**Piano 1/2**

**Teacher: Ms. Lajmanovich**

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**Course Description**

Piano 1 and 2 are the beginning piano courses. The purpose of these courses is to teach the fundamentals of music through piano performance. Instruction emphasizes healthy technique, note reading, rhythm training, and music appreciation. Piano 2 is for beginners on keyboard who already read music.

**Piano Method Book**

*Alfred Basic Piano Course: Adult All-in-One Course Level 1.* This method book will be used daily in Piano class throughout both semesters this school year. The book is provided for students to use in class; additionally, an online digital version is available in the Resources folder of our Schoology course. Students who wish to have their own, physical copy of the piano method book may purchase it online (used copies in good condition are available for $5.00).

**Headphones**

Students may use the shared headphones provided in class or bring their own.

**Required Materials**

Please bring the following items to class every time that class meets:

* School-issued or personal laptop
* Loose-leaf binder with lined paper
* Pencil and eraser

**Practicing**

Students are provided practice time each day in class, and it is vital that they utilize this time wisely. Typically, a lesson and guided practice session taught by the instructor is followed by individual practice by each student in his/her/their assigned piano in the classroom.

Portable keyboards for at-home practice are available for students to check out on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please refer to the Equipment Responsibility Form in the Useful Information folder of our Schoology course for more information.

**Classroom Behavior and Expectations**

* **Daily attendance** is critical to learning piano. Students with excused absences will be allowed to make up work as per LAUSD policy; however, consistent attendance is key to success in music. Participation points are lost with excessive, unexcused absences.
* **Excessive, unexcused tardies may result in a U in work habits.**
* It is **IMPERATIVE** that students **participate in guided practice** by listening to instructions, giving it their full attention, and playing along at the piano. Students who do not actively participate in class will lose participation points!
* The school’s progressive discipline policy will be enforced.
* **Be respectful** **at all times to all people**.
* **No food or drinks at your seat**. **No chewing gum in this classroom, please.**
* Respect the instruments. No pounding on the keys or playing glissando. Wash or cleanse your hands before class. Hand sanitizer is available in the classroom. Keep pianos clean and free of marks, gum, and trash. **Do not use hand lotion in this class**.
* **Fingernails must be kept short and trimmed**. Points are deducted for incorrect hand position.
* There will be no talking or playing instruments out loud without direct instruction to do so.
* **Use of cell phones, tablets, and laptops is OK as long as it is in relation to the lesson.**
* At the end of class, remain in your seat until dismissed. Turn off piano, push in bench before leaving the classroom.
* You may leave the classroom to use the restroom if it is an emergency; however, as per Hamilton High School policy, you should avoid leaving the classroom during the first and last 15 minutes of each class period. When leaving the classroom, please use the clipboard provided and be sure to write down your name, destination, and time.

**Homework and Grading Policies**:

Academic grades are based on cumulative point totals determined by daily class participation, written and performance tests, quizzes, daily class work, extra credit, and projects. When homework is assigned, please write down the due date and turn it in accordingly in order to receive full credit.

**Please refer to this Course Description and talk to me if you have any questions/issues/problems in our class.**