

Piano Technique I, II, III, & IV

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Course Description: Piano Technique class is a preparatory piano class, which prepares the student's piano performance skill for the music college auditions. The four general levels of Piano Technique I, II, III, & IV are based on the number of years of training at the Duke Ellington School of the Arts.

Course Standard: Students are expected to present accumulative understanding of music theory, technical fluency, refined musicality, and positive self-expression through piano performance.

Course Outline: The course follows the benchmarks outlined by the DCPS music curriculum. Students will learn technical fluency through learning scales, cadences, arpeggios, and exercise music. Students will be required to take 45 minute lessons once a week to expand their classical repertoire. At the end of each semester, the students will take a piano performance test (jury). At the jury, students must present mature musicianship and musicality through their performances. Jury requirements include five memorized pieces and designated scales, arpeggios, and cadences. Other course requirements include satisfactory performance in monthly piano repertoire classes as well as in student recitals.

Materials: Intermediate and advanced piano literature from the Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary music assigned by the technique teacher. *Piano Exercises* by Hanon and *The FJH Classical Scale Book* are required to be brought to every class. Original music should be brought in for lessons and juries (NO PHOTO – COPY).

Grading:

First and the Third Advisory: Accumulative average grade of eight lessons through the advisory (75%). Performance at the Piano Repertoire Class or Student Recital (25%).

Second and Fourth Advisory: Jury (100%).

Final Exam: Project (50%), Keyboard Theory Proficiency Test (50%).