**Piano 1/2**

**Teacher: Ms. Lajmanovich**

**E-mail:** [**mlajmano@lausd.net**](mailto:mlajmano@lausd.net)

[**www.hamiltonpiano.org**](http://www.hamiltonpiano.org)

**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. Piano 2 is for beginners on keyboard who already read music.

**Required Text**

*Alfred Basic Piano Course: Adult All-in-One Course Level 1.* This method book may be purchased at any music store, at the Hamilton High School Student Store, or online at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) Each student must have his/her own book and must bring it to class each and every time class meets. An online, free version is available by googling the title.

**Required Materials**

In addition to the required text, students must bring the following to class each and every time that class meets:

* Headphones with adaptor (**earbuds are not ideal and must use an adaptor with an extension**)
* Loose-leaf binder with lined paper and I suggest the following dividers or tabs: **Music Appreciation, Repertoire, Sight-Reading, Technique, and Theory.**
* Pencil and eraser

**Practicing**

Students are required to practice 20-30 minutes daily outside of class. Therefore, it is necessary to have a piano or keyboard in the home or close to home for daily access. Piano practice should be done before school or before other homework when the student first arrives home. The mind and body are too tired to practice effectively if the student postpones practice until other homework is done.

**Tardy Policy**

3 unexcused tardies= Unsatisfactory mark on the next report card

**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 absences.
* 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 front of 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.
* Have your own materials. Bring all materials to class each and every time you come to class.
* Forgotten headphones or adaptors may be rented from Piano Club for a fee of 25 cents.
* 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.

**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.**