

North Idaho Music Teachers Association

Musicianship Festival Program Curriculum Guide

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Section 1

Functional Skills: Rhythm, Keyboard Facility, and Applied Theory

Rhythm General Guidelines

All participants, at every level, will perform a designated four-measure rhythm pattern by clapping or tapping at a metronome tempo of 72 beats per minute. A preparatory measure of counting is recommended. Any correct counting system may be used, as long as it is applied consistently and accurately.

Level 1

Rhythm may include quarter, half, and whole notes in 4/4 time.

Level 2

Rhythm may include quarter notes and rests, half notes and rests, dotted half notes, and whole notes in 4/4 time.

Level 3

Rhythm may include eighth note pairs, quarter notes and rests, half notes and rests, dotted half notes, whole notes, and tied notes in 3/4 or 4/4 time.

Level 4

Rhythm may include upbeats, eighth notes, quarter notes, dotted quarter notes, half notes, whole notes, and rests in 4/4 time.

Level 5

Rhythm may include eighth notes, quarter notes, half notes, whole notes, and rests; dotted quarter notes; eighth-note triplets; and upbeats in 4/4 time.

Level 6

Rhythm may include sixteenth notes (only in groups of four), eighth notes, quarter notes, dotted

quarter notes, half notes, whole notes, and rests; as well as upbeats and eighth-note triplets in 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 3/8, or 6/8 time.

Level 7

Right hand rhythm may include sixteenth, eighth, dotted eighth, quarter, half and whole notes and rests, eighth note triplets and upbeats, while the left hand taps steady quarter notes in 3/4 or 4/4 time.

Level 8

Hands tap different rhythms simultaneously, which may include any combination of notes and rests, including sixteenth notes and upbeats (excluding triplets), in any meter.

Level 9

Hands tap different rhythms simultaneously, which may include any combination of notes and rests, including sixteenth notes, triplets, and upbeats, in any meter.

Level 10

Hands tap different rhythms simultaneously, which may include any combination of notes and rests, including sixteenth notes, triplets, upbeats, and duple-versus-triple patterns between the hands, in any meter.

Keyboard Facility General Guidelines

Students will perform the required scales, chords, chord progressions, and arpeggios for their designated level. Performances should demonstrate steady pulse, correct fingering, and musical accuracy. Minor keys use the harmonic form unless otherwise specified.

Level 1

- **Scales:** 5 scales (five-finger, tetrachord, or 1 octave), major or minor, white or black keys; hands separate or together.
- **Chords:** Triad or chord shell (tonic and dominant notes) in the same keys.

Level 2

- **Scales:** 5 scales (five-finger, tetrachord, or 1 octave), major or minor, white or black keys; hands separate or together.
- **Chords:** Root-position triad in the same keys.

Level 3

- **Scales:** 4 scales — 2 major and 2 harmonic minor scales; tetrachord or 1 octave; hands separate
- **Chords:** Root-position tonic and dominant triads in each prepared key.
- **Chord progression:** I–V–I or I–V7–I in each prepared key.
- **Arpeggios:** 2-octave hand-over-hand arpeggio in each prepared key.

Level 4

- **Scales:** 4 scales — 2 major and 2 minor, (natural and harmonic forms) 1 octave; hands separate or together.
- **Chords:**
 - Primary triads (I, IV, V) in root position in keys of prepared scales
 - Tonic triad inversions ascending and descending, hands separate or together, in keys of prepared scales
- **Chord progression:** The student will play a I–IV–I–V–I or I–IV–I–V7–I in keys of prepared scales, hands separate or together. Use harmonic form in minor.
- **Arpeggios:** 1-octave arpeggio in each prepared key, hands together or separate.

Level 5

- **Scales:** 6 scales — 2 white-key major, 2 black-key major, 2 minor (natural & harmonic), 1 octave; hands together.
- **Chords:** Primary chords in root position and inversions (use harmonic form in minor keys). The facilitator will choose one chord set from the prepared group of scales.
- **Chord progressions:** I–IV–I–V–I or I–IV–I–V7–I in each prepared key.
- **Dominant seventh:** Prepare a dominant seventh chord in root position, resolving to a tonic triad in 2nd inversion in two keys of student's choice.
- **Arpeggios:** 1-octave arpeggio, hands together, in each prepared key.

Level 6

- **Scales:** The student has prepared all white-key major scales. The facilitator chooses two scales for the student to play. The student has prepared and will also play 2 black-key major scales and 2 minor scales (both natural and harmonic forms). The scales should be played two octaves, hands separate or together.
- **Chromatic:** 2-octave chromatic scale, hands separate, beginning on key of student's choice.
- **Chords:** Progression I–IV–I–V–V7–I, played (1) both hands as full chords, (2) LH root with RH chords.
- **Dominant seventh:** Play a complete dominant seventh chord and resolve to a tonic triad in root position and inversions, using common-tone voicing, in two keys of the student's choice.

- **Arpeggios:** 2-octave arpeggio, hands separate or together, in keys of prepared scales.

Level 7

- **Scales:** The student has prepared all major scales and white-key minor scales (both natural and harmonic forms). The facilitator chooses one white-key major scale, one black-key major scale, and one white-key minor scale for the student to play. The student has prepared and will also play one black-key minor scale (both natural and harmonic forms). The scales should be played two octaves, hands together.
- **Chords:** First inversion progression I–IV–I–V–V7–I, played (1) both hands as full chords, (2) LH root with RH chords.
- **Arpeggios:** 2-octave arpeggios, hands together, in keys of prepared scales.

Level 8

- **Scales:** The student has prepared all major scales and minor scales (both natural and harmonic forms). The facilitator chooses one white-key major scale, one black-key major scale, one white-key minor and one black-key minor scale for the student to play. The scales should be played four octaves, hands together.
- **Chords:** Second inversion progression I–IV–ii–V–V7–I, played (1) both hands as full chords, (2) LH roots with RH chords in all three positions.
- **Arpeggios:** 4-octave arpeggios, hands together in keys of prepared scales.

Level 9

- **Scales:** The student has prepared all major scales and minor scales (natural, harmonic and melodic forms). The facilitator chooses one white-key major scale, one black-key major scale, one white-key minor and one black-key minor scale for the student to play. The scales should be played four octaves, hands together.
- **Chords:** The student has prepared a I–IV–ii–V–V7–I chord progression in all keys, playing chords in the right hand and chord roots in octaves in the left hand. The facilitator chooses one major key and one minor key for the student to demonstrate.
- **Triad Arpeggios:** The student has prepared four-octave arpeggios in root position and first inversion, hands together, in all major and minor keys. The facilitator chooses two keys for the student to demonstrate.
- **Seventh Chord Arpeggios:** The student has prepared four-octave dominant seventh arpeggios in root position, hands together, in all keys. The facilitator chooses two keys for the student to demonstrate.

Level 10

- **Scales:** The student has prepared all major scales and minor scales (natural, harmonic and melodic forms). The facilitator chooses one white-key major scale, one black-key major, one white-key minor and one black-key minor scale for the student to play. The scales should be played two octaves in eighth notes followed by three octaves in triplets and four octaves in sixteenth notes, played continuously, hands together.
- **Chords:** The student has prepared a I–vi–IV–ii–I6/4–V7–I chord progression in all keys, playing chords in the right hand and chord roots in the left hand. The facilitator chooses one major key and one minor key for the student to demonstrate.
- **Triad Arpeggios:** The student has prepared four-octave arpeggios in root position and inversions, hands together, in all major and minor keys. The facilitator chooses one major key and one minor key for the student to demonstrate.
- **Seventh Chord Arpeggios:** The student has prepared four-octave dominant seventh and fully-diminished seventh arpeggios in root position, hands together, in all keys.

Applied Theory General Guidelines

Students will demonstrate applied theory skills appropriate to their level, including intervals, chords, and simple harmonizations. Performances should reflect accuracy in pitch, interval quality, and chord structure. Prepared folk tunes or progressions must be accurate, fluent, and clearly aligned with the stated requirements.

Level 1

- Play steps and skips on white keys, ascending and descending.
- Play whole steps and half steps, ascending and descending.

Level 2

- Play 2nds, 3rds, 4ths, and 5ths on white keys, ascending and descending.
- Play sharped and flatted notes.

Level 3

- Play 2nds, 3rds, 4ths, 5ths, and 6ths in the keys of prepared scales, ascending from the tonic only, using appropriate black keys.

Level 4

- Play 2nds through octaves (2nd–8ve) in the keys of prepared scales, ascending only, beginning on any pitch of the scale within an octave.

Level 5

- Play major and perfect intervals in the keys of prepared scales, ascending from the tonic only.

Level 6

- Play major, minor, and perfect intervals, ascending from the tonic only, in the keys of prepared scales.
- Play a simple folk tune with melody in the RH, harmonized with blocked or broken primary chords in the LH (student and teacher choose and prepare in advance).

Level 7

- Play major, minor, and perfect intervals, ascending only, beginning on any white or black key.
- Play major, minor, augmented, and diminished triads in root position, in any key.
- Play dominant seventh, major seventh, and minor seventh chords, root position only, on any white or black key.

Level 8

- Play major, minor, and perfect intervals in any key, ascending and descending.
- Play augmented and diminished 4ths, 5ths, and octaves, ascending only, in any key.
- Play major, minor, augmented, and diminished triads in root position and inversions, in any key.
- Play dominant seventh, major seventh, and minor seventh chords in root position and inversions, in any key.

Level 9

- Play major, minor, and perfect intervals in any key, ascending and descending.
- Play augmented and diminished intervals, including tritones, ascending only, in any key.
- Prepare major seventh, minor seventh, dominant seventh, and diminished seventh chords in root position and inversions, in all keys.

Level 10

- Play major, minor, perfect, augmented, diminished and tritone intervals in any key, ascending and descending.
- Prepare major, minor, dominant, half-diminished, and fully diminished seventh chords in root position and inversions, in all keys.

Section 2

Sight Playing

Sight Playing General Guidelines

Students will play a short piece appropriate to their level. Examples align with the rhythm requirements of the same level and increase gradually in length, key range, and rhythmic complexity. Performances should be evaluated for steady pulse, accurate rhythm and pitch, and continuity, rather than perfection. Students may hesitate briefly to correct errors, but should maintain forward motion and musical flow. Each student will be allowed 60 seconds to prepare.

Level 1

- 4–8 measures in middle C position
- Stepwise motion only
- Hands separate
- No accidentals
- Quarter, half, and whole notes

Level 2

- 4–8 measures in a C 5-finger position
- Steps and skips
- None or very limited hands together
- No accidentals
- Quarter, half, dotted half, and whole notes and rests

Level 3

- 4–8 measures in a C 5-finger position
- Accidentals and eighth notes
- Hands together

Level 4

- 5-finger position in C Major, G Major, F Major, or a minor
- Includes key signatures and accidentals
- Chord shells and close intervals in the LH
- May include dotted quarter + eighth, and upbeats

Level 5

- Piece outside of a 5-finger position in C, G, F Major or a, d, or e minor
- Hands together
- Chord shells and intervals in the LH
- Rhythms may include eighth notes, rests, and triplets
- Meter: 3/4, 4/4, or 6/8

Level 6

- Early intermediate piece (max. 16 measures)
- Hands together
- May include block chords or Alberti bass in LH
- Mostly stepwise melody, some hand position shifts
- Rhythms may include upbeats, triplets, dotted quarter + eighth, or four sixteenths
- Meter: 3/4, 4/4, or 6/8

Level 7

- Intermediate piece in a white-key major or minor
- Not more than 16 measures
- May include hand position shifts, arpeggios, or broken chords
- Rhythms may include single eighths and rests, paired sixteenths, and ties
- Meter: 3/4, 4/4, 3/8, or 6/8

Level 8

- One-page piece, with two options:
 - Classical style
 - Hymn style

Level 9

- Upper intermediate piece in any major key or white-key minor
- May include harmonic intervals in each hand, 1–2 octave arpeggios
- Rhythms may include single eighths and rests, sixteenth-note pairs, and ties
- Meter: 3/4, 4/4, 3/8, or 6/8

Level 10

- Upper-intermediate to early-advanced piece in any major key or white-key minor
- May include diminished or augmented chords
- Rhythms may include triplets, single sixteenths, and polyrhythms
- Meter: 2/4, 3/4, or 4/4

Section 3

Written Theory

The Written Theory portion is designed to measure a student's developing understanding of music notation, rhythm, intervals, scales, chords, and key signatures. Each level builds systematically on the previous one: beginning with basic note values, clefs, and steps/skips, then progressing through intervals, scales, and key signatures, and finally advancing to complex chords, modes, and harmonic analysis. Students will be evaluated for accuracy, clarity, and correct use of musical symbols. Written work should be completed in clean penmanship with clear, legible notation so that answers can be evaluated without ambiguity.

Level 1

- Identify the number of beats for quarter notes and rests, half notes, and whole notes.
- Identify and/or draw treble and bass clef symbols.
- Recognize and define forte and piano symbols.
- Identify note direction (up, down, or repeating).
- Identify steps and skips, moving up or down, on the staff or pictured keyboard.
- Identify the letter names of white keys.
- Identify or draw whole steps and half steps on a pictured keyboard.
- Give the letter names of notes on the grand staff, from bass G (first line) to treble F (fifth line).

Level 2

- Identify the number of beats for quarter notes and rests, half notes and rests, dotted half notes, and whole notes and rests.
- Write counting for rhythm examples in 2/4, 3/4, or 4/4 meter.
- Recognize and define forte, piano, legato, and staccato symbols.
- Identify white and black keys on a pictured keyboard.
- Give the letter names of notes on the grand staff, from bass G (first line) to treble F (fifth line).
- Draw sharp, flat, and natural signs.
- Identify white-key 2nds, 3rds, 4ths, and 5ths on a pictured keyboard and staff.

Level 3

- Write counting for rhythm examples in 2/4, 3/4, or 4/4 meter; may include paired eighth notes, quarter notes and rests, half notes and rests, dotted half notes, and whole notes and rests.
- Recognize and define piano, mezzo piano, mezzo forte, and forte symbols.
- Identify ties and slurs.

- Explain the meaning of the numbers in a time signature.
- Draw stems on notes placed correctly on the staff.
- Draw sharp, flat, and natural signs correctly on the staff.
- Give the letter names of notes on the grand staff, including space notes above and below.
- Identify 2nds–6ths by distance only on a pictured keyboard and staff.
- Identify whole steps and half steps on the staff.

Level 4

- Write counting for rhythm examples in 2/4, 3/4, or 4/4 meter; may include eighth-note pairs, quarter notes and rests, dotted quarter + eighth, half notes and rests, dotted half notes, whole notes and rests, and upbeats.
- Recognize and define pianissimo through fortissimo (pp, p, mp, mf, f, ff).
- Explain the meaning of the numbers in a time signature.
- Recognize and define accent, 8va, and D.C. al Fine.
- Give the letter names of notes on the grand staff, up to two ledger lines above or below.
- Identify 2nds–8ves by distance only on a pictured keyboard and staff.
- Recognize or write the pattern of whole and half steps for major and harmonic minor scales.
- On a pictured keyboard, complete major triads built on white keys by marking the middle note.

Level 5

- Write counting for rhythm examples in 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 3/8, or 6/8 meter; may include eighth notes and rests, dotted quarter + eighth, triplets, upbeats, and other note values from previous levels.
- Write the order of sharps and flats (by letter name only).
- Identify major key signatures.
- Identify written major and perfect intervals on the staff, giving both distance and quality, built on any white key.
- Identify major and minor triads on a pictured keyboard.
- Add accidentals to form major, natural minor, or harmonic minor scales on white keys.
- Write major and minor triads on the staff (white keys).

Level 6

- Complete measures by filling in missing beats in examples, in any meter.
- Identify major, minor, and perfect intervals on the staff, giving distance and quality, built on any white key.
- Write major, minor, and perfect intervals on the staff, ascending only, from white keys.
- Write major and minor (natural or harmonic) scales built on white keys.
- Identify major key signatures and their relative minors.
- Write major key signatures.

- Identify and write major and minor triads on the staff.

Level 7

- Complete measures by filling in missing beats in examples, in any meter.
- Identify and write double sharps and double flats.
- Identify major, minor, and perfect intervals on the staff, giving distance and quality, built on any key.
- Write major, minor, and perfect intervals on the staff, ascending only, built on any key.
- Write major and minor scales (natural and harmonic) on white keys; write major scales beginning on black keys.
- Identify major key signatures and their relative minors.
- Write major, minor, augmented, and diminished triads in root position on the staff.

Level 8

- Complete measures by filling in missing beats in examples, in any meter.
- Write major, natural minor, and harmonic minor scales beginning on any key.
- Identify and write parallel and relative minor scales.
- Write major, minor, and perfect intervals in any key, ascending and descending.
- Write augmented and diminished 4ths, 5ths, and octaves, ascending only, in any key.
- Write major, minor, augmented, and diminished triads in any inversion.
- Identify dominant seventh, major 7th, and minor 7th chords in root position, in any key.
- Write dominant seventh chords on white keys in any inversion.

Level 9

- Write counting for rhythm examples in any meter; subdivide to the half beat using notes/rests through 32nds, including triplets and upbeats.
- Identify major, minor (natural, harmonic, melodic), whole-tone, pentatonic, and white-key modes.
- Write major, minor (natural, harmonic, melodic) scales beginning on any key, and white-key modal scales.
- Write major, minor, and perfect intervals in any key, ascending and descending.
- Write augmented and diminished 4ths, 5ths, and octaves, ascending and descending, from any note.
- Identify tritones as augmented 4ths or diminished 5ths.
- Identify and write major 7th, minor 7th, and dominant seventh chords in root position and inversions, in any key.
- Identify the key signature of an excerpt.

Level 10

- Write major, minor (natural, harmonic, melodic), whole-tone, chromatic, modal, or pentatonic scales beginning on any key.
- Identify and write major, minor, dominant, half-diminished, and fully diminished seventh chords in root position and inversions, in any key.
- Analyze the chords in a hymn: give the chord name for each beat and mark non-harmonic tones.
- Identify the key, mode, or scale of an excerpt.

Section 4

Ear Training

*The listening portion measures a student's ability to hear, recognize, and describe musical elements. Each level builds on the one before it, beginning with basic pitch direction, dynamics, and beat, then progressing through intervals, scales, tonality, form, and finally style and analysis. Students should be evaluated for accuracy in identification, clarity of response, and developing musical perception. While exact answers are important, adjudicators are also encouraged to note the student's listening approach, consistency, and ability to apply appropriate musical vocabulary. **Examples will be played three times. All intervals and chords will be played both melodically and harmonically, unless otherwise specified.***

Level 1

- Identify low, middle, and high sounds.
- Identify forte and piano dynamic levels.
- Identify the direction of five notes (higher, lower, or repeating).
- Listen to an 8-measure example, then clap the steady beat as it is played a second time.
- Identify the general character of music by choosing from a multiple-choice list (e.g., *smooth and dreamy, fast and lively*).

Level 2

- Identify staccato and legato.
- Identify forte and piano dynamic levels.
- Identify the direction of three notes (higher, lower, or repeating).
- Listen to an 8-measure example, then clap the steady beat as it is played a second time.
- Identify steps and skips.
- Identify the general character of music by choosing from a multiple-choice list (e.g., *smooth and dreamy, fast and lively*).

Level 3

- Identify 2nds, 3rds, 4ths, or 5ths (distance only).
- Identify triads as major or minor.
- Select a rhythmic pattern from two written examples; the pattern will be played twice.
- Add a flat or sharp in front of a note to indicate movement up or down.
- Identify the general character of music (tempo, dynamics, mood, and touch) by choosing from a multiple-choice list.

Level 4

- Identify perfect 4ths, 5ths, and 8ves (distance and quality) and 2nds, 3rds, and 6ths (distance only).
- Identify the tonality of a short piece as major or minor.
- Identify whether the melody of an excerpt is in the treble or bass.
- Identify the meter of a piece as having 3 or 4 beats per measure (elementary level, no eighth notes or upbeats).
- Rhythmic dictation: 2 measures in 4/4, using quarter, half, dotted half, and whole notes.

Level 5

- Identify major 2nds, 3rds, 6ths, and 7ths, and perfect 4ths, 5ths, and 8ves, ascending only (distance and quality).
- Identify the tonality of a short piece as major or minor.
- Identify the meter of a piece as having 3 or 4 beats per measure.
- Rhythmic dictation: 2 measures in 4/4, using eighth notes, dotted quarters, quarters, halves, dotted halves, and wholes.
- Select a melodic pattern from two written examples.

Level 6

- Identify major, minor, and perfect intervals, ascending only (distance and quality).
- Identify scales as major, natural minor, harmonic minor, or chromatic.
- Identify the form of an early-intermediate piece as binary (AB) or ternary (ABA).
- Rhythmic dictation: 4 measures in 4/4, using sixteenths, eighths, dotted quarters, quarters, halves, dotted halves, and wholes.
- Melodic dictation: complete missing notes in a 4-measure example.

Level 7

- Identify major and minor intervals (ascending only) and perfect intervals (ascending and descending), labeling with distance and quality.
- Identify the tempo of a piece by choosing from a list of Italian terms.
- Identify the tonality of a piece as major, minor, or bitonal.

- Identify the form of a short piece as binary (AB), ternary (ABA), or theme and variations.
- Rhythmic dictation: 4 measures in 6/8, using sixteenths, eighths, quarters, dotted quarters, and dotted halves.
- Melodic dictation: 4 measures in 4/4, using simple rhythms.

Level 8

- Identify the meter of a piece as simple (duple) or compound.
- Identify major, minor, and perfect intervals (ascending and descending), labeling with distance and quality.
- Identify the tonality of a piece as major, minor, or modal.
- Identify the texture of a piece as thin, thick/full, or imitative.
- Identify the form of a piece as binary, ternary, rondo, or sonata-allegro.
- Rhythmic dictation: 4 measures in 3/4, using sixteenths, eighths, quarters, halves, wholes, and dotted rhythms.
- Melodic dictation: 4 measures in 4/4, using simple rhythms.

Level 9

- Identify the meter of a piece as 3/4, 4/4, 6/8, or multi-metric.
- Identify the tempo of a piece by choosing from a list of Italian terms.
- Identify the tonality of a piece as major, minor, modal, or atonal.
- Identify the texture of a piece as monophonic, homophonic, or polyphonic.
- Identify the form of a piece as binary, ternary, fugue, sonata-allegro, rondo, or through-composed.
- Identify the style of a piece as Baroque, Classical, Romantic, or Contemporary.
- Melodic dictation: 4 measures in any meter.

Level 10

- Describe the following elements of a piece: pulse, tempo, texture, melody, tonality/harmony, form, and style.
- Melodic dictation: 4 measures in any meter.

Teacher Checklist and Concept Overview

LEVEL 1

Rhythm

- Clap or tap and count aloud a rhythm with quarter, half, and whole notes (metronome at 72).

Keyboard Facility

- Prepare five pentascales, tetrachords, or one-octave scales (major or minor; white or black keys; hands separate or together).
- Play a matching shell or triad in each key.

Applied Theory

- Play steps and skips on white keys, ascending and descending.
- Play whole and half steps on white keys, ascending and descending.

Sight Playing

- Play a 4–8 measure piece in middle C position; counting encouraged.

Written Theory

- Identify the number of beats for quarter, half, and whole notes and rests.
- Identify or draw treble and bass clefs; forte and piano symbols.
- Identify note direction (up, down, or repeating).
- Identify steps and skips on staff and keyboard.
- Identify or draw whole and half steps on a keyboard.
- Give letter names of notes from bass G (first line) to treble F (fifth line).
- Identify the letter names of white keys.

Ear Training

- Identify high, middle, and low sounds.
- Identify forte and piano sounds.
- Identify the direction of five notes (up, down, or repeating).
- Clap the steady beat of a song as it is played.
- Choose the best description for a piece (e.g., smooth and dreamy, fast and lively).

LEVEL 2

Rhythm

- Clap or tap and count aloud a rhythm with quarter, half, whole notes and rests, and dotted half notes (metronome at 72).

Keyboard Facility

- Prepare five pentascales, tetrachords, or one-octave scales (major or minor; white or black keys; hands separate or together).
- Play a triad in each key.

Applied Theory

- Play 2nds–5ths on white keys, ascending and descending.
- Play sharped and flatted notes.

Sight Playing

- Play a 4–8 measure piece in 5-finger position; counting encouraged.

Written Theory

- Identify the number of beats for quarter, half, whole notes and rests, and dotted half notes.
- Write counting in 2/4, 3/4, and 4/4 meter.
- Draw sharp, flat, and natural symbols correctly; identify forte, piano, staccato, and legato.
- Identify white and black keys on the keyboard.
- Identify 2nds–5ths on keyboard and staff (white keys only).
- Give note names from bass G (first line) to treble F (fifth line).

Ear Training

- Identify forte/piano and legato/staccato sounds.
- Identify the direction of three notes (up, down, or repeating).
- Identify steps and skips.
- Clap the steady beat of a song.
- Choose the best description of a piece from two options.

LEVEL 3

Rhythm

- Clap or tap and count aloud a rhythm with eighth-note pairs, quarter, half, whole notes and rests, dotted half notes, and ties (metronome at 72).

Keyboard Facility

- Prepare two major and two harmonic minor scales (tetrachord or one octave; hands separate).
- Play root-position tonic and dominant triads, hands separate or together.
- Play chord progression I–V–I or I–V7–I, hands separate or together.
- Play two-octave hand-over-hand arpeggios.

Applied Theory

- Play 2nds–6ths, ascending from tonic, in the keys of prepared scales.

Sight Playing

- Play a 4–8 measure piece in C 5-finger position, hands together, with accidentals and eighth notes.

Written Theory

- Write counting for rhythms (eighths through whole notes and rests, dotted halves) in 2/4, 3/4, and 4/4.
- Define piano, mezzo piano, mezzo forte, and forte.
- Identify ties and slurs.
- Explain the meaning of a time signature.
- Draw note stems correctly on the staff.
- Draw sharps, flats, and naturals correctly on the staff.
- Identify 2nds–6ths and whole/half steps on the staff.
- Give letter names of notes on the keyboard, grand staff, and spaces just outside the staff.

Ear Training

- Recognize 2nds–5ths.
- Recognize major and minor triads.
- Select one of two rhythmic patterns.
- Add a sharp or flat to raise or lower a note.
- Choose the best description of a piece.

LEVEL 4

Rhythm

- Clap or tap and count aloud a rhythm including eighth notes, dotted quarter and half notes, dotted half notes, whole notes, and upbeats (metronome at 72).

Keyboard Facility

- Prepare two major and two minor scales (natural and harmonic; one octave; hands separate or together).
- Play primary root-position triads (I, IV, V), hands separate or together.
- Play tonic triad inversions, hands separate or together.
- Play chord progression I–IV–I–V–I or I–IV–I–V7–I, hands separate or together.
- Play a one-octave arpeggio, hands separate or together.

Applied Theory

- Play 2nds–8ves, ascending only, from any pitch in the keys of prepared scales.

Sight Playing

- Play a 5-finger position piece, hands together, in C, G, F Major, or a minor with accidentals.

Written Theory

- Write counting for rhythms (eighths through whole notes and rests, dotted quarters/halves, upbeats) in 2/4, 3/4, and 4/4.
- Define pianissimo, piano, mezzo piano, mezzo forte, forte, fortissimo, accent, 8va, D.C. al Fine.
- Explain the meaning of a time signature.
- Identify 2nds–8ves by distance on staff and keyboard.
- Give letter names of notes on the grand staff up to two ledger lines above/below.
- Write whole and half-step patterns for major and harmonic minor scales.
- Complete major triads on white keys by marking the middle note.

Ear Training

- Identify 2nds, 3rds, and 6ths (distance only) and perfect 4ths, 5ths, and octaves (distance and quality).
- Identify tonality of a piece as major or minor.
- Identify whether the melody is in treble or bass.
- Identify pulse as 3 or 4 beats per measure.
- Rhythmic dictation: 2 measures in 4/4 with quarters, halves, dotted halves, and wholes.

LEVEL 5

Rhythm

- Clap or tap and count aloud a rhythm including eighth notes, triplets, dotted quarters and halves, whole notes, and upbeats (metronome at 72).

Keyboard Facility

- Prepare six scales: 2 white-key major, 2 black-key major, and 2 minor (natural and harmonic), one octave, hands together.
- Play primary triads in inversions, up and down (facilitator will choose one set).
- Play chord progression I–IV–I–V–I or I–IV–I–V7–I, hands together.
- Play a one-octave arpeggio, hands together.
- Prepare root-position V7 resolving to tonic (2nd inversion) in two keys of student's choice.

Applied Theory

- Play major and perfect intervals, ascending from tonic, in the keys of prepared scales.

Sight Playing

- Play a piece outside 5-finger position in C, G, F Major or a, d, e minor; hands together; counting encouraged.

Written Theory

- Write counting for rhythms (eighths through wholes, dotted quarters/halves, triplets, upbeats) in 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 3/8, or 6/8.
- Write the order of sharps and flats.
- Identify major key signatures.
- Identify major and perfect intervals on the staff, giving distance and quality (white keys).
- Identify major and minor triads on a keyboard (white keys).
- Write major and minor triads on the staff (white keys).
- Add accidentals to form major, natural minor, or harmonic minor scales on white keys.

Ear Training

- Identify major and perfect intervals, 2nds–8ves, by distance and quality.
- Identify tonality of a piece as major or minor.
- Identify pulse as 3 or 4 beats per measure.
- Rhythmic dictation: 2 measures in 4/4 including eighths, dotted quarters, halves, and wholes.
- Identify which of two melodic patterns is played.

LEVEL 6

Rhythm

- Clap or tap and count aloud a rhythm including sixteenth notes (in groups of 4), in 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 3/8, or 6/8 (metronome at 72).

Keyboard Facility

- Prepare all white-key major scales, 2 octaves, hands separate or together.
- Prepare 2 black-key major scales and 2 minor scales (natural and harmonic), 2 octaves.
- Play a chromatic scale, hands separate, 2 octaves up and down.
- Play chord progression I–IV–I–V–V7–I with (a) chords in both hands, and (b) roots in LH with chords in RH.
- Play two-octave arpeggios, hands separate or together.
- Play a complete dominant seventh chord and resolve to a tonic triad in root position and inversions, using common-tone voicing, in 2 keys of the student's choice

Applied Theory

- Play major, minor, and perfect intervals, ascending from tonic, in the keys of prepared scales.
- Play a prepared harmonization of a folk tune (blocked or broken chords in LH, melody in RH).

Sight Playing

- Play an early intermediate piece, hands together; counting encouraged.

Written Theory

- Complete measures by filling in missing beats in any meter.
- Identify and write major key signatures, including relative minors.
- Identify and write major, minor, and perfect intervals, ascending from white keys.
- Write major, natural minor, or harmonic minor scales (white keys).
- Identify and write major and minor triads on the staff.

Ear Training

- Identify major, minor, and perfect intervals, ascending only.
- Identify scales as major, natural minor, harmonic minor, or chromatic.
- Identify form of a piece as binary (AB) or ternary (ABA).
- Rhythmic dictation: 4 measures in 4/4 including sixteenths.
- Melodic dictation: fill in missing notes in a 4-measure example.

LEVEL 7

Rhythm

- Tap a rhythm in RH while maintaining pulse in LH, counting aloud (metronome at 72).

Keyboard Facility

- Prepare all major scales, 2 octaves, hands together.
- Prepare all white-key minor scales (natural and harmonic), 2 octaves, hands together.
- Prepare 1 black-key minor scale (natural and harmonic).
- Play chord progression I–IV–I–V–V7–I in first inversion, first with chords in both hands and then with roots in LH.
- Play two-octave arpeggios, hands together.

Applied Theory

- Play major, minor, and perfect intervals, ascending from any white or black key.
- Play major, minor, diminished, and augmented triads, root position, in any key.
- Play dominant seventh, major 7th, and minor 7th chords, root position, on any white or black key.

Sight Playing

- Play an intermediate piece, hands together.

Written Theory

- Complete measures by filling in missing beats in any meter.
- Identify and write double sharps and double flats.
- Identify and write major key signatures, including relative minors.
- Identify and write major, minor, and perfect intervals on the staff, ascending from any key.
- Write major scales beginning on black keys; write white-key major and minor scales (natural and harmonic).
- Write major, minor, augmented, and diminished triads in root position on the staff.

Ear Training

- Identify major and minor intervals (ascending only), and perfect intervals (ascending and descending), by distance and quality.
- Identify tempo of a piece from a list of Italian terms.
- Identify tonality of a piece as major, minor, or bitonal.
- Identify form of a piece as binary (AB), ternary (ABA), or theme and variations.
- Rhythmic dictation: 4 measures in 6/8.

- Melodic dictation: 4 measures in 4/4.

LEVEL 8

Rhythm

- Tap rhythms simultaneously with both hands, counting aloud (metronome at 72).

Keyboard Facility

- Prepare all major and minor scales (natural and harmonic), 4 octaves, hands together.
- Play chord progression I–IV–I–V–V7–I in second inversion with chords in both hands.
- Play I–IV–I–V–V7–I in all inversions, with roots in LH.
- Play four-octave root-position arpeggios, hands together.

Applied Theory

- Play major, minor, and perfect intervals, ascending and descending, in any key.
- Play augmented and diminished 4ths, 5ths, and octaves, ascending only.
- Play major, minor, augmented, and diminished triads in root position and inversions, in any key.
- Play dominant seventh, major 7th, and minor 7th chords in root position and inversions, in any key.

Sight Playing

- Play a one-page piece in either classical or hymn style.

Written Theory

- Complete measures by filling in missing beats in any meter.
- Write major and natural/harmonic minor scales, from any key.
- Identify and write parallel and relative minor scales.
- Write major, minor, and perfect intervals in any key, ascending and descending.
- Write augmented and diminished 4ths, 5ths, and octaves, ascending only.
- Write major, minor, augmented, and diminished triads in any inversion.
- Identify dominant seventh, major 7th, and minor 7th chords, root position, in any key.
- Write dominant seventh chords on white keys in any inversion.

Ear Training

- Identify major, minor, and perfect intervals, ascending and descending, by distance and quality.
- Identify meter as simple or compound.

- Identify tonality of a piece as major, minor, or modal.
- Identify texture as thin, thick/full, or imitative.
- Identify form as binary, ternary, rondo, or sonata-allegro.
- Rhythmic dictation: 4 measures in 3/4, with sixteenths, dotted rhythms, and basic note values.
- Melodic dictation: 4 measures in 4/4.

LEVEL 9

Rhythm

- Tap rhythms simultaneously with both hands (metronome at 72).

Keyboard Facility

- Prepare all major and minor scales (natural, harmonic, melodic), 4 octaves, hands together.
- Play chord progression I–IV–ii–V–V7–I, with LH roots in octaves.
- Play four-octave arpeggios (major/minor, root position and first inversion), hands together.
- Play four-octave dominant seventh arpeggios, root position, hands together.

Applied Theory

- Play major, minor, and perfect intervals, ascending and descending, in any key.
- Play augmented/diminished intervals and tritones, ascending only, in any key.
- Play major 7th, minor 7th, dominant seventh, and diminished seventh chords, root position and inversions, in any key.

Sight Playing

- Play an upper-intermediate piece.

Written Theory

- Write half-beat subdivisions in any meter, using notes/rests through 32nds, including triplets and upbeats.
- Identify major, minor (all forms), whole-tone, pentatonic scales, and white-key modes.
- Write major, minor (all forms), and white-key modal scales.
- Write major, minor, and perfect intervals from any note, ascending and descending.
- Write augmented/diminished 4ths, 5ths, and octaves from any note, ascending and descending.
- Identify tritones as augmented 4ths or diminished 5ths.
- Identify key signatures of excerpts.

- Identify and write major 7th, minor 7th, dominant seventh chords, root position and inversions.

Ear Training

- Identify meter as 3/4, 4/4, 6/8, or multi-metric.
- Identify tempo from Italian terms.
- Identify tonality of a piece as major, minor, modal, or atonal.
- Identify texture as monophonic, homophonic, or polyphonic.
- Identify form as binary, ternary, fugue, sonata-allegro, rondo, or through-composed.
- Identify style as Baroque, Classical, Romantic, or Contemporary.
- Melodic dictation: 4 measures in any meter.

LEVEL 10

Rhythm

- Tap rhythms simultaneously, including duple vs. triple polyrhythms (metronome at 72).

Keyboard Facility

- Prepare all major and minor scales (natural, harmonic, melodic):
 - 2 octaves in eighths
 - 3 octaves in triplets
 - 4 octaves in sixteenths
- Play chord progression I–vi–IV–ii–I6/4–V7–I, with LH roots.
- Play four-octave major/minor arpeggios (root and inversions), hands together.
- Play four-octave dominant seventh and fully-diminished seventh arpeggios, root position, hands together.

Applied Theory

- Play major, minor, perfect, augmented, diminished intervals, and tritones, ascending and descending, in any key.
- Play major, minor, dominant, half-diminished, and fully diminished seventh chords, root position and inversions, in all keys.

Sight Playing

- Play an upper-intermediate to early-advanced piece.

Written Theory

- Write major, minor (all forms), whole-tone, chromatic, pentatonic scales, and modes from any key.
- Identify and write major, minor, dominant, half-diminished, and fully diminished seventh chords, root position and inversions.
- Analyze hymns by naming chords on each beat and marking non-harmonic tones.
- Identify key, mode, or scale of a piece.

Ear Training

- Describe pulse, tempo (with Italian term), texture, melody, tonality/harmony, form, and style.
- Melodic dictation: 4 measures in any meter.