Ritsema Piano Studio

By Jacqueline Gleason

ike many savvy business owners over the past year, Luanne Ritsema found creative ways to keep her customers happy in a safe environment during the pandemic. For the past 30 years, students of Ritsema Piano Studio have come to Luanne's home studio for their private lessons. Today, they can get the same expert instruction from Luanne online, as well.

"Once we got our Zoom account set up and tested it, we started offering virtual lessons," says Luanne. She now offers private and virtual lessons Monday through Saturday and is excited to be able to reach more people, regardless of their proximity to her Verona studio.

Luanne has always been proud of the fact that she teaches students of all ages. In addition to children, she gets many adult students who have always wanted to play the piano, and who finally have the time to make their dream of playing a reality.

Luanne focuses on beginner and intermediate students and says she has seen how much they benefit from private lessons. Ritsema Piano Studio offers 30-, 45- and 60-minute sessions scheduled on a weekly basis. Lessons start at a very affordable \$20.

As for the future, Luanne is excited to expand the number of students in both her in-person and virtual classes. If you are interested in learning more, Luanne will be happy to discuss how she can help you add a little music to your life.

Ritsema Piano Studio offers piano lessons online as well as in-person lessons at 139 Faircrest Court in Verona. Call 608-848-1629 or write to LMRITSEMA@tds.net to learn more. •





Claire H., who began learning to play only a few months ago, says she finds Luanne "kind and fun to work with."

"When our daughter started asking to learn the piano a few months ago, we only had a small kid-sized keyboard, and were leery about purchasing a larger one until we could gauge our daughter's level of interest," says Tricia H. Her worries disappeared when she found out how easy Luanne made it to get started, and how she went above and beyond to make it work for Claire. "Luanne was so generous and quick to offer to loan us a more appropriately sized keyboard and stand for Claire to learn and practice on at home."

Tricia says her daughter enjoys her online lessons, and loves to practice what she's learned. "We often hear Claire head downstairs in the early morning before anyone else, to practice her songs for the week," she says. "The material is just the right mix of fun and challenging from week to week. It has been fun to watch Claire learn and improve over these past few months. She always looks forward to the next new song she gets to play."

MADISON WESTSIDE NEIGHBORS AUGUST 2021 11