

PIANO PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS

NASM requirements dictate that all music majors must acquire keyboard competency through the piano proficiency examination. Students **MUST** complete this exam before the end of their sophomore year. Failing to do so will result in the inability to enroll in future music courses.

Students may take this exam throughout their freshman and sophomore years by signing up on a weekly spreadsheet.

Those students unable to complete the exam during the first week of their freshman year will be enrolled in the year-long Piano Class I and II.

Each area of the exam must be performed accurately. Students will not be allowed to practice during the exam.

Below are the required components of the proficiency exam.

HARMONIZED MELODY EXAMPLES

- Harmonize these melodies using I, IV, and V (V7) chords
- Please do not write in the chords

The image displays three musical staves in 4/4 time, each with a treble clef and a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The first staff is marked 'Fast' and 'America' and begins with a first fingering '1' and a dynamic marking 'mf'. The second staff has a dynamic marking 'mp'. The third staff has dynamic markings 'f', 'mf', and 'mp' and includes first and second fingerings '1' and '2'.

With bounce Pomerania

f

3 2

This musical score is for the piece 'Pomerania'. It is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The tempo/mood is 'With bounce'. The first staff begins with a dynamic marking of *f* and features a triplet of eighth notes. The second staff continues the melody with a slur over a group of notes and another triplet of eighth notes.

Moderato Italy

f

5 3

This musical score is for the piece 'Italy'. It is written in 8/8 time with a key signature of three flats. The tempo is 'Moderato'. The first staff starts with a dynamic marking of *f* and contains a slur over a long phrase, with a '5' above the first note. The second staff continues with a triplet of eighth notes and a slur over the final notes.

Allegretto England

mf

4 5

This musical score is for the piece 'England'. It is written in 2/4 time with a key signature of three flats. The tempo is 'Allegretto'. The first staff begins with a dynamic marking of *mf* and features a slur over a group of notes with a '4' above the first note. The second staff continues the melody with a slur over a group of notes and a '5' above the first note.

TRANSPPOSITION

Transpose the following example to the following major keys: G-flat, B, B-flat, A-flat, D-flat, E-flat

Michael, Row the Boat Ashore

(Chords in LH)

5-25 (67) United States

Andante F B \flat

1. *mf*

1 2 4 2 4

1 5 1 5

5 C7

5

CHORD PATTERNS

- Perform the following chord progressions in ALL 12 MAJOR AND MINOR KEYS
- Metronome tempo of Quarter note = 60
- Perfection expected first time

Tempo: Quarter note=60

In major:

Piano

The musical notation for the major exercise is as follows:
Measure 1: C major (C-E-G), F major (F-A-C), G major (G-B-D), C major (C-E-G)
Measure 2: C major (C-E-G), F major (F-A-C)
Measure 3: C major (C-E-G)

In minor:

The musical notation for the minor exercise is as follows:
Measure 1: F major (F-A-C), B-flat major (B-flat-D-F), C major (C-E-G), F major (F-A-C)
Measure 2: F major (F-A-C), B-flat major (B-flat-D-F)
Measure 3: F major (F-A-C)

MEMORY

- Perform from memory Happy Birthday in the key of F – melody with LH harmony

IMPROVISATION

- Below is a chord progression to which you will improvise a melody
- Give each chord 3 beats in 6/8 time
- Your improvised melody should be simple and creative
- Play the improvisation in the following MINOR keys: a minor, d minor, g minor

Here is the chord progression: | I V7 | i i | iv V7 | iv iv | V7 V7 | i V7 | i i |

REPERTOIRE

- Intermediate level (Clementi sonatas, Kuhlau sonatas, Burgmüller)
- Must be approved by a professor

SCALES AND ARPEGGIOS

- All MAJOR AND HARMONIC MINOR scales performed without mistakes in notes or in fingering
 - o 2 octaves, hands separately
- All MAJOR AND MINOR arpeggios performed without mistakes in notes or in fingering
 - o 2 octaves, hands separately

PERFORMANCE OF THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER

- Perform the following arrangement without hesitation or mistakes

The Star Spangled Banner

The image shows a musical score for 'The Star Spangled Banner' in G major, 3/4 time. It consists of five systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'Oh say, can you see, By the dawn's ear - ly light, What so proud - ly we hailed at the twi - light's last gleam - ing? Whose broad stripes and bright stars, Through the per - i - lous fight, O'er the ram - parts we watched, were so gal - lant - ly'. The piano accompaniment includes various fingering numbers (1-5) and articulation marks like 'p' (piano) and 'f' (forte). The score is written on a grand staff with a treble and bass clef.

Oh say, can you see, By the dawn's ear - ly
light, What so proud - ly we hailed at the
twi - light's last gleam - ing? Whose broad stripes and bright
stars, Through the per - i - lous fight, O'er the
ram - parts we watched, were so gal - lant - ly

stream - ing! And the rock - ets red glare. The bombs

burst - ing in air; Gave proof through the

night that our flag was still there. Oh —

say does that star spang - led ban - ner — yet — wave — O'er the

land — of the free And the home of the brave.