



Intro to Piano Part 1 - Spring 2021

Instructor: Beth Rohde, M.M.
rwbmusicservices@gmail.com
 (310) 213-5299

Course Description: This is the first half of a semester long class. This course is perfect for students who are either brand new to the piano or have gaps in their piano and music theory knowledge. We work on mastering the basics and establishing fluency at a variety of levels. We will get to know the keyboard and note names, and we'll start learning various 5-finger positions. We will sight read, improvise and use a variety of activities to make learning fun and effective.

Objectives: By the end of Intro to Piano Part 1, you will be able to:

- Play piano with good posture and technique
- Identify and play all notes on the keyboard
- Identify most notes on the grand staff
- Sight read easy melodies on the grand staff
- Identify understand a wide variety of musical signs and symbols
- Play in some common 5-Finger positions
- Improvise in various keys
- Choose and play repertoire that reinforces your learning

Required Materials: Please have the following available before our first class:

- Piano or electric keyboard with full size keys
- A computer with a webcam or a 2nd device (phone or tablet) with cam to show your hands on the piano
- Flash cards
- Julie McIntosh Johnson's Basics of Keyboard Theory - Level Prep (optional)

	What Will Be Covered in This Week	What To Prepare For the Next Week
Before Classes Begin	<p>Make sure you have all required supplies.</p> <p>Login to Intro to Piano Course.</p>	<p>Complete Welcome Section and Chapter 1 Lessons, Quiz and Assignment, and be prepared to answer this question: "Why Study Piano?"</p> <p>You will also be asked to demonstrate your knowledge of note names and note groups on the piano. Be prepared to improvise for the class with or without the accompanying track.</p>

<p>Week 1</p>	<p>We will discuss piano technique and effective practice routines.</p> <p>Students will demonstrate knowledge of note groups and improvise on the group of their choice.</p>	<p>Complete Chapter 2 lessons and assignments, and be ready to demonstrate your fluency in note direction.</p> <p>Practice sight reading. You will be asked to play sight reading examples for the class.</p>
<p>Week 2</p>	<p>You will demonstrate your ability to recite the descending (backwards).</p> <p>All students will sight read for the class.</p> <p>Questions will be addressed and adjustments will be made.</p>	<p>Complete Chapter 3 lessons, test and assignments. Be ready to demonstrate your ability to call out C-G note names instantly.</p> <p>Choose your favorite music theory app, and be ready to show it to the class.</p> <p>Practice sight reading and improvisation. You will be asked to sight read and/or improvise for the class.</p>
<p>Week 3</p>	<p>Students will show their ability to call out note names with ease, and we will do a lot of note group review.</p> <p>Students will be asked what music theory apps they are using, and they can share and demonstrate any new apps with the class.</p> <p>All students will be asked to sight read and improvise for the class.</p>	<p>Complete Chapter 4 lessons and assignments. Be ready to demonstrate your ability to call out FGABDC on the bass clef staff. And you may be asked to call out CDEFG on the treble clef as well, so be prepared :)</p> <p>Practice improvisation on ABC and sight reading on bass clef. You will be asked to sight read and/or improvise for the class.</p>
<p>Week 4</p>	<p>Congratulations!! You are learning a new staff now!!</p> <p>Students will show their ability to call out note names on both staves. Students should be able to call them out without any hesitation.</p> <p>Students will be asked to sight read various examples from Chapter 3 and 4.</p> <p>Students can volunteer to improvise if time allows.</p>	<p>Complete Chapter 5 lessons and assignments. Be ready to demonstrate your ability to call out all note names you have learned so far on the treble clef and bass clef staves. This must be done with ease.</p> <p>Practice improvisation in the key of G. You will be asked to improvise for the class.</p> <p>Practice sight reading. We suggest focusing on Chapter 3 and 5 Open sight reading examples. Be able to go back and forth between treble and bass clefs with ease. You will be asked to sight read for the class.</p>

<p>Week 5</p>	<p>This week is about reinforcement. We want to make sure you can easily identify, play, improvise and sight read on the treble and bass clefs independently before we join the staves together.</p> <p>Each student will be asked to identify notes on the treble clef and bass clef staves, and each student will sight read random examples from either staff.</p>	<p>Complete Chapter 6 lessons and assignments. Be ready to demonstrate your ability to call out all note names you have learned so far on the treble clef and bass clef staves. This should be easy now, so we will be working on speed.</p> <p>Practice the C Major and G Major 5-Finger scales hands separate first. Make sure your finger technique is solid before practicing hands together.</p> <p>Practice Grand Staff Sight Reading and Improvise!</p>
<p>Week 6</p>	<p>Congratulations!! You are now playing on the Grand Staff!! That is worth celebration</p> <p>This week we will focus on getting comfortable joining those staves together, and we will work on quickly identifying various starting positions.</p> <p>This will set you up for a lot of success!</p> <p>Each student will be asked to play the C and G Major 5-Finger scales, and they will also be asked to sight read on the grand staff.</p>	<p><i>Our Next and Final week together will be all about reinforcing with repertoire!</i></p> <p>Please choose 1- 2 performance pieces to work on over the next few weeks. Be prepared to present your choice(s) to the class, and you may even try playing part or all of your chosen piece.</p> <p>Complete Chapter 7 Lessons and Assignments and Test.</p> <p>Practice the new sight reading examples and improvise.</p> <p>Prepare for the “Midterm” Performance Exam</p>
<p>Week 7</p>	<p>Each student will perform their “Midterm” Performance Exam.</p> <p>We will discuss how to prepare your first performance pieces, and how to get ready for Intro to Piano Part 2</p>	<p>Complete Chapter 8 Lessons and Assignments.</p> <p>It is very important to take time now to digest and reinforce what you have learned. We look forward to hearing your performances after the break!</p>
<p>Reinforce Learning</p>	<p>Thank you for joining me in this Intro to Piano Class! I hope you will be back for the 2nd half! You will be amazed at what you can do if you slow down and concentrate on mastery!</p>	<p>Keep working on your performance pieces, review past lessons, and find new music to read.</p> <p>Take time to improvise and compose music. It is so rewarding!</p> <p>We hope to see you in the next class!</p>