

CODE OF ETHICS FOR THE GUIDANCE OF ITS MEMBERS

PREAMBLE:

This Code of Ethics is established by the Houston Music Teachers Association, Inc. to the end that its Members may understand more clearly their duties and obligations, exemplifying them to other teachers, to their students and to the public, in order that the teaching profession may be advanced, that the dignity and honor of teaching may be upheld, its standards maintained and its usefulness extended. Adherence to the Code will promote cooperation, understanding and good fellowship among its members.

It is the duty of every Teacher and Member of this Association to govern himself in accordance with the principles contained in this Code. It is assumed that the following articles cover the entire field of ethics in this profession; the Member is charged with many responsibilities:

1. It is unprofessional and unethical for a teacher to make false claims regarding himself and his pupils.
2. It is unethical and unprofessional for teachers, by misleading statements or false promises, to induce a student to study in hope of a career, if the talent does not warrant it.
3. It is unethical to advertise in a manner that might deceive or mislead prospective students. It is admissible that free tuition may be given by a teacher but the advertising of free scholarships or tuition constitutes unfair competition with the teachers who refrains from endeavoring to increase his class with such methods.
4. It is unethical to criticize adversely the work of fellow teacher.
5. It is unethical to proselytize the pupil of another teacher either by inducements or other acts.
6. It is unethical to exploit as one's own the results of another teacher's instruction and to claim as pupil one having studied less than six consecutive months with the teacher making the claim, except where there has been no previous training.

RECOMMENDED PROCEDURES:

1. It is recommended that tuition be paid in advance.
2. It is further recommended that no deduction be made for missed lessons. In the case of protracted illness, lessons may be given at teacher's discretion and convenience.
3. For the benefit and the discretion of members, names of pupils who have left a Member and failed to meet their obligations for lesson fees, may be reported to the Association.
4. Strict adherence to the Code of Ethics and Recommended Procedures should provide a more unified Association and promote higher standards in the teaching profession.