**Piano 4**

**Teacher: Ms. Lajmanovich**

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**www.hamiltonpiano.org**

Be safe-Be respectful-Be responsible -Online as In Person

**Course Description for Distanced Learning**

This is an adaptation of the regular, face-to-face course description and is subject to change as current events shape the semester and school year in 2020-2021.

Piano 4 is the intermediate level of Piano and may be entered by satisfactorily completing Piano 3 or by audition. It includes advanced intermediate literature; differentiation between the styles of music history periods; it expands on pedal, wrist and finger technique; it also includes keyboard harmony; lastly, it emphasizes better sight-reading and performance practices.

To complete this level, the student should be able to:

* Accurately execute simple and compound time signatures
* Understand ornamentation symbols and their interpretation
* Effectively contour and shade melodic lines
* Differentiate between melody and accompaniment by playing one hand or voice louder than the other or others (for example, in a Classical piece which has a RH melody and LH accompaniment)
* Recognize scales within a piece
* Recognize broken and block chords within a piece
* Recognize dominant 7th chords in all positions
* Recognize and interpret stylistic differences in music from the major musical history periods
* Play longer pieces with increasing technical skill, control, and accuracy
* Play all major and minor scales and chords in a variety of rhythms up to 3 octaves
* Understand and differentiate between Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and XX-XXI century music

**Required Materials**

* Computer with internet connection
* Loose leaf binder with lined paper and section dividers
* Pencil and eraser
* A piano to practice on

**Practicing**

Students are required to practice a minimum of one hour daily outside of class. An average of 7 hours a week practice outside of class is crucial. Piano practice should be done before school or before other homework when the student completes the school day. The mind and body are too tired to practice effectively if the student postpones practice until other homework is done.

**Assignments and Performances**

Students will no longer use a lesson book, but will be assigned individual pieces and theory pages. Class assignments may also include music appreciation and discussions.

While level 5 and up students are required to perform in a recital at Hamilton High School at least once a semester, level 4 students perform publicly by invitation only.

**Recital Attendance**

Level 4 students are required to attend (or view during distance learning) two piano recitals per semester at Hamilton High School. For each one, they may write a critique or recital review for extra credit. Guidelines can be found on our class website: www.hamiltonpiano.org

**Piano Lessons**

Although not required at level 4, it is highly recommended that the student have a weekly one-hour lesson with a private teacher. At level 5, this becomes a strong requirement. The most successful and accomplished students have a private teacher. This teacher should assign classical pieces, scales, theory and technical exercises, and should hold regular recitals and/or exams. To find a teacher who meets these standards, I recommend going online to [www.MTAC.org](http://www.MTAC.org) and clicking on “find a teacher”.

**Grading Policies**

Academic grades are based on cumulative point totals determined by performance test video submissions, class participation, written music theory assignments, tests, quizzes, daily class work, mini-lessons, extra credit, and projects.

All assignment will be explained in class and listed in Schoology, along with due dates. It is important to complete them in a timely manner. Points are deducted for late work.

**Office Hours**

Please send an email to [mlajmano@lausd.net](mailto:mlajmano@lausd.net) to schedule an appointment during school office hours listed on the Hamilton High School website.

I look forward to working with you! -Ms. Lajmanovich