

Jr. High ↑ Music Class

Rachel Hoffman

Course Overview:

This course was developed to meet the interests of our Jr. High and older students. This course will cover Music Appreciation (instrumental and lyrics), Lyric Writing, Melody Writing & Stage Performance Techniques. Because there is a great deal of variety of interests in our group, this will be an overview of all concepts. Students will not master these concepts, but will be given tools that they can use to master the concepts.

Needed Supplies:

-Spiral Bound Notebook

- **Thesaurus** (Please purchase one that is set-up according to Roget [not an alphabetical dictionary style by in a flow-of-ideas style] i.e. Roget's International Thesaurus, 6e on www.bn.com for about \$15.)

- **The Complete Rhyming Dictionary** by Clement Wood (paperback – less than \$10)

Course Outline

Class Date	Text Used	Lesson
Music Appreciation: Instrumental Music		
Thurs., Sept. 2, 2010	No text needed.	-What styles of music do you enjoy? Why? -Discuss different ways to analyze and enjoy music Activity: Active Listening – Classical Genre
Thurs., Sept. 9, 2010	No text needed.	-Instrument Identification Game: ID instruments by sight, then sound. Activity: Active Listening – Jazz Genre
Thurs., Sept. 16, 2010	No text needed.	-Instrument Identification Game: ID instruments by sight, then sound. Activity: Active Listening – World Genre (Latin & Celtic)
Thurs., Sept. 23, 2010	No text needed.	-Music Instrument “Jingo” Activity: Active Listening – World Genre (Bulgarian & Indian/Sitar)

Music Appreciation/Lyric Writing		
Thurs., Sept. 30, 2010	Writing Better Lyrics by Pat Pattison – NO NEED TO PURCHASE This book is written for the adult/college level reader and we will only be using the principals used in this approach to songwriting in our classes.	What criteria do we use to determine if lyrics are good? Listen to a variety of songs with lyrics and discuss the quality of the lyrics
Thurs., Oct. 7, 2010	Purchase a spiral bound notebook for keeping a daily songwriting journal. Bring it to class this week!	Listen to a variety of songs with lyrics and listen for “sense-bound” lyrics. Activity: Object Writing
Thurs., Oct. 14, 2010	Songwriting Journal	What is a metaphor? What is a simile? Listen to songs with interesting metaphors. Discuss why metaphors make stronger songs than similes. Activity “The Metaphor Game”
Thurs., Oct. 21, 2010	Songwriting Journal	Active Listening Object Writing Metaphor Game
Thurs., Oct. 28, 2010	Songwriting Journal & a thesaurus set-up according to Roget (not an alphabetical dictionary style by in a flow-of-ideas style) i.e. Roget’s International Thesaurus, 6e on www.bn.com for about \$15. Call w/ questions!	Object Writing Metaphor Game Flow-of-ideas: How to use a thesaurus.
Thurs., Nov. 4, 2010	Songwriting Journal, Thesaurus & purchase and bring in The Complete Rhyming Dictionary by Clement Wood (\$10 or less paperback)	Object Writing Metaphor Game Rhyming – How to use the rhyming dictionary.
Thurs., Nov. 11, 2010	Songwriting Journal, Thesaurus & Rhyming Dictionary	Active Listening: Perfect Rhyme, Imperfect Rhyme
Thurs., Nov. 18, 2010	Songwriting Journal, Thesaurus & Rhyming Dictionary	Active Listening: Songwriting Worksheets: How to make and use them to collect your thoughts.
Break		
Thurs., Jan. 6, 2011	Songwriting Journal, Thesaurus & Rhyming Dictionary	Active Listening: What is a cliché? Avoiding clichés. Make a list of clichés.
Thurs., Jan. 13, 2011	Songwriting Journal, Thesaurus & Rhyming Dictionary	Active Listening: Lyrics & Form Object Writing Metaphor Game

Thurs., Jan. 20, 2011	Songwriting Journal, Thesaurus & Rhyming Dictionary	Active Listening: Lyrics & Form Object Writing Metaphor Game
Thurs., Jan. 27, 2011	Songwriting Journal, Thesaurus & Rhyming Dictionary	Active Listening: Lyrics & Form Object Writing Metaphor Game
Writing Melodies/Ear Training		
Thurs., Feb. 3, 2011	Worksheets provided by teacher.	Methods of writing songs: Usually easier to start with a melody rather than try to force a melody around written lyrics. -Staff, Clefs, Leger/Ledger Lines
Thurs., Feb. 10, 2011	Worksheets provided by teacher.	Notes: whole, half, quarter, eighth, sixteenth
Thurs., Feb. 17, 2011	Worksheets provided by teacher.	Meters/Time Signatures
Thurs., Feb. 24, 2011	Worksheets provided by teacher	Sight Reading Rhythms (as a group)
Thurs., March 3, 2011	Worksheets provided by teacher	Accidentals, Scales (Ionian/major, Dorian, Phrygian, Lydian, Mixolydian, Aeolian/minor, Locrian)
Thurs., March 10, 2011	Worksheets provided by teacher	Chord Construction - Triads
Thurs., March 17, 2011	Worksheets provided by teacher	Writing Melodies
Thurs., March 24, 2011	Worksheets provided by teacher	Writing Melodies
Thurs., March 31, 2011	Worksheets provided by teacher	Adding Chords to a Melody
Thurs., April 7, 2011	Worksheets provided by teacher	Adding Lyrics to a Melody
Stage Performance Techniques		
Thurs., April 14, 2011	No text.	Become comfortable so your audience can be comfortable. -Body Language -Eye Contact -Technique (protect your body!) -Stage Etiquette
Thurs., April 21, 2011	No text.	Aspects of performance that people don't often consider: before the show, after the show, family dynamics, etc. How artists can create boundaries for their stage career.
Thurs., April 28, 2011	Bring all texts, all songs written, etc.	Stand before the class and present your work (songs may be performed, or just show your work on an overhead and explain your work to the class.