

ABOUT

NATTAGAN MARSHALL



Co-founder of My Music Studio, Piano Teacher

EDUCATIONS AND CAREER

Nattagan Marshall was born and raised in Thailand. She moved to Australia permanently in 2019 after marrying her Australian husband - Shannon Marshall, and has been living and working in Brisbane for the last 5 years.

As a professional piano tutor and educator, Nattagan has over 13 years of teaching experience in both Australia and Thailand and holds two degrees:

- Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance (first class honours) from the Rangsit University Conservatory of Music, Thailand
- Master's Degree in Piano Pedagogy from the Queensland Conservatorium of Music, Griffith University.

When completing her Master's Degree at the Qld Conservatorium in 2021, she received the Griffith Award for Academic Excellence.

Throughout her career, Nattagan has taught students from the age of 3 through adults and is highly qualified and experienced as an early childhood specialist. She has worked at many music institutions and international schools and colleges for over a decade, teaching both one-on-one and group lessons. With her significant experience teaching young children and beginning students, her lessons include proven steps to begin successful musical notation reading and writing, music theory and the nurturing of good piano technique and positive musicianship. She is familiar with teaching all school-aged students and understands the different needs of each age group, making their lesson time as enjoyable and valuable as possible.

Nattagan encourages students to partake in piano examinations when suited. She is experienced in preparing students for the different examination boards including AMEB, Trinity and ABRSM and many students have achieved successfully high scores for their exams.

Besides teaching, Nattagan enjoys seeking new teaching methods and creating her own teaching materials for her own's studio uses and for other music teachers. She also writes blogs about music and piano. These are parts of the reason why her piano lessons are always fresh and unexpected for students every week.

Q & A

HOW DID YOUR PIANO JOURNEY BEGIN?

It began when I was 11 years old. My mother took me to a new open Yamaha music school and asked me what instrument would I like to learn. Back then, I was just a girl growing up in a small town in the countryside and I didn't even know much about western instruments. "Piano!" that was what I answered my mum. Since that time, I have never stopped playing the piano.

I started learning the piano quite late compared to most people, but because I liked it so much that I practised almost every day. After 3 years of learning the piano, I participated in my first piano competition "YAMAHA THAILAND MUSIC FESTIVAL" I didn't succeed the first time, but in the second year I tried again and received my first golden prize and went to the final round.

WHAT HAS INSPIRED YOU TO BECOME A PIANO TEACHER?

When I was in high school, I enjoyed playing the piano so much. Whenever I felt stressed from studying, I sat down and played the piano. The piano was my escape world back then.

I was lucky to be learning from many great pianists and piano pedagogues from Thailand, U.S.A, Russia, Austria, and Australia. They all gave me great inspiration to become a piano teacher. Most importantly, I mostly have good memories of piano lessons. Yes, there were some tough times during those years in university, but I got through it with support from my family and my piano teachers at the times. Therefore, I understand the importance of being those people who support younger ones and that inspires me to be the piano teacher I am today.



HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR LESSONS?

My piano lessons are always lively and a bit unpredictable, which I think makes students excited to come back each week. I love making my own teaching materials to introduce new ideas or help reinforce what we've learned. The vibe is always positive and encouraging. In my lessons, students get to learn how to read music, master rhythms, work on their playing techniques, and sharpen their listening skills. My goal is for students to really connect with the music, enjoy their time at the piano, and build a good relationship with both their instrument and me.

I know playing the piano can be tough sometimes, and it takes a lot of patience. But I'm there to help students push through those tricky moments and show them that with a little effort, they can totally do it!

WHAT IS YOUR GOAL FOR YOUR STUDENTS?

No matter what reasons my students start learning the piano with me. I will teach all my students a strong foundation in music and piano playing. I would like them to be independent. Therefore, one day when they stop taking lessons with me, they can still learn new pieces and play their favourite songs/pieces by themselves.