

Charles J. Colgan, Sr. High School
“Preparing and Inspiring Students for their Future”

CENTER FOR FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS (CFPA) PIANO
2020-2021 Course Syllabus

Dr. Mary-Hannah Klontz, Instructor
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Office Hours by appointment

Course Description: Students will be taught advanced techniques and concepts related to piano. Course content includes reinforced piano fundamentals, music reading, improvisation, harmonization, music theory, music appreciation, composition, and recital performance. As part of this advanced course, students will be expected to practice piano on a daily basis. There will be one formal performance (recital) each semester as part of the course grade. This class fulfills one piano course requirement for the CFPA Piano program.

Recitals: Recital dates are October 14th and April 5th at 6:30 and 8 pm. Please visit www.colganpiano.org/cfpa-piano for updated information on recital performance format. Students will perform on the Steinway grand piano on the Colgan Auditorium stage.

Class Materials: The teacher will provide required texts and learning materials. In addition, students may include current repertoire and studies they may be working on with a private teacher. Students will use a Privia weighted key digital piano during class time.

Grading/Missed Work: Grades are reflective of a student’s level of mastery of an objective. Students will be given multiple opportunities to master objectives. Teachers will follow the Prince William County guidelines for grading for high school instruction (PWCS 661-3). Although grades will be weighted to show importance, no single grade will count more than 20% of the marking period grade. The final exam accounts for 10% of the final grade. Grades are determined by the following which may be gathered synchronously or asynchronously:

- 80% Summative Assessments: e.g. recitals, unit tests which may include on-line assessments, written submissions, and/or oral presentation
- 20% Formative Assessments: e.g. homework, classwork, daily checks

Relearning Process/Retake Procedures: All students will have the opportunity to reassess their level of mastery. Prior to a reassessment (which includes, but is not limited to a retake, spiraled assessment, or cumulative assessment) teachers may require students to reflect on previous practice or demonstrate additional preparation on the knowledge or skill. In order to reassess, students must have completed all assignments leading up to that assessment. Students are given opportunities to retake summative assessments for any grade below B- throughout the marking period if preparatory work has been

completed. Students can retake for up to 100% credit. No retakes are allowed in the last week of a marking period. Students should remember that piano skills are strengthened through consistent practice. It is not possible to “cram” for a piano exam or performance.

Academic Violations: Academic violations consist of any student action that, through misrepresentation or other means, compromises the integrity of the learning process for one or more students. Academic violations are considered behavioral issues and could result in disciplinary action from the student’s administrator. Additionally, the student will not receive credit for the work in question and will be required to resubmit the assignment or an equivalent assignment. The teacher may place a zero or NHI in the gradebook as a placeholder until the assignment has been completed.

Contact Information:

Students: If you have questions about classwork, homework, tests, etc. the fastest way to reach me is by emailing Klontzm@pwcs.edu . Please be sure to check Canvas regularly as most of the answers to your questions can be found there.

Parents: The best way to contact your child’s teacher is via the email address listed above. Please email to schedule appointments. All course information can be found in Canvas. Please check ParentVUE regularly to view your student’s current grade.

Office Hours: The teacher will be available via Zoom or in person for office hours. If needed, students can arrange in advance to work with their teacher to address questions or to complete make-up work. Parents should contact their child’s teacher via email to request a meeting/conference.

Additional Information: Throughout the year, the instructor may provide additional opportunities to students based on their individual interests and abilities. These may include performance opportunities, clubs and extracurricular, cross-department collaborations, etc. If you or your child are interested in these types of activities, please contact your instructor.

Masterclasses and Studio classes: Although not a requirement of the **course**, attendance at masterclasses and studio classes is a requirement of being in the **CFPA Piano program**. These classes will generally take place on designated Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:30-3:15, with some classes arranged on different days and times.

ColganPiano.org will host our course syllabus and dates for optional opportunities like masterclasses and concerts.