

“You’re born with a spark...
to search for the truth, for
the best you can be. Practice.
Discipline. Preparation. Try
and try again. Then one day
you’re on top and they say
you're an overnight success,
“a “natural.” You smile, you
know.”

Anonymous



Curt Sheller

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Boyertown, PA USA



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The Elements of a Successful Music Program

Here are a few of the elements that would be typically covered in a well rounded musical education.

Technique

Technique is the physical control and coordination needed to play an instrument or sing. It involves position, efficiency of motion and effort, as well as exercises to develop specific physical skills.

Theory

Theory is the body of principles behind music. It includes scales and chord building, intervals, progressions, resolution, harmony, motion, power, color, chord substitution, keys and time signatures, rhythm, melody, etc.

Ear Training

Ear Training is the development of the active and passive capacity to relate to music aurally. It includes the ability to regain melodic and harmonic intervals, chords, chord progression, rhythm, melody and harmony.

Reading

Reading is the ability to reproduce music from written notation. It includes five phases; note recognition / alternate note locations, rhythm recognition, fingering considerations, communication terminology and interpretation.

Repertoire

Repertoire includes the songs within the performance ability of the student. These songs may be memorized or read. They may be literal reproductions or creative interpretations.

Improvisation

Improvisation is the ability to spontaneously create melody over a predetermined chord progression. It involves scales, alternate fingerings, arpeggios, intervallic development, sequences, embellishments, superimposition, rhythm, motifs, development techniques and idiomatic considerations.

Musical Idioms

Musical Idioms is the study of music musical style it involves well developed categories as; Rock, Blues, Country, Jazz, Bluegrass, Classical, Folk, Urban and Fusion. It also includes subdivisions of specializations.

Songwriting

Songwriting is the creation of original music based on a single melodic line with a chord progression. Lyrics may or may not be included.

Arranging

Arranging involves the choice of instruments, tempo, rhythmic feel, form, intro, ending, interludes, solos, harmonies, and instrumental accompaniment of a song.

Composition

Composition is the creation of original music based on multiple simultaneous and compatible melodies. It historically involves the classical forms but frequently includes more sophisticated levels of contemporary music.

Orchestration

Orchestration involves the choice of instruments for a composition. This choice is based on the ranges and colors of the instruments which best represent the mood and creative intent of the composer.

Interpretation

Interpretation involves the ability to perform a song or composition in a unique and personal way. These skills involve an interrelated set of disciplines which include, theory, ear training, technique, dynamics, embellishments, phrasing, and rhythmic flexibility.

Call today
to discuss
your musical
direction!

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ask for Curt, Bern or Kelly

Funky Frets - Music Instruction