

Instrumental- Piano/Keyboard Course Description

Welcome to the exciting world of piano keyboarding!

Level 1: In this class, we will learn and understand the layout of notes on the keyboard, both from a musical and theoretical viewpoint. This will give us the tools to learn to compose our own music, as well as to begin to play and interpret pre-existing music in a variety of styles. We will learn to read music, how to pick out tunes by ear, and learn how to notate our own music using traditional rhythmic and melodic notation, as well as develop our own musical shorthand. We will work on hand and eye coordination, playing with two hands, proper form, accuracy and musicianship. Other elements we will study throughout the year include music appreciation, active listening, music history, performance etiquette and African drumming. We will learn to play as part of a Keyboard ensemble, with your part customized to your level of playing, as well as develop solos for your enjoyment and for performance.

Level 2: This class will build on all the concepts and skills introduced in level 1 and will introduce more advanced music, concepts, techniques and more. PRE-REQUISITE: Completion of Level 1

Level 3: This class will build on all the concepts and skills introduced in level 2 and will introduce more advanced music, concepts, techniques and more. PRE-REQUISITE: Completion of Level 2

Class Fee: \$20 for the year

Performances: We will have 2 mandatory performances in the school year –Winter and Spring-and may add one or two more optional performances. The Winter and Spring performances will take place after school, will be graded and will be mandatory. There will be 3-4 mandatory rehearsals after school for each performance so we can work on playing as an ensemble. An alternate assignment will be given if the student is unable to attend.

If there are any optional performances offered, students that wish to participate will sign a contract committing to the optional performances or chose not to participate. There will be about 3-4 mandatory after school rehearsals before each optional performance so we can practice playing as a large ensemble.