

## **Recital Hall Piano Policy**

The new Steinway piano will be used for all faculty and guest artist recitals, and for required degree recitals for piano majors. The older Steinway piano will be used for all student recitals, student ensemble concerts, and all other events for which a piano may be requested (such as academic or social functions).

The new piano will not be used for any work that calls for extended piano techniques such as “prepared piano” or playing inside the piano. Concerts in which a particularly aggressive style of piano playing, such as “stride” piano, should generally be performed on the older instrument.

The new piano will be kept backstage, locked and humidified, when not in use. When used for rehearsals prior to the day of performance, it must be put back in its compartment immediately after use.

The piano faculty will each be issued a key to the new piano. This will be different from the key for the “everyday” piano. Faculty who bring in a guest pianist for a faculty or guest artist concert may sign out a key for the guest performer to use, but that key must be returned following the concert.

Exceptions to this policy may be requested in writing at least three weeks in advance of the proposed concert, and will be decided by the piano faculty.

A tuning schedule for the new Steinway will be developed at the beginning of each semester when the recital list is published. For any events that are not on that list at the beginning of the semester, faculty must request a tuning at least a week in advance. Contact Sheila in the main office.

**Rationale:** The new Steinway is a fine and expensive piano that we are very fortunate to have, but it will deteriorate rapidly if subjected to levels of usage similar to those inflicted on the old piano. With only a very modest budget for tuning and maintenance, the department cannot afford to overuse the new instrument. The proposed policy limits use of the new instrument to those contexts in which its particularly fine qualities are most likely to be appreciated, such as when it is featured as a solo or collaborative voice, and prohibits the instrument’s use in contexts in which damage might occur.