absolutely necessary.
- Do not push instruments near heaters or windows.
- Nothing should touch the piano, not music stands, chairs or other objects.

Practice Rooms
- Pianos may never be moved. Students will be responsible for any damage caused by moving.

PREPARED AND EXTENDED USE

Pianos in the school are regularly maintained for typical use. Any usage which involves touching more than the keys and pedals is considered ‘extended’ or ‘prepared’ use. If you are performing or composing a piece that calls for prepared piano, please refer to the following guidelines.

Availability
The following five practice rooms will be available for extended technique:
- Rooms 424, 423, and 420 in the school
- Rooms 2-O and 2-P in Andersen Hall

The following pianos are available for prepared piano rehearsal or performance:
- The Baldwin 7’ piano in the Carla Bossi-Comelli Studio
- The Baldwin 9’ piano in the Alan M. and Joan Taub Ades Performance Space
- The Baldwin 7’ piano in classroom 329
- There is also a Steinway L (5’11”) specifically designed to accommodate contemporary music, which may be moved to performance spaces when the above instruments are not available.

Marking
Basic marking may be done in one of two ways:
- Use dry erase markers to write directly on the agraffes (the termination points that hold the strings in place) or strings. Take care to only use side-to-side motions and not to draw the marker up and down the length of the string.
- Stretch a piece of tape across the frame and write markings on the tape.
  Never touch the dampers.

The piano must always be left in the condition in which it was found. No remnants of any preparation or marking may be left.

If your performance calls for a 9’ piano (Steinway model D), please present the score to Peggy Kampmeier (pkpiano@verizon.net) and Agim Kola (akola@msmnyc.edu) for approval.

Pianists are responsible for reporting issues with the pianos.

If you encounter problems, please contact Piano Technical Services at pianotech@lists.msmnyc.edu.