Visual and Performing Arts Performing Arts: Advanced Piano Unit 1: Song Writing

Jim II John William	
Essential Understandings	A pianist must combine the knowledge of music theory, technique and creative expression when playing/creating an original piece.
Essential Questions	What abilities and knowledge are needed to create a composition for piano?
Essential Knowledge	 A performer has a vision and idea of how he/she wants the composition to sound. A performer has the theory knowledge to create a piece in a good format with musicality. A performer displays the proper technique as they create and perform their piece.
Vocabulary	 Terms: theme, melody, chords, rhythm
Essential Skills	 Demonstrate knowledge of music writing and form. Demonstrate proper playing technique. Perform individual piece with accuracy and emotion.
Related Maine Learning Results	Music A. Creative Expression A2.Notation and Terminology Students apply accumulated knowledge of musical notation, symbols, and terminology to perform music with greater complexity and variation including sudden dynamic contrasts. 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. C. Creative Problem Solving C1.Application of Creative Problem Solving Students apply and analyze creative problem solving and creative-thinking skills to improve or vary their own work and the work of others.
Sample Lessons And Activities	 Compose a composition by ear and perform for the class Write a melody that is memorable to an audience and play it Demonstrate correct posture for performance and rehearsal

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Sample Classroom Assessment Methods	 Assessment of the use of music theory in the written composition Individual observation and critique of the performance
Sample Resources	 Publications: Adult All in One Course Piano pieces from various composers