

Class Piano Resource Materials

Level Preparatory
Sixth Edition

Compiled and Edited by
W. Daniel Landes



Smith Creek Music





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(Sixth Edition)

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www.smithcreekmusic.com

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Introduction

These *Class Piano Resource Materials* were compiled for use in the secondary piano program at Belmont University, Nashville, TN. Consequently, the content has been shaped to a large extent by the various degree programs at that school and in particular, the Piano Proficiency Examination. Every college/department of music has some type of piano proficiency evaluation that music majors must pass in order to complete their degree requirements. The various parts of the proficiency examination are the basic piano skills: repertory, scales and arpeggios, chords, harmonizing melodies, improvisation, transposition, etc. Consequently, the *Class Piano Resource Materials* are designed to prepare the student to pass a piano proficiency examination. Although intended for use in college classes, the materials are broad enough to be used in any class piano setting where there is a need for a graded series of books with a broad range of musical styles.

SCOPE OF THE MATERIALS

The *Class Piano Resource Materials* are arranged in five books by level of difficulty: Preparatory Level (no prior keyboard experience is assumed), Level One, Level Two, Level Three, and Level Four. Each level is organized according to specific goals that are spelled out clearly at the beginning of the book. Theory skills are not addressed in great detail because it is assumed that secondary piano classes are required in conjunction with the various theory classes such as Fundamentals of Music, Music Theory, etc. Detailed pedagogical information is outside the scope of these *Resource Materials* because it is believed that the instructor will give the necessary explanation of keyboard technique, theory, etc. Nevertheless, all the books in the various levels are organized in a more or less increasing level of difficulty if the instructor chooses to use them in that way. In addition, a suggested assignment schedule based on a 14-week semester is included in each level to aid the instructor in preparing weekly lesson plans.

DESCRIPTION OF THE MATERIALS

In selecting the materials, specific composers and periods of music were a strong factor. Each level contains representative repertory by classical composers such as Bach and Beethoven. Some twentieth-century classical music composers such as Bartók and Schoenberg are included as well as representative pieces in various styles composed specifically for these books by the author and designated by WDL. Each level includes music in a popular style. These are not arrangements of popular tunes but are original compositions which appear here for the first time and are written in a popular style. It is hoped that the choice of repertory and other material will give the student a well-rounded musical experience and help develop keyboard and musicianship skills necessary for the professional musician.

INTEGRATION OF TECHNOLOGY

Each level (book) has accompanying interactive computer applications that have been designed as an additional resource. The applications run on Apple Macintosh computers using macOS Sierra (10.12) and higher. Versions for Windows computers, IPads, etc. may be available in the future. Detailed information regarding the implementation of the computer software is available on the website:

www.smithcreekmusic.com

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For more resources, please visit the WEBSITE at:

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Level Preparatory Weekly Assignment Schedule

Week 1: Welcome to class.

- Presentation of the course syllabus
- Introduction to the Class Piano Lab: use and expectations
- Orientation to the keyboard: posture, hand position

Week 2: Keyboard and Music Fundamentals basics

- Continuation of Class piano Lab use and expectations
- Continuation of keyboard orientation: posture, hand position
- Notes on the staff
- Notes on the keyboard
- Rhythm names and equivalents

First assignment:

- Watch any video tutorials assigned by your instructor
- Review all the Music Theory Fundamentals materials in the textbook, pp. 8 - 23
- Be prepared to take any written quizzes assigned by your instructor

Prepare these repertory selections (play them for a grade) for the next session:

- Square One, p. 23
- Square Two, p. 24
- Square Three, p. 25

Week 3: Repertory; Scales; Exercise

- *Étude No. 1*, p. 26
- *Étude No. 2*, p. 27
- D-flat major scale. See pp. 62-65.
- Exercise #1, p. 70 up one octave

Week 4: Repertory; Scales; Triads; Exercises

- *Étude No. 3*, p. 28
- *Étude No. 4*, p. 29
- G-flat major scale. See pp. 62-65.
- Primary Triads in C major: I IV V, p. 48
- Exercise #1, p. 70 up one octave

Week 5: Repertory; Scales; Triads; Exercises

- *Étude No. 5*, p. 30
- *Lightly Row*, p. 31
- B-flat minor scale. See pp. 62-66
- Primary Triads in F major: I IV V, p. 48
- Exercise #1, p. 70 up one octave

Week 6: Repertory; Scales; Triads; Harmonization; Exercises

- *Little Dance*, p. 32
- *Ode to Joy*, p. 33
- E-flat minor scale See pp. 62-66
- Primary Triads in G major: I IV V p. 48
- Study Procedures for Harmonization, pp. 50-51
- Exercise #1, p. 70 up one octave

Week 7: Repertory; Scales; Cadences; Triads; Harmonized melodies; Exercises

- *St. Flavian*, p. 34
- Review scales; D-flat major, G-flat major, B-flat minor, and E-flat minor. See pp. 62-66
- Cadence in C Major, p. 49
- Harmonize Melody #1, p. 52 (C Major)
- Review Primary Triads in C major, F major, and G major: I IV V p. 48
- Exercise #1, pp. 70-71 up and down one octave

Week 8: Repertory; Scales; Cadences; Triads; Harmonized melodies; Exercises

- *My Lord, What a Morning*, p. 35
- B major scale. See pp. 62-65
- Cadence in F Major, p. 49
- Primary Triads in A minor: i iv V p. 48
- Harmonize Melody #5, p. 52 (F Major)
- Study Introduction to Improvisation, pp. 56-57
- Exercise #1, pp. 70-71 up and down one octave

Week 9: Repertory; Scales; Cadences; Triads; Harmonized melodies; Improvise; Exercises

- *Fughetta*, p. 37
- B minor scale. See pp. 62-66
- Cadence in G Major, p. 49
- Primary Triads in D minor: i iv V p. 48
- Harmonize Melody #3, p. 52 (G Major)
- Improvise Example #1, p. 58, C major. 2 beats on each chord
- Exercise #2, p. 72 up one octave

Week 10: Repertory; Scales; Cadences; Triads; Harmonized melodies; Improvise; Sight Reading; Exercises

- *Little Etude*, p. 38
- F major Scale. See pp. 62-65
- Practice sight reading p. 59
- Review Cadences in the major keys: C major, F major, and G major, p. 49
- Primary Triads in E minor: i iv V p. 48
- Improvise Example #1, p. 58 in G major, 2 beats on each chord
- Exercise #2, p. 72 up one octave

Week 11: Repertory; Scales; Cadences; Triads; Harmonized melodies; Improvise; Sight Reading; Exercises

- *Round Dance*, p. 39
- F minor Scale. See pp. 62-66
- Practice sight reading p. 60
- Cadence in A minor, p. 49
- Review Primary Triads in the minor keys: A minor, D minor, E minor, p. 48
- Harmonize Melody #4, p. 52 (A minor)
- Improvise Example #2, p. 58 in A minor, 2 beats on each chord
- Exercise #2, pp. 72-73 up and down one octave

Week 12: Repertory; Scales; Cadences; Triads; Harmonized melodies; Improvise; Sight Reading; Exercises

- *Triads and Syncopations*, p. 42
- *Uncle Willie*, p. 43; use the SUSTAIN PEDAL
- Review all required major scales. D-flat major, G-flat major, B major, F major. See pp. 62-65.
- Practice sight reading p. 61
- Cadence in D minor, p. 49
- Review Primary Triads in C major, F major, and G major: I IV V p. 48
- Harmonize Melody #2, p. 52 (D minor)

- Do Improvisation Example #2, p. 58 (D minor), 3 beats on each chord
- Exercise #2, pp. 72-73 up AND DOWN one octave

Please READ THIS: A memorized repertory piece will be required for your final exam. Unless otherwise directed by your instructor, choose either *Tex*, p. 46 or *Debbie's First Date Ends in Disaster*, p. 47. Start working on your selection right a way: hands separately, slow tempo, etc.

Week 13: Repertory; Scales; Cadences; Triads; Harmonized melodies; Sight Reading; Exercises

- Play your final exam repertory selection, either *Tex*, p. 44 or *Debbie's First Date*, p. 45, with the music, hands together, in a steady tempo.
- Review all required minor scales. B-flat minor, E-flat minor, B minor, F minor. See pp. 62-66
- Practice sight reading, pp. 59-61
- Cadence E minor, p. 49
- Review All Primary Triads: C major, F major, G major; A minor, D minor, E minor, p. 48
- Harmonize melody # 6, p. 53 (E minor)
- Exercises #1 and #2 , pp. 70-73 up and down one octave

Week 14: Repertory; Scales; Cadences; Triads; Harmonized melodies; Improvise; Sight Reading; Exercises

- Your MEMORIZED repertory piece: either *Tex*, p. 46 or *Debbie*, p. 47
- All required major and minor scales. See pp. 62-66.
- All required Cadences, p. 49
- All required Triads, p. 48
- Harmonize melody # 8, p. 53 and melody #12, p. 54
- Improvisation Example #3 & #4, p. 58 (#3 in all major keys and #4 in all minor keys of the Cadence)
- Play any sight reading examples, pp. 59-61
- Exercise #1 and #2 , pp. 70-73 up AND DOWN one octave

Further requirements regarding assignments:

All technical material should be played **from memory** when you are playing for a grade. This includes:

- Scales
- Triads
- Cadences
- Exercises (if your instructor requires you to play these for a grade)

If you do not play this material from memory, you may not receive full credit.

Level Preparatory Weekly Assignment Chart

See a more detailed assignment schedule on pp. 86-88

WK	Scales	Repertory	Sight Reading	Cadences	Harm. Mel.	Improv.	Triads	Exercises
1	Welcome to class.	Introduction to course syllabus.	Class Piano Lab orientation and expectations.					
2	Introduction to	Music Fundamentals. Square One, 23; Square Two, 24; Square Three, 25						
3	D \flat pp. 62-65	p. 26 <i>Étudette No. 1</i> p. 27 <i>Étudette No. 2</i>						#1 p. 70 up 1 octave
4	G \flat pp. 62-65	p. 28 <i>Étudette No. 3</i> p. 29 <i>Étudette No. 4</i>					C Maj. p. 48	#1 p. 70 up 1 octave
5	B \flat minor pp. 62-66	p. 30 <i>Étudette No. 5</i> p. 31 <i>Lightly Row</i>					F Maj. p. 48	#1 p. 70 up 1 octave
6	E \flat minor pp. 62-66	p. 32 <i>Little Dance</i> p. 33 <i>Ode to Joy</i>			Study Procedures p. 50-51		G Maj. p. 48	#1 p. 70 up 1 octave
7	Review D \flat & G \flat B \flat & E \flat minor	p. 34 <i>St. Flavian</i>		C Maj. p. 49	#1 p. 52		Review C, F, G p. 48	#1 p. 70-71 all
8	B major pp. 62-65	p. 35 <i>My Lord, What..</i>		F Maj. p. 49	#5 p. 52	Intro p. 56-57	A minor p. 48	#1 p. 70-71 all
9	B minor pp. 62-66	p.37 <i>Fughetta</i>		G Maj. p. 49	#3 p. 52	#1 p. 58 C maj.	D minor p. 48	#2 p. 72 up 1 octave
10	F Major pp. 62-65	p.38 <i>Little Etude</i>	Sight read p. 59	All Majors p. 49		#1 p. 58 G maj.	E minor p. 48	#2 p. 72 up 1 octave
11	F minor pp. 62-66	p. 39 <i>Round Dance</i>	Sight read p. 60	A minor. p. 49	#4 p. 52	#2 p. 58 A min.	All minors p. 48	#2 p. 72-73 all
12	All majors pp. 62-65	p. 42 <i>Triads</i> p. 43 <i>Uncle Willie</i>	Sight read p. 61	D minor. p. 49	#2 p. 52	#2 p. 58 D min.	All majors p. 48	#2 p. 72-73 all
13	All minors pp. 62-66	p.46 <i>Tex</i> , or p.47 <i>Debbie's 1st Date</i>	Sight read pp. 59-61	E minor. p. 49	#6 p. 53		All triads p. 48	#1 p. 70 #2 p. 72
14	All scales pp. 62-66	A piece of your choice from memory*	Play examples for instructor	All Cadences p. 49	#8 p. 53 #12, p. 54	#3 & #4 p. 58	All triads p. 48	#1 p. 70 #2 p. 72

All scales, cadences, triads, and exercises should be performed from memory when playing for a grade. Failure to do so will result in a lowered grade.

*Your "piece of choice" from week 14 can either be *Tex*, p. 46 or *Debbie* p. 47. The piece you choose should be played from memory for your final exam.

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