

**Visual and Performing Arts**

**Performing Arts: Piano**

**Unit 1: Basics of Proper Playing Technique**

<b>Essential Understandings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ One must have a good foundation of proper playing technique and fundamentals to achieve a high level of performance in piano.</li> </ul>
<b>Essential Questions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ What abilities and knowledge are needed to begin playing the piano at a beginner / intermediate level?</li> </ul>
<b>Essential Knowledge</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Preparation for a quality performance includes practicing technical playing, eye and hand coordination and knowledge of basic music theory.</li> </ul>
<b>Vocabulary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <u>Terms:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ staff, notes, rhythm, key signatures, chords</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Essential Skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Demonstrate proper eye / hand coordination.</li> <li>▪ Demonstrate proper fingering and hand position.</li> <li>▪ Perform pieces of different genres with proper technique and stylistic differences.</li> </ul>
<b>Related Maine Learning Results</b>	<p><u>Music</u></p> <p>A. Creative Expression  A1.Music Difficulty  Students perform music that requires well-developed technical skills, attention to phrasing and interpretation, and the ability to perform various meters and rhythms in a variety of keys while modeling proper posture and technique alone or with others.</p> <p>B. Creation, Performance, and Expression  B1.Style/Genre  Students perform music of various styles and genres that require well-developed technical skills, attention to phrasing and interpretation and various meters and rhythms in a variety of keys, accurately applying the accumulated knowledge and skills of: proper posture and techniques, musical notation, symbols, and terminology.</p> <p>C. Creative Problem Solving  C1.Application of Creative Process  Students apply and analyze creative problem solving and creative-thinking skills to improve or vary their own work and the work of others.</p>
<b>Sample Lessons And Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Prepare several piano pieces for classroom performance</li> <li>▪ Perform several scales with proper fingering and rhythmic values</li> <li>▪ Demonstrate correct posture for performance and rehearsal</li> </ul>

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<b>Sample Classroom Assessment Methods</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Playing tests</li><li>▪ Written theory test</li><li>▪ Individual observation and critique</li></ul>
<b>Sample Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <u>Publications:</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <u>Adult All in One Course</u> – Alfred</li><li>○ Piano pieces from various composers</li></ul></li></ul>