**Piano 3**

**Teacher: Ms. Lajmanovich**

**E-mail:** **mlajmano@lausd.net**

**www.hamiltonpiano.org**

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**Course Description**

Piano 3 is the next level of Piano after level 1 or 2. It includes a more in-depth study of theory, developing fluency and technique at the keyboard, and a more mature sense of musical interpretation.

**Piano Method Book**

*Alfred Basic Piano Course: Adult All-in-One Course Level 2 is the book we use in level 3.* A class set of books will be provided for use in class. For the purpose of at-home practice, 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).

**Headphones**

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

**Required Materials**

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

**Practicing**

Students are required to practice one hour daily outside of class. 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.

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

**Recital Attendance**

Level 3 students are encouraged to attend at least one piano recital per semester here at Hamilton High School. Extra credit will be given for turning in a typewritten critique within a week of the recital.

**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.
* **Three or more tardies may result in a U in work habits.**
* It is **IMPERATIVE** that students **participate in guided practice during class** 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**.
* Respect the instruments. No pounding on the keys or playing glissando. Wash or cleanse your hands before class. 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 aloud without direct instruction to do so.
* **Cell phones, tablets, and laptops are OK as long as it is related to the lesson.**
* At the end of class, remain in your seat until dismissed. Turn off piano, close the lid, and push in bench before leaving the classroom.
* You may use the restroom during class time only if it is an emergency and, as per Hamilton High School policy, you are not allowed to leave the classroom during the first and last 15 minutes of each class period. When leaving the classroom during class time, please use the clipboard provided and fill in your name, destination, and time you are leaving class.

**Homework and Grading Policies**

Academic grades are based on cumulative point totals determined by 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 complete it accordingly in order to receive full credit.

**Please refer to this course description and talk to me if you have questions/issues/problems with our class.**