

Piano Achievement Curriculum

Community Music School of Lehigh Valley

Created by Holly Roadfeldt, Summer 2016



Technique and Repertoire Requirements

Primary Level

Recommended Length of Study: 3-6 months

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Technique | 5-finger scale patterns in C Major and G Major, hands separately or together Broken triads in C Major and G Major |
| *Repertoire | 2 pieces (8+ measures long) |

Representative Primary Level Methods

Alfred's Prep Course Level A
Bastien Piano Basics Primer
Bastien Piano for the Young Beginner Primer A
Celebrate Piano! 1A
Faber Primer

Level One (Elementary Level-I)

Recommended Length of Study: 3-9 months

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|-------------|--|
| Technique | White-key Majors: 5-finger scale patterns, hands separately or together Tonic Triads, broken and blocked 2 octave arpeggios, hand over hand |
| *Repertoire | 2 pieces (16+ measures long) |

Level Two (Elementary Level-II)

Recommended Length of Study: 6-18 months

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Technique | White-key Majors and Minors: 5-finger scale patterns, hands together Tonic Triads, broken and blocked 2 octave arpeggios, hand over hand C Major Scale, G Major Scale One octave, hands separately |
| *Repertoire | 2 pieces (16+ measures long) |

*The repertoire collections/methods are meant to be a guide only. Pianists are fortunate to have many choices! Please feel free to contact Holly Roadfeldt if you have any questions.

Levels One and Two (Elementary Levels)

Representative Methods

Alfred's Basic Piano Course Level 1A, 1B
Bastien: Piano Basics 1
Celebrate Piano! 1A, 1B, 2A
Faber: Piano Adventures 1, 2a, 2b

Supplementary Repertoire

Agay Folk Tunes
George Kaleidoscope Solos, Book 1
Mier Just Imagine! Book 1
Waxman Introductory Pageants

Collections

Marlais: The Festival Collection Preparatory (Early Elementary through Mid-Elementary Repertoire)
-repertoire in the first few pages

Level Three (Upper Elementary Level-I)

Technique

All White key majors and minors
4 octave arpeggios, hand over hand
Harmonized Pentascale



C Major, G Major, F Major
One octave scale, hands separately
I-IV-I-V-V7-I Cadence

*Repertoire

2 contrasting pieces

Level Four (Upper Elementary Level-II)

Technique

All major and minor keys
Harmonized Pentascale



All White-Key Majors
Scales: HS one octave in quarters, two octaves in eighths
Cadences: I-IV-I-V-V7-I (Chords in both hands)
Arpeggios: 2 octaves, HS

*Repertoire

2 contrasting pieces

Levels Three and Four (Upper Elementary)

Methods

Alfred's Basic Piano Course Levels 2, 3
 Bastien: Piano Basics 3, 4
 Celebrate Piano! 2A, 2B, 3
 Clark: The Music Tree Parts 3, 4
 Faber: Piano Adventures 2b, 3a, 3b

Supplementary Repertoire

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|---------|--------------------------------|
| Bastien | Piano Literature, vol. 1 |
| George | A Day in the Jungle |
| George | Kaleidoscope Solos Bks 2, 3 |
| Mier: | Just Imagine! Book 2 |
| Noona | The Contemporary Performer, 2 |
| Vandall | Celebrated Piano Solos, Book 1 |

Collections: Celebration Series: Preparatory Level, Level 1
 Dietzer: First Impressions, Volume A
 Faber: Artist Piano Literature Book 1
 Marlais: The Festival Collection Book I

Level Five (Intermediate Level-I)

Technique

All White Key Majors and selected White-key Harmonic Minors (Am, Dm, Em)
 2 octave scales, hands separately or together
 I-IV-I-V7-I Cadences (Chords in both hands or single bass note in left hand)
 Tonic Triad with Inversions, 1 octave, blocked
 2 octave arpeggios, hands together
 Modal Scales, white keys only, one octave

***Repertoire**

Two (2) contrasting pieces
 (one must be from the Baroque era or Classical era)

Level Six (Intermediate Level-II)

Technique

All White Key Majors and Harmonic Minors
 2 octave scales, hands together
 I-IV-ii6-I6/4-V-I Cadences, single note in bass



Tonic Triad with Inversions, 1 octave, broken
 2 octave arpeggios, hands together
 Chromatic Scale-1 octave hands together or 2 octaves, hands separately

***Repertoire**

Two (2) contrasting pieces
 (one must be from the Baroque era or Classical era)

Levels Five and Six (Intermediate)

Collections: Celebration Series: Levels 2, 3, and 4
 Dietzer: First Impressions, Volumes 1, 2
 Faber: Artist Piano Literature Book 2 and Book 3
 Magrath: Classics Alive! Book 1
 Magrath: Masterwork Classics, Levels 1-2 (Intermediate Level 1)
 Magrath: Melodious Masterpieces, Book 1
 Marlais: Festival Series Book 2 and Book 3

| Baroque | Classical | Romantic | Contemporary |
|---|--|--|---|
| Bach: Misc. Dances | Andre: Sonatinas Op. 34 | Burgmüller: Arabesque Op. 100 Gurlitt: Sonatinas, Op. 54 | Bartók: For Children (selected pieces) |
| Handel: Minuet in D minor Passepied in C | Attwood: Sonatina No. 1 L. Mozart: Notebook for Nannerl | Gurlitt: Album for the Young Op. 140 Kohler: 12 Studies for the Piano | Kabalevsky: Children's Pieces, Op. 27 Kabalevsky: 24 Pieces for Children, Op. 30 |
| | Wanhal: Sonatina No. 2 in F | Schumann: Album for the Young (easier selections) | Persichetti: Little Piano Book, Op. 60 |
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Level Seven (Upper Intermediate Level-I)

Technique All Majors (Black and White Tonics) and All White-key Harmonic Minors
 2 octave scales, hands together
 I-IV-ii-V-V7-I Cadences (or similar extended cadences)
 Tonic Triad with Inversions, 2 octaves, blocked
 2 octave arpeggios, hands together
 Chromatic Scale-1 octave hands together or 2 octaves, hands separately
 Modal Scales, white keys only, one octave
 Whole Tone and Pentatonic Scales

***Repertoire** Three (3) Contrasting pieces from three different musical eras (Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Contemporary, etc.)

Level Eight (Upper Intermediate Level-II)

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Technique | All Major and All Harmonic Minor Keys 3 octave scales in triplets, hands together I-IV-ii-V-V7-I Cadences (or similar extended cadences) Tonic Triad with Inversions, 2 octaves, broken 3 octave arpeggios in triplets, hands together Chromatic Scale-2 octaves, hands together Modal Scales, white keys only, one octave |
| *Repertoire | 3 Contrasting pieces from three different musical eras (Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Contemporary, etc.) |

Levels Seven and Eight (Upper Intermediate)

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Collections: | Celebration Series: Levels 4, 5, and 6 Dietzer: First Impressions, Volumes 3, 4 Magrath: Masterpieces with Flair! Book 2 Magrath: Masterwork Classics, Levels 5, 6, 7 Marlais: Festival Series Book 4 and Book 5 |
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| Baroque | Classical | Romantic | Contemporary |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Bach: Short Preludes | Beethoven: Sonatina in F | Burgmüller: Progressive Studies Op. 100 | Bartok: 10 easy Pieces |
| Telemann: Fantasies (selected) | Clementi: Sonatinas, Op. 36 | Grieg: A min Waltz (Lyric Piece exmp.) | Creston: Five Little Dances, Op. 24 |
| | Clementi: Sonatinas, Op. 37 | Gurlitt: Studies in Velocity, Op. 83 | Muczynski: Fables, Op. 21 |
| | Kuhlau: Sonatinas, Op. 20 | Lichner: Sonatinas Op. 4 | Previn: Roundup |
| | Kuhlau: Sonatinas, Op. 55 | Schumann: Album for the Young (easier selections) | Starer: Sketches in Color (set 1) |
| | Mozart: Misc. German Dances | | Tansman: Russian Dance |

Level Nine (Early Advanced Level-I)

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Technique | All Major and Harmonic Minor Keys 4 octave scales, hands together Diminished or Dominant 7 th Chords with Inversions, 2 octaves, blocked 4 octave arpeggios, hands together Extended cadences (6-8 chords) using secondary functions (secondary dominant, secondary leading tone) in three keys |
| *Repertoire | 3 Contrasting pieces from three different musical eras (Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Contemporary, etc.) |

Level Ten (Early Advanced Level-II)

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Technique | All Major and Minor (Harmonic, Melodic) Keys 4 octave scales, hands together Diminished or Dominant 7 th Chords with Inversions, 2 octaves, broken 4 octave arpeggios, hands together Extended cadences (6-8 chords) using secondary functions (secondary dominant, secondary leading tone) in three keys |
| *Repertoire | 3 Contrasting pieces from three different musical eras (Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Contemporary, etc.) |

Levels Nine and Ten (Early Advanced)

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Collections: | Celebration Series: Levels 7 and 8 Dietzer: First Impressions, Volumes 5 and 6 Magrath: Masterpieces with Flair! Book 3 Magrath: Encore! Books 2 and 3 Marlais: Festival Series Books 6 and 7 |
|--------------|---|

| Baroque | Classical | Romantic | Contemporary |
|--|--|--|--|
| JS Bach: 2-pt Inventions JS Bach: 3-pt Inventions | Beethoven: Sonatas Op. 49 | Chopin: Preludes (E minor, B minor, Db Major "Raindrop") | Bartók: Dances in Bulgarian Rhythm |
| JS Bach: French Suites (selected movements) | Mozart: Sonata in C Maj, K 545, mvt. 1 | Chopin: Mazurkas Chopin: Waltzes | Debussy: First Arabesque Debussy: Children's Corner |
| CPE Bach: Solfegietto | | Grieg: Lyric Pieces (Selected ex. Notturmo) | Khachaturian : Sonatina in C Major |
| Scarlatti: Selected Sonatas | | Schumann: Scenes from Childhood (Selections) | Rachmaninoff : Prelude in C# minor Op. 3 #2 |

Level Eleven (Advanced Level-I)

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Technique | All Major and Minor (Harmonic, Melodic, and Natural) Keys 4 octave scales, hands together 4 octave arpeggios, hands together Diminished 7 th arpeggios Dominant 7 th arpeggios Chromatic Scale--4 octaves, hands together Extended cadences (6-8 chords) using advanced chromatic harmony (augmented sixth chords, the Neapolitan chord, etc.) in three keys |
| *Repertoire | 3 Contrasting pieces from three different musical eras (Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Contemporary, etc.) 1 piece must be an etude |

Level Twelve (Advanced Level-II)

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Technique | All Major and Minor (Harmonic, Melodic, and Natural) Keys 4 octave scales, hands together 4 octave arpeggios, hands together Diminished 7 th arpeggios Dominant 7 th arpeggios Chromatic Scale--4 octaves, hands together Extended cadences (6-8 chords) using advanced chromatic harmony (augmented sixth chords, the Neapolitan chord, etc.) in six keys |
| *Repertoire | 3 Contrasting pieces from three different musical eras (Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Contemporary, etc.) 1 piece must be a Chopin etude |

| Baroque | Classical | Romantic | Contemporary |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--|---|
| JS Bach: Preludes and Fugues | Beethoven: Sonatas | Chopin: Etudes (Op. 10 #3, Op. 10 #12 "Revolutionary", Op. 25 #1 "Aeolian Harp" Op. 25 #2, Op. 25 #12) | Copland: The Cat and the Mouse (11) Debussy: Preludes (Selected) |
| JS Bach: Italian Concerto | Haydn: Sonatas | Chopin: Nocturnes | Gershwin: Preludes |
| Scarlatti: Selected Sonatas | Mozart: Sonatas | Schubert: Impromptu Op. 90 #2 (11) | Prokofiev: Sonata #3 |
| | | | Ravel: Sonatine |

The repertoire collections listed below are meant to be a guide only. Pianists are fortunate to have many choices! Please contact Holly Roadfeldt with questions about repertoire/methods or preparation expectations.

Honors Awards and Certificates

- For the Certificate of Musical Achievement, all students will pick one prepared key (and perform all designated technical requirements). Adjudicators will pick an additional key.
- For the Certificate of Musical Achievement, students may choose to perform their pieces from memory or with the score.
- For the Honors Award, adjudicators will pick two keys from the required list. Students will then perform all technical exercises (scales, chords, arpeggios, etc.) in those keys.
- For the Honors Award, students must play the compositions from memory.
- To receive the Honors Award, all performances of technique and repertoire must be exceptionally well-prepared.
- Students are eligible for the Honors Award beginning with Level 1.
- Students receiving the Honors Award for levels 1-4 will receive a certificate with an Honors Seal and a ribbon.
- Students receiving the Honors Award for levels 5-10 will receive a certificate with an Honors Seal and a trophy.
- Students may not repeat the primary level or levels 1-4 for a Certificate.
- Levels 5-10 can be repeated a maximum of 2 times for a Certificate.
- If the Honors level is chosen, this award can be received only once per level.
- For Levels 5-10, a student may perform for a Certificate the first year and do the requirements for an Honors Award the following year.
- If a student chooses the Honors Award requirements but does not perform at a high enough level, s/he will still receive a Certificate of Achievement.

Adjudication Procedures

- Date(s) to be determined by Jeff Reed.
- To teachers will be adjudicating each student.
- Each judge will provide written comments with positive feedback for each student.
- Teachers must fill out an application form with student names, levels, and if students would like to be considered for the Honors Award and submit it to the office three weeks prior to the event.
- Holly Roadfeldt will assist in creating the schedule.
- Not every student will receive the same length of time. All teachers must include the levels in the application forms.