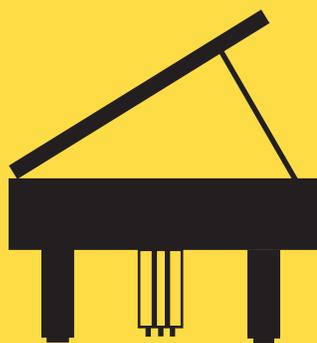


Class Piano Resource Materials

Level Four
Sixth Edition

Compiled and Edited by
W. Daniel Landes



Smith Creek Music





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Level Four
(Sixth Edition)

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Nashville, TN 37214

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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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Table of Contents

	Page
Introduction	iii
Goals for Level Four	vi
Class Notes	vii
REPERTORY	
The Primrose (Pearson)	8
Menuet in F Major (Mozart)	10
Scotch Dance (Beethoven)	11
Solfeggietto (Bach)	12
Bagatelle (Beethoven)	15
Menuet in G Major (Bach)	16
Sonatina in G Major (Clementi)	18
Tableaux No. 3: Ancient Worlds (Rebikov)	20
Prelude in C Minor (Chopin)	22
Peacherine Rag (Joplin)	23
The Belmont Boogie (Landes)	24
Sarabande (Handel)	26
To a Wild Rose (MacDowell)	28
Tableaux No. 7: All's Well that Ends Well (Rebikov)	30
Uncle Willie Rides Off into the Sunset (Landes)	32
Debbie Reflects on the Indiscretions of Her Youth (Landes)	34
FOUR-PART CHORALES, HYMNS AND PATRIOTIC SONGS	
America: My Country, 'tis of Thee (anon.)	36
Materna: America the Beautiful (Ward)	37
National Anthem: The Star-Spangled Banner (anon.)	38
Old 100th (tune by Bourgeois; arr. anon.)	40
Nicaea (Dykes)	41
Passion Chorale (Bach)	42
St. Theodulph (Teschner/Monk)	43
Azmon (Mason)	44
Canonbury (Schumann)	44
Crusader's Hymn (anon.)	45
St. Anne (Croft/Monk)	45
Hymn to Joy (Beethoven/Hodges)	46
Nun Danket Alle Gott (Crüger/Mendelssohn)	47

HARMONIZATION, IMPROVISATION, AND TRANSPOSITION

Root Positions Triads	48
Block-Chord Cadences	52
Accompaniment Patterns	56
Procedures for Harmonizing Melodies	58
Melodies for Harmonization	62
Improvisation	76
Sight Reading and Transposition I: Piano Scores	78
Sight Reading and Transposition II: Open Scores	92

SCALES, ARPEGGIOS, AND EXERCISES

Scales: Explanation of Groups and Characteristics	108
Scales in Notation Arranged by Group	110
Arpeggios	119
Scale and Arpeggio Practice log	125
Exercises	126

APPENDIXES

Appendix 1: Establishing Major and Minor Keys	140
Appendix 2: Melodic Phrases	143
Appendix 3: Melodic Cadences	144
Appendix 4: Non-Chord Tones	146
Appendix 5: Secondary Dominants	148
Appendix 6: Improvisation - Additional Material	150
Appendix 7: Steady Tempo, Subdivisions, and Counting Rhythms	158
Appendix 8: Additional Repertory: Debbie Reflects - The "Lost" Version (Landes)	160
Level Four Weekly Assignment Schedule	164
Class Notes	167
Level Four Weekly Assignment Chart	169

For more resources, please visit the WEBSITE at:

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Level Four Weekly Assignment Schedule

Week 1: Welcome to class

Presentation of the Course Syllabus

Introduction to the Class Piano Lab: use and expectations

Prepare to take a written quiz next class period on Group I, II, & III Scales (pp. 108-109), written material only.

The quiz will cover:

1. What scales are in each group?
2. What are the characteristics of the scales in each group?

You are required to take the Piano Proficiency Exam Jury at the end of this semester. If you fail the jury exam, then you will also fail the course and will have to repeat both the course and the Proficiency Exam in the next semester.

Week 2: Scales; Cadences; Establish Keys; Transposition; Sight Reading; Exercises

- Sight Reading: Practice sight reading examples, pp. 78 - 91
- Scales: Play Group 3 Major Scales, pp. 109; 117. Hands separately, 2 octaves; hands together, 1 octave.
- Cadences: Play Cadence #3, p. 54 in all the required major keys
- Establish Keys: Establish major keys on the white notes using the chord progression for Cadence #1 on p. 52.
See written out versions of Establishing Keys in Appendix 1, p. 140-142.
- Transposition: Transpose #16, p. 82 down a whole step, hands separately
- Exercises: Exercises 1 - 2, pp. 126 - 129

Week 3: Scales; Cadences; Triads; Establish Keys; Harmonization; Patriotic Song; Sight Reading; Exercises

- Sight Reading: Practice sight reading examples, pp. 78 - 91
- Scales: Play Group 3 harmonic minor Scales, pp. 109; 117-118. Hands separately 2 octaves; hands together, 1 octave.
- Cadences: Play Cadence #3, p. 54 in all the required major keys
- Triads: Play all root position major triads, pp. 48-49
- Establish Keys: Establish Minor keys on the white notes using the chord progression for Cadence #1 on p. 52.
See written out versions of Establishing Keys in Appendix 1, p. 140-142.
- Harmonization: Harmonize melody #45, p. 72 (*East Side West Side*) using the chords from Cadence No. 3, p. 54.
- Patriotic Song: Play the patriotic song, p. 36, hands separately all the way through.
- Exercises: Exercises 1 - 2, pp. 126 - 129

Week 4: Repertory; Scales; Cadences; Improvisation; Sight Reading; Exercises

- Sight Reading: Practice sight reading examples, pp. 78 - 91
- Repertory: Play your FIRST repertory piece with the music: slowly and with a steady tempo.
- Scales: Play all Group 3 Scales, pp. 109; 117-118. Hands separately 2 octaves; hands together, 1 octave.
- Cadence: Play Cadence #3, p. 54 in all the required major keys
- Improvisation: Play improvisation #5, p. 76, all required major keys. See Appendix 6, p. 150 for more detailed information including how to practice your improvisations.
- Exercises: Exercises 1 - 2, pp. 126 - 129

Week 5: Repertory; Scales; Cadences; Triads; Improvisation; Transposition; Sight Reading; Exercises

- Sight Reading: Practice sight reading examples, pp. 78 - 91
- Repertory: Play your SECOND repertory piece with the music: slowly and with a steady tempo.
- Scales: Play all Group 1 major Scales, pp. 108; 110. Hands together, 2 octaves
- Cadences: Play Cadence #3, p. 54 in all the required major keys
- Triads: Play all root position minor triads, pp. 48-49
- Improvisation: Play the melody of "Happy Birthday" in F Major and G Major, "by ear." See melody #16 p. 65.
- Transposition: Transpose # 20, p. 84 down a whole step, hands separately
- Exercises: Exercises 1 - 3, pp. 126 - 131

Week 6: Scales; Cadences; Establish Keys; Improvisation; Harmonization; Sight Reading; Exercises

- Sight Reading: Practice sight reading examples, pp. 78 - 91
- Scales: Play all Group 1 harmonic minor Scales, pp. 108; 112. Hands together, 2 octaves.
- Cadences: Play Cadence #4 in all the required major keys, p. 55
- Establish Keys: Establish Major keys on the white notes using the chord progression for Cadence #1, p. 52.
See written out versions of Establishing Keys in Appendix 1, p. 140-142.
- Improvisation: Play Improvisation #1, p. 77, in all the required major keys. See Appendix 6, p. 150 for more detailed information including how to practice your improvisations.
- Harmonization: Harmonize melody #41, p. 71 (*Auprès de ma blonde*) using the chords from Cadence #3, p. 54.
- Exercises: Exercises 1 - 3, pp. 126 - 131

Week 7: Scales; Cadences; Triads; Establish Keys; Improvisation; Patriotic Song; Sight Reading; Exercises

- Sight Reading: Practice sight reading examples, pp. 78 - 91
- Scales: Play all Group 1 Scales, pp. 108; 110-112. Hands together, 2 octaves
- Cadences: Play Cadence #4 in all the required minor keys, p. 55
- Triads: Play all root position augmented triads, pp. 48-49
- Establish Keys: Establish Minor keys on the white notes using the chord progression for Cadence #1 on p. 52.
See written out versions of Establishing Keys in Appendix 1, p. 140-142.
- Improvisation: Play "Happy Birthday" in F Maj. & G Maj. Add primary chords from Cadence No. 1, p. 52. See melody #16 p. 65.
- Patriotic Song: Play the patriotic song, p. 36, hands separately all the way through; hands together, mm. 1-6.
- Exercises: Exercises 1 - 3, pp. 126 - 131

Week 8: Scales; Cadences; Improvisation; Harmonization; Transposition; Sight Reading; Exercises

- Sight Reading: Practice sight reading examples, pp. 78 - 91
- Scales: Play all Group 2 major Scales, p. 108-109; 113. Hands separately, 2 octaves; hands together 1 octave.
- Cadences: Play Cadences #2 and #4 in all required minor keys, p. 55
- Improvisation: Improvise #2, p. 77, in all required minor keys. See Appendix 6, p. 150 for more detailed information including how to practice your improvisations
- Harmonization: Harmonize melody #47 p. 72 (*Grouse Run*) using the V7/IV chord from Cadence #4, p. 55.
- Transposition: Transpose # 38, p. 90 down a whole step, hands separately.
- Exercises: Exercises 1 - 3, pp. 126 - 131

Week 9: Repertory, Scales; Cadences; Triads; Establish Keys; Improvisation; Sight Reading; Exercises

- Sight Reading: Practice sight reading examples, pp. 78 - 91
- Repertory: Play your first repertory piece with the music: observe articulation and expression markings.
- Scales: Play all Group 2 harmonic and melodic minor Scales, p. 108-109; 115-116. Hands separately, 2 octaves; hands together 1 octave.
- Cadences: Play Cadences #2, #3, and #4 in all the required keys, pp. 53-55
- Triads: Play all root position diminished triads, pp. 48-49
- Establish Keys: Establish Major keys on the black notes using the chord progression for Cadence #1, p. 52.
See written out versions of Establishing Keys in Appendix 1, p. 140-142.
- Improvisation: Add V7/IV from Cadence #4 to "Happy Birthday" in F Maj. & G Maj. See melody #16, p. 65.
- Exercises: Exercises 1 - 3, pp. 126 - 131

Week 10: Repertory; Scales; Cadences; Improvisation; Harmonized Melodies; Patriotic Song; Sight Reading; Exercises

- Sight Reading: Practice sight reading examples, pp. 78 - 91
- Repertory: Play your second repertory piece with the music: observe articulations and expression markings.
- Scales: Play all Group 2 Scales (major, harmonic minor, melodic minor), pp. 108-109; 113-116. Hands separately and together, 2 octaves
- Cadences: Play Cadences #2, #3, and #4 in all the required keys, pp. 53-55
- Improvisation: Improvise #3, p. 77, in all required major keys. See Appendix 6, p. 150 for more detailed information including how to practice your improvisations.
- Patriotic Song: Play the patriotic song, p. 36, hands separately all the way through; hands together, mm. 1-10
- Exercises: Exercises 1 - 3, pp. 126 - 131

Week 11: Repertory; Scales; Cadences; Triads; Harmonization; Transposition; Sight Reading; Exercises

- Sight Reading: Practice sight reading examples, pp. 78 - 91
- Repertory: Play both repertory pieces with music: observe articulations and expression markings.
- Scales: Play all Group 3 Scales, pp. 109; 117-118. Hands separately and together, 2 octaves.
- Cadences: Play Cadences #2, #3, #4 in all required keys, pp. 53; 55
- Triads: Play all root position triads, pp. 48-51
- Harmonization: Harmonize melody #51, p. 73 (*Hyfrydol*) using the chords Cadence #3, p. 54.
- Transposition: Transpose # 39, p. 90 down a whole step, hands separately
- Exercises: Exercises 1 - 4, pp. 126 - 133

Week 12: Repertory; Scales; Cadences; Triads; Establish Keys; Improvisation; Harmonization; Patriotic Song; Sight Reading; Exercises

- Sight Reading: Practice sight reading examples, pp. 78 - 91
- Repertory: Play the first repertory selection from memory
- Scales: Play all required Scales, pp. 108-118. Hands together, 2 octaves.
- Cadences: Play all Cadences in all required major and minor keys
- Triads: Play all root position triads, pp. 48-51
- Establish Keys: Establish minor keys on the black notes using the chord progression for Cadence #1 on p. 52.
See written out versions of Establishing Keys in Appendix 1, p. 140-142.
- Improvisation: Play Improvisation #4, p. 77, in all the required minor keys. See Appendix 6, p. 150 for more detailed information including how to practice your improvisations.
- Harmonization: Harmonize melody #58, p. 75 (*Dolly Sods*) using the chords from Cadence #4, p. 55.
- Patriotic Song: p. 36, hands separately and together all the way through
- Exercises: Exercises 1 - 4, pp. 126 - 133

Week 13: Repertory; Scales; Cadences; Triads; Improvisation; Transposition; Patriotic Song; Sight Reading; Exercises

- Sight Reading: Practice sight reading examples, pp. 78 - 91
- Repertory: Play the second repertory selection from memory
- Scales: Play all required Scales, pp. 108-118. Hands together, 2 octaves
- Cadences: Play all Cadences in all required major and minor keys
- Triads: Play all root position triads, pp. 48-51
- Improvisation: Play "Happy Birthday" in F Major & G Major using the V7/IV chord
- Transposition: Transpose #27, p. 86 up a whole step, hands separately
- Patriotic Song: Play the Patriotic Song, p. 36, hands separately and together all the way through
- Exercises: Exercises 1 - 4, pp. 126 - 133

Week 14: Repertory; Scales; Cadences; Triads; Establish Keys; Improvisation; Harmonization; Transposition; Patriotic Song; Sight Reading; Exercises

- Sight Reading: Practice sight reading examples, pp. 78 - 91
- Repertory: Play both repertory pieces from memory
- Have all the following material prepared. Your instructor may hear any of it for this week's assignment:
 - Scales: All required Scales, pp. 108-118. Hands together, 2 octaves.
 - Cadences: All Cadence #2 (maj/min); Cadence #3 (maj); Cadence #4 (maj/min), pp. 53 - 55
 - Triads: All Triads (Maj/min/Aug/dim), pp. 48-51
 - Establish Keys: Establish all major and minor keys using the chord progression for Cadence #1 on p. 52
 - Improvisation: Practice improvising on any of the chord progressions, pp. 76 - 77. Play "Happy Birthday."
 - Harmonization: Practice harmonizing melodies from pp. 70 - 75. Be prepared to play any ONE of your choice.
 - Transposition: Practice transposing any of the examples, pp. 88-91
 - Patriotic Song: Play the Patriotic Song, p. 36, hands separately and together all the way through
 - Exercises 1 - 4, pp. 126 - 133

The Finale Exam for the course will be the Proficiency Jury Exam. Details will be announced by your instructor.

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

- Scales
- Cadences
- Root position triads
- Establish keys
- 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 Four Weekly Assignment Chart

See a more detailed assignment schedule on pp. 164-166.

WK	*Scales	Repertory	Cadences	*Estab. Keys	Improv.	Harm. Mel.	*Transp.	*Triads	Pat/Hymns	Exercises
1	Welcome to class.	Course syllabus.	Piano Lab orientation and expectations.	Quiz on Scale Groups I, II, & III, written material only,						pp. 108-109
2	Group 3 Majors		#3, p. 54, All Major keys	Major Keys White notes			#16 p. 82			1, 2, pp. 126-129
3	Group 3 Har. Min.		#3, p. 54, All Major keys	Minor Keys White notes		#45, p. 72		All Maj. pp 48-49	p. 36 Hands separately	1, 2, pp. 126-129
4	All Group 3	1st Repertory Piece with the music	#3, p. 54, All Major keys		#5, p. 76					1, 2, pp. 126-129
5	Group 1 Majors	2nd Repertory Piece with the music	#3, p. 54, All Major keys		Happy Birthday*		#20 p. 84	All Min. pp 48-49		1, 2, 3 pp. 126-131
6	Group 1 Har. Min.		#4, p. 55, All Major keys	Major Keys White notes	#1, p. 77	#41, p. 71				1, 2, 3 pp. 126-131
7	All Group 1		#4, p. 55, All Minor keys	Minor Keys White notes	Happy Birthday*			All Aug. pp . 50-51	p. 36 together meas. 1-6	1, 2, 3 pp. 126-131
8	Group 2 Majors		#2 & #4 All Minor keys		#2, p. 77	#47, p. 72	#38 p. 90			1, 2, 3 pp. 126-131
9	Group 2 Minors	1st Repertory Piece with the music	#2, #3, & #4 All required keys	Major Keys Black notes	Happy Birthday*			All Dim. pp . 50-51		1, 2, 3 pp. 126-131
10	All Group 2	2nd Repertory Piece with the music	##2, #3, & #4 All required keys		3, p. 77				p. 36 together meas. 1-10	1, 2, 3 pp. 126-131
11	All Gr. 3 again	Both Rep. Pieces with the music	#2, #3, & #4 All required keys			#51, p. 73	#39 p. 90	All Triads*		1, 2, 3, 4 pp. 126-133
12	All Scales	1st Repertory Piece from memory	All Cadences	Minor Keys Black notes	4, p. 77	#58, p. 75		All Triads*	p. 36 All	1, 2, 3, 4 pp. 126-133
13	All Scales	2nd Repertory Piece from memory	All Cadences		Happy Birthday*		#27 p. 86	All Triads*	p. 36 All	1, 2, 3, 4 pp. 126-133
14	All Scales	Both rep. pieces from memory	All Cadences	All Maj & Min Keys	Any pp. 76-77	Any pp. 70-75	Any p. 88-91	All Triads*	p. 36 All	1, 2, 3, 4 pp. 126-133

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

* Scale information can be found on pp. 108-118.

* Notated versions for **Establishing Major and Minor Keys** can be found in Appendix 1, pp. 140-142.

* Regarding the **Transposition** assignments, students are only required to play one part at a time; however, both parts should be prepared. In examples where both hands are the same an octave apart, play both hands together and not separately. Prepare each example according to the instructions listed for the individual weeks, pp. 164-166.

* A simple, original arrangement of **Happy Birthday** using the Cadence voicings in F major and G major; melody in the right hand, chords in the left hand. This is an opportunity to play a familiar melody "by ear." See melody #16, p. 65.

* Notated root position **Triads** can be found on pp. 48-51.

** Your "piece of choice" beginning in week 11 should be approved by your instructor. You should memorize this piece and play it on Week 14 for your final exam.

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