

# **Jessica Olson Piano Studio**

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## **Music Theory Achievement Program**

### **Bach Level: Note Recognition**

Students will identify all lines and spaces on the treble and bass clef in one minute or less to earn this level. Students will also be asked to correctly locate these notes on the keyboard.

### **Brahms Level: Five Finger Scales**

Students will play five finger scales using the correct pattern of whole and half steps hands separately and together in all 12 major keys to earn this level.

### **Chopin Level: Rhythm**

Students will write and perform correct counting for progressively difficult short rhythm exercises to earn this level.

### **Debussy Level: Intervals**

Students will correctly identify a minimum of 15 out of 20 major and perfect intervals from unison to octave by ear and on paper to earn this level, as well as demonstrate a basic understanding of terms related to intervals.

### **Handel Level: Major Scales**

Students will perform and correctly finger all 12 major scales hands together in two octaves to earn this level. They will also be asked to demonstrate their understanding of key signatures, the major scale pattern of half and whole steps, and the circle of fifths.

### **Haydn Level: Minor Scales**

Students will play and correctly finger all 12 harmonic minor scales, hands together, to achieve this level. They will also be asked to demonstrate their understanding of melodic and natural minor scales and the relationship of minor and major key signatures.

### **Mozart Level: Musical Terms and Signs**

Students will demonstrate knowledge of commonly used musical terms and signs and complete a written examination on these terms. Students will

receive a comprehensive study guide and their own music dictionary to use during study.

### **Schubert Level: Chords**

Students will identify major, minor, perfect, diminished, and augmented intervals and chords, as well as the most common types of seventh chords to earn this level. They will also be asked to harmonize simple melodies and demonstrate a basic understanding of primary chords, inversions, chord progressions, voice leading, and cadences. The level culminates with the simple analysis of a sonatina and the performance of a lead sheet.

### **Schumann Level: Music History**

Students will prepare an informative poster or creative slide show about the periods of western music history, identifying major composers, musical styles, developments, and concurrent historic events. Students will be asked to present their completed project at a group class to earn this level. Performance of at least one piece from one of the periods of music history as part of the presentation is encouraged!

### **Beethoven Level: Recital or Composition Project**

To earn this level, students will prepare and perform a recital featuring at least one piece from each period of music history to be presented to an audience of their choosing. Memorization and professional dress will be expected.

Alternatively, students may choose to compose and present an original piece of music for a performance class to complete this level. Compositions must be at least 36 measures in length and must be computer formatted. A computer and software will be made available at the studio as needed.