



JOURNEY TO MUSICAL MASTERY

Many people ask what they can expect from their journey to musical mastery at the Centre for Musical Minds. With “mastery” in mind, here is an outline of expectations from CMM during your tenure with us:

YEARS 1-2: BEGINNER LEVEL

Foundation-building happens here. Each student learns approximately 30-40 pieces throughout the year, and participates in 2-3 recitals and possibly an adjudicated event. Students finish 1 theory/activity book per year on average. Practice expectation is 10-20 minutes per day, 5-6 days per week. Student music requests are encouraged.

YEARS 3-4: LATE BEGINNER LEVEL

Continued foundation-building and more creativity start to happen in these two years. Each student learns approximately 20-30 longer and more challenging pieces throughout the year, and participates in 3-4 recitals and possibly an adjudicated event. Students begin writing their own music and improvising with popular music. Practice expectation is 20-30 minutes per day, 5-6 days per week. Student music requests are encouraged.

YEARS 4-6: EARLY INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

This is when students really start to flourish! Students have a solid skill set that includes literacy, technique, improvising, composing, and performing. They have 20+ performance experiences under their belts around this time! More student input is encouraged during this time and requests are encouraged. Practice expectation is 30-45 minutes per day, 5-6 days per week.

YEARS 6-8: LATE INTERMEDIATE/EARLY ADVANCED LEVEL

Students who stay in lessons for this long have a skill set that sets them up for the rest of their lives. There is a level of mastery achieved which allows for incredible freedom to learn whatever one might want. Classical, jazz, or otherwise. Student music requests are expected. At this stage, students may need to make choices about how to spend their time. Hobby students are encouraged to practice 20-30 minutes 4-5 days per week. For more serious students, the practice expectation is 45-60 minutes per day, 5-6 days per week.

YEARS 8+: ADVANCED LEVEL

This level of playing is equivalent to a college music major or someone who takes their music study very seriously. At CMM, our students arrange, compose and improvise music at a higher level than required for any classical music degree in this country. Hobby students are encouraged to practice for 30-40 minutes 4-5 days per week. For more serious students, the practice expectation is a minimum of 60 minutes per day, 5-6 days per week.