



MIDDLE SCHOOL

Advanced Program

Music in the Schools



Week 1: Advanced Music Theory

- Objective: Deep dive into advanced music theory concepts, including modes, complex time signatures, and harmony.
- Activity: Analyze music pieces to identify theoretical elements.
- Interactive Element: Compose a piece incorporating a specific mode or time signature.

Week 2: Instrumental Techniques

- Objective: Enhance instrumental skills and explore advanced techniques.
- Activity: Masterclass-style sessions focusing on specific instrumental techniques.
- Interactive Element: Students practice and demonstrate an advanced technique on their instrument.

Week 3: Composition and Arrangement

- Objective: Introduction to composing and arranging music for different settings.
- Activity: Analyze and arrange a simple piece for a small ensemble.
- Interactive Element: Compose a short piece for two or more instruments.



Week 4: Music History and Influences

- Objective: Explore the history of music and the influences between different periods and genres.
- Activity: Research and present a musical period or movement.
- Interactive Element: Compose or compare a piece inspired by a historical period or movement.

Week 5: Improvisation and Jazz

- Objective: Learn the basics of improvisation, focusing on jazz.
- Activity: Practice scales and simple improvisation exercises.
- Interactive Element: Improv session where students take turns soloing over a jazz chord progression.

Week 6: Music Production

- Objective: Introduction to the basics of music production, including songwriting, recording, mixing, and mastering.
- Activity: Workshops on using DAWs for recording and editing music.
- Interactive Element: Produce and record a simple piece of music using a DAW.

Week 7: World Music

- Objective: Explore music from different cultures around the world.
- Activity: Listen to and study the characteristics of world music genres.
- Interactive Element: Group project to research and present a world music tradition, including a musical demonstration...encourage students to look into their own ancestors to explore the music of their genealogy.

Week 8: Ensemble Performance and Composition

- Objective: Apply skills in a group setting to perform and compose for an ensemble.
- Activity: Compose or arrange a piece for a small ensemble or band.
- Interactive Element: Rehearse and perform the composed or arranged piece as a group.

For both the general and advanced courses, it's crucial to adapt the content and activities to the interests and skill levels of the students.

Incorporating guest speakers, field trips to concerts or rehearsals, and utilizing technology can further enrich the learning experience. Flexibility in the modular curriculum allows for adaptations based on available resources and student interest.