

Dr. Christie Sowby, NCTM

SUMMER COMPETITIONS

**HOW TO GET YOUR STUDENTS TO PRACTICE
MORE DURING THE SUMMER**

PRACTICE COMPETITION

- Minutes when using the studio practice chart.
- Whenever you touch the piano.
- Break into older/younger groups if needed.

| July 2014 Practice Competition | | | | | | | Week totals in minutes |
|--------------------------------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|------------------------|
| ARE YOU READY TO ROCK?!!! | | | | | | | |
| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Week 1 Total: |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | Week 2 Total: |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | Week 3 Total: |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | Week 4-5 Total: |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

Write your time practiced in **minutes** each day. Remember to only practice on the days you eat! You might have many entries in one day. May the person who practices the most win! Also remember there is a reward for those who beat their scores from last year (personal best). Add up the total minutes for July and put it in the space below.

YOUR NAME:

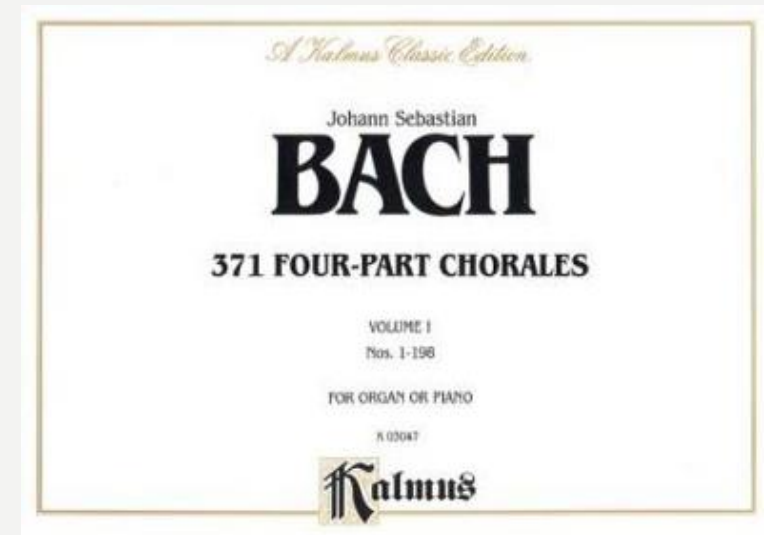
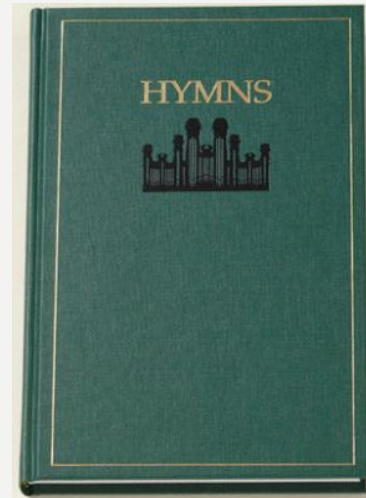
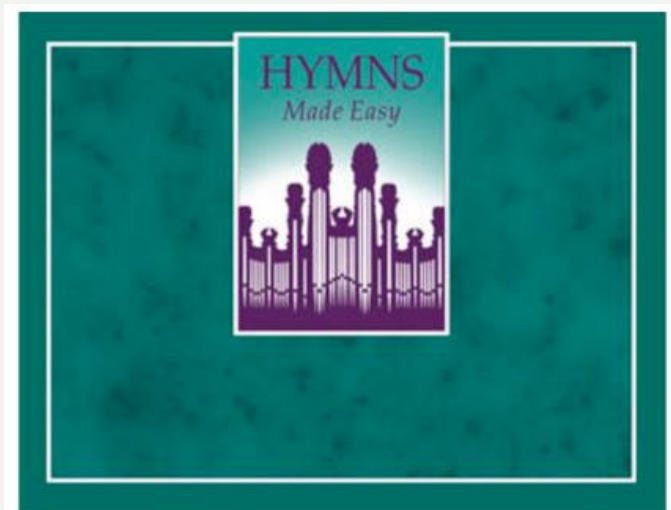
TOTAL JULY PRACTICE MINUTES:

Refer to each number below the main page to understand what is required for that number. Write in speeds under each day corresponding to each number you do so you can keep track of your progress.

| Piece: | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| 1. Perform | | | | | | |
| 2. Spot | | | | | | |
| 3. 3x Medium Tempos (HT) MM _____ MM _____ MM _____ | | | | | | |
| 4. Medium Work (HA) MM _____ MM _____ MM _____ | | | | | | |
| 5. Final Tempo (no pedals) RH _____ LH _____ HT _____ | | | | | | |
| 6. 3x Final Tempos (HT) MM _____ MM _____ MM _____ | | | | | | |
| 7. Slow Work RH _____ LH _____ HT _____ | | | | | | |
| 8. Slow Performing RH _____ LH _____ HT _____ | | | | | | |
| 9. AVTAK Memory Tests (write which number(s) you did per day) | | | | | | |

FOUR-PART HARMONY CHALLENGE

- Play all of the LDS hymns (simplified or normal).
- Play all 371 Bach Chorales.
 - When playing the harmonies, analyze, sing SATB to all verses, or say words out loud.



YOUTUBE 50–100

- Pick 50–100 videos from YouTube and students fill out answers to questions as videos are watched.

Name:

YouTube 50 July 2014
“Instruments throughout the Globe”

1. Cello: Yo-Yo Ma plays the prelude from Bach’s Cello Suite

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dZn_VBgkPNY

Why does this sound like Bach to you?

2. Cello: Story of My Life

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yET4p-r2TI8>

What did you like about this video?

3. Double Bass: Failing - A very difficult piece for solo string bass

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9P8C6-XqaNs>

What did you like more—the speaking or playing? What is distracting or did it work for you?

4. Double Bass: Paganini Caprice 24, Encore, Dominik Wagner, double bass

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0W61Mj25thg>

Who is the composer of this famous theme? It is the first word...how did he inspire Liszt?

5. Harp: River Flows In You- Lindsey Stirling

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lrF814OnFQ4>

This is my good friend playing the harp. She is also a good piano player. How do you think the harp is like the piano?

6. Harp: B. Smetana: Vltava (Moldau) - Valérie Milot, harp

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TnYCW8eWqQo>

What did you like about her presentation and performance?

7. Viola: Argerich - Bashmet - Schubert Arpeggione (viola / piano)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rSjeHGysdpM>

This is one of the most famous pieces for viola and piano. Why do you think it is?

8. Violin: Itzhak Perlman Mendelssohn Violin Concerto finale

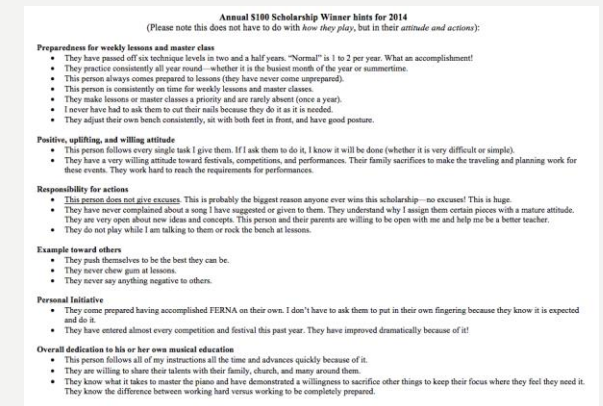
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dPgqfHYe10Q>

This is the most famous violinist in the world playing probably the most famous violin concerto ever written. Does he inspire you to be a better musician? What strikes you about this performance?

\$100 STUDIO SCHOLARSHIP



- Based on a full year of observation from the teacher. Awarded to the student who most fully demonstrates the following attributes:
 - Preparedness for weekly lessons and masterclasses.
 - Positive, uplifting, and willing attitude.
 - Responsibility for actions.
 - Example toward others.
 - Personal Initiative.
 - Overall dedication to his or her own musical education.



FASTEST TECHNIQUE

- Do it according to your studio skill level or what students need to work on the most.
 - Fastest five-finger patterns.
 - Fastest scales.
 - Fastest arpeggios.
 - Fastest octaves.
 - All of these can be hands alone or hands together.



MOST SONGS PLAYED BY EAR



MUSICAL VOCABULARY

- Test musical terms of all levels.



July 2017 Competitions

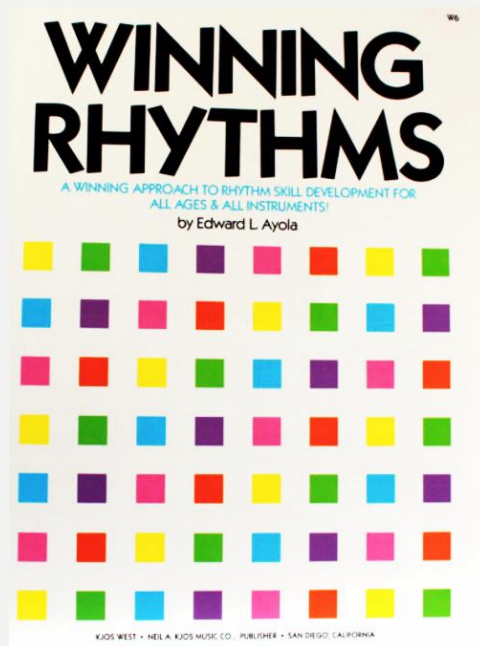
1. Musical Vocabulary

This is to test your vocabulary skills in music! As a doctoral student, I was tested on over 300, but this competition includes only 46 words—so consider this only a beginning! At the end of July, I will send the test via email and have you fill it out. It will be a fill-in-the-blank test where I give you the foreign/vocab word and you write the definition according to how you understand it. The following words and definitions are here:

- *A capella*: One or more vocalists performing without accompaniment.
- *Adagio*: Slowly.
- *Allegro*: Lively and fast.
- *Atonal*: Music that is written and performed without regard to any specific key.
- *Cadenza*: An elaborate passage featuring the skills of a performer in a concerto.
- *Cantata*: Music written for chorus and orchestra, typically religious in nature.
- *Capriccio*: A quick, spirited piece of music.
- *Chamber music*: Written for two to 10 solo parts featuring one instrument to a part. Each part bears the same importance.
- *Chromatic scale*: Includes all 12 notes of an octave.
- *Coda*: Closing section of a movement.
- *Concert master*: The first chair, first violin in an orchestra.
- *Counterpoint*: Two to three melodic lines played at the same time.
- *Da Capo*: An instruction to repeat the beginning of the piece before stopping on the final chord.
- *Drone*: A bass note held under a melody (think bagpipes or organ pedals).
- *Encore*: A piece of music played at the end of a recital or concert that responds to the enthusiastic reaction of the audience. This is shown by continuous applause.
- *Enharmonic interval*: Two notes that differ in name only. They are the same position, though. Like C-sharp and D-flat.
- *Espressivo*: Expressively.
- *Etude*: A musical composition written solely to improve technique.
- *Finale*: Movement or passage that concludes a musical work.
- *Form*: The structure of music.
- *Fugue*: A piece written for three to six voices. Each voice enters one after another.
- *Grandioso*: Grandly.
- *Grave*: Slow and serious.
- *Grazioso*: Gracefully.
- *Leitmotif*: A musical theme given to a particular idea or main character in an opera.
- *Libretto*: A book of text containing the words of an opera.
- *Maestro*: Refers to any great composer, conductor, or teacher of music.
- *Minuet*: Slow and stately dance music written in triple time.
- *Motif*: Primary theme or subject that is developed (think the beginning of Beethoven's fifth symphony).

RHYTHM BOOK

- Complete a rhythm book in July.
 - Winning Rhythms by Ayola (for beginners)
 - Jay Lawrence’s “Rhythm Reading Text” (intermediate to advanced)



SIGHT-READING BOOK COMPETITION

- Sight read books and get to the same level as grade student is in.



SIGHT-READING COMPETITION

- Minutes totaled for sight-reading.
 - I encourage Mozart, Haydn, and Beethoven Sonatas for sight-reading material.

The image displays a grid of 30 numbered musical excerpts, likely from piano sonatas, arranged in two columns. Each excerpt includes a title, a tempo marking, and a page reference. The excerpts are as follows:

| Number | Title | Tempo | Page Reference |
|--------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2. | Allegro vivace | Allegro vivace | Op. 2 No. 2, Pag. 22 |
| 3. | Allegro con brio | Allegro con brio | Op. 2 No. 3, Pag. 43 |
| 4. | Molto Allegro e con brio | Molto Allegro e con brio | Op. 7, Pag. 73 |
| 5. | Molto Allegro e con brio | Molto Allegro e con brio | Op. 10 No. 1, Pag. 90 |
| 6. | Allegro | Allegro | Op. 10 No. 2, Pag. 102 |
| 7. | Presto | Presto | Op. 10 No. 3, Pag. 124 |
| 8. | Grave | Grave | Op. 11 (Pathétique) Pag. 146 |
| 9. | Allegro | Allegro | Op. 14 No. 1, Pag. 164 |
| 10. | Allegro | Allegro | Op. 14 No. 2, Pag. 172 |
| 11. | Allegro con brio | Allegro con brio | Op. 21, Pag. 193 |
| 12. | Andante con Variazioni | Andante con Variazioni | Op. 26, Pag. 210 |
| 13. | Andante | Andante | Op. 27 No. 1, Pag. 224 |
| 17. | Largo | Largo | Op. 41 No. 2, Pag. 29 |
| 18. | Allegro | Allegro | Op. 51 No. 1, Pag. 56 |
| 19. | Andante | Andante | Op. 40 No. 1, Pag. 71 |
| 20. | Allegro, ma non troppo | Allegro, ma non troppo | Op. 49 No. 2, Pag. 93 |
| 21. | Allegro con brio | Allegro con brio | Op. 51, Pag. 64 |
| 22. | Tempo di Minuetto | Tempo di Minuetto | Op. 54, Pag. 121 |
| 23. | Allegro assai | Allegro assai | Op. 57 (Anthem), Pag. 133 |
| 24. | Adagio sostabile | Adagio sostabile | Op. 58, Pag. 141 |
| 25. | Presto alla tedesca | Presto alla tedesca | Op. 59, Pag. 172 |
| 26. | Adagio | Adagio | Op. 61, Pag. 188 |
| 27. | Mit Lebhaftigkeit | Mit Lebhaftigkeit | Op. 60, Pag. 204 |
| 28. | Allegretto, ma non troppo | Allegretto, ma non troppo | Op. 101, Pag. 211 |
| 29. | Allegro | Allegro | Op. 100 (Hammerklavier), Pag. 229 |
| 30. | Vivace, ma non troppo | Vivace, ma non troppo | Op. 101, Pag. 225 |

FLASHCARDS UNDER 60 SECONDS

- Helps beginners win a competition the first year.
 - Use technology or good-ol' paper flashcards.



LEARN AN ENTIRE CONCERTO MOVEMENT IN JULY

- Learn entire concerto movement in one month.



METRONOME MASTER

- Tap 10 different metronome markings accurately without use of the metronome.
 - Use pop songs because they never change tempo.



mm. 80

- *We Will Rock You* by Queen
- *Beauty and the Beast* ("Tale as Old as Time", the Disney cartoon version)
- *Fireflies* by Owl City

mm. 84

- *Crush* by David Archuleta

mm. 100

- *Under the Sea* (Disney cartoon version of the Little Mermaid)
- *She Will Be Loved* by Maroon 5

mm. 104

- *Stavin' Alive* by the Bee Gees
- *Last Christmas* by WHAM
- *It's Time* by Imagine Dragons

mm. 108

- *Dancing Queen* by Abba

mm. 112

- *Over My Head* by the Fray

mm. 116

- *Love Story* by Taylor Swift

mm. 120

- *Sugar* by Maroon 5

THANK YOU!