AP Music Theory Summer Assignment

AP Music Theory Parents and Students,

You are receiving this packet because your son/daughter is enrolled in AP Music Theory for next school year. Please take the time to read all of the information below so that you understand the demands of the course. After you have read this, please send me an email to acknowledge that you have received the information - mwilson@colliervilleschools.org. This is the first assignment in the summer work. Please feel free to contact me by email at any time during the summer if you have any questions or problems. Students will be expected to take a diagnostic test on the first day of class. Please use the summer work to help you to prepare.

The Course:
Advanced Placement courses are presented on a college level using college level text books. AP Music Theory runs like the first level of college music theory, and develops both theoretical and aural skills. In May all students enrolled in the AP Music Theory class will be taking the AP Music Theory test. There will be an AP fee announced.

Summer Assignment:
Most AP courses have a summer assignment which will help to prepare students for the coursework that is ahead. For AP Music Theory, students need a strong understand of music theory fundamentals so that we will be able to move on quickly to analysis and other topics. All of the students taking AP Music Theory have a musical background, and some of this material may feel like review. Please use this review to your advantage. The summer assignment will help to prepare you for a successful experience in AP Music Theory.

The summer assignment will have two parts to it.

1- I have attached a written assignment which should be completed and brought with you on the first day of class. This study guide will be your first graded assignment. This assignment is based on the website http://john.steffa.net/IntroToTheory/introduction/ChapterIndex.html Students will need Internet access to complete this assignment. If you don’t have internet access at home, students will need to go to the public library or another location where they can have access. The material in the packet is explained on the website, but you can also check other music theory websites for additional clarification. There are several excellent, free websites that will help with this review material. You need to have a strong understanding of the material in this packet.

2- The second part of the summer work is to practice ear training. The website teoria.com is a great (free) place to work on this. Students should work on the ear training practice and report times in the google docs document which I will share with you after you send me an email address. Students are in very different places in their understanding and abilities for ear training, so the assignment will match to the students’ abilities. All students should begin with major and perfect intervals, and will then be instructed to move on once they are consistently scoring well on these exercises. Students should plan to spend 15 minutes 3-4 times each week on these exercises throughout the summer. The website teoria.com has exercises for ear training. Please begin with “Intervals Ear Training.” There are also smart phone apps (including free ones) which are similar. I like the Perfect Ear App on my phone. These make ear training like a game! One most of these apps and websites, the difficulty can be customized for the students.
First Day Quiz:
There will be a first day quiz on the material in this packet. Plan ahead to work through the material. Do try to “cram” for this. It won’t work. All material on the quiz will be from the topics that are covered in the summer packet.

Please get started right away. Don’t try to wait until the day before school starts to do this packet. There’s a lot of information in here. Please contact me with any questions. Also, please send me an email acknowledging that you’ve read this letter and know what is expected.

Thank you,

Michael Wilson
Collierville High School
mwilson@colliervilleschools.org
AP Music Theory Summer Assignment

Concepts Covered:
- Identify notes in treble, bass, alto, and tenor clefs
- Identify rhythmic symbols and their values
- Demonstrate understanding of meter signatures
- Demonstrate understanding of rhythmic notation and organization
- Notate and identify major scales
- Notate and identify all three forms of the minor scales
- Identify major and minor key signatures
- Identify triad qualities, major, minor, augmented, and diminished

Summer Assignment Website:
http://john.steffa.net/IntroToTheory/introduction/ChapterIndex.html

Your summer assignment is based on John Steffa’s Music Theory Site. It was designed as an online course but you will use the site for instruction and practice questions at the end of each chapter. Even if you find yourself in a chapter that you already know, I would caution you against skipping to the practice questions. There may be one little fact or term that you didn’t already know. Please use the opportunity to review even material that you already know.

The following website chapters are included in your Summer Assignment packet:

Ch. 1 – Musical Symbols – Read chapter, answer pg.11-12 questions on your summer assignment.
Ch. 2 – Note and Rest Values – Read chapter, answer pg.9-10 questions.
Ch. 3 – Rhythm – Read chapter, answer pg.6-11 questions. (skip the counting system {te, le, la, etc.} on pg.3)
Ch. 4 – Meter Signatures – Read chapter, answer pg.12-19. (skip the counting system on pg.4-5)
Ch. 7 – Major Scales – Read chapter, answer pg.7-19 questions.
Ch. 8 – Minor Scales – Read chapter, answer pg.11-12 questions.
Ch. 9 – Key Signatures – Read chapter, answer pg.13-15 questions.
Ch. 10 – Triads – Read chapter, answer pg.8-9 questions.

Additional Resources:
MusicTheory.net This site has Flash-based lessons for note reading, rhythms, key signatures, scales, triads, and more. You can also find Trainers (practice questions) on these topics. You can set your topic and then click on the settings button for that trainer. In the Note Trainer, for instance, you can choose which clef you want to practice. If you need help figuring out a practice question, click on Toggle Helpers for guides. This is a great way to build up your speed reading notes and key signatures!

Teoria.com This great website is similar to MusicTheory.net but contains more exercises in a bit different format. Teoria also has a lot of ear training exercises which you should definitely look at (interval recognition, chord sounds, etc). You can also customize exercises by selecting specific types of chords/intervals/notes/key sig/etc. We will be doing a lot of ear training in AP Music Theory, use this as some practice beforehand.

EasyMusicTheory.com More free online lessons on some basic concepts.

Please feel free to contact me if you need assistance or further explanation. This looks like a big packet, but much of it will go quickly. You might already know some of it from the classes and/or lessons you have had. Don’t let this intimidate you – use this as an opportunity to prepare yourself for a successful year and a lot of growth as a musician!

Remember: You MUST bring your completed summer assignment the first day of class!
AP MUSIC THEORY SUMMER ASSIGNMENT
Adapted from http://john.steffa.net/IntroToTheory/introduction/ChapterIndex.html

Chapter 1 – Musical Symbols

Page 11
1. From the list below, select another name for the F CLEF. ________________________________

2. What are the names of the four spaces found on the TREBLE CLEF? _________________________

3. What are the names of the five lines found on the ALTO CLEF? _____________________________

4. As your hand moves to the right on the piano keyboard, do the pitches go up or down?

5. Which of the following is a BASS CLEF? (circle) 1 2 3

6. What are the names of the five lines found on the BASS CLEF? ______________________________

7. Which of the following is the G CLEF? (circle) 1 2 3

8. Which of the following is a METER SIGNATURE? (circle) 1 2 3

9. Which of the following is a KEY SIGNATURE? (circle) 1 2 3

10. Which of the following represents the lines and spaces for the TREBLE CLEF? _______________

Page 12
1. The smallest interval in the Western European tradition of music is ____________________________

2. What three symbols are placed at the beginning of music? ________________________________

3. What are rhythmic units in music called? ________________________________

4. How far does a double flat lower a note? ________________________________

5. Where is Middle C found on the piano? ________________________________

6. How many lines and spaces are found on a staff? ________________________________

7. Which two clefs are typically found on a grand staff? ________________________________

8. The purpose of ledger lines is to allow notes to be written ________________________________

9. What are rhythmic units separated by in musical notation? ________________________________

10. A diatonic half step is best defined as: ________________________________

Chapter 2 – Note and Rest Values

Page 9
1. Written notes can represent: ________________________________

2. Which of the following numbers points to the note head? (circle) 1 2 3

3. Notes are usually beamed together into the same what? ________________________________

4. Which of the following is a sixteenth note? (circle) 1 2 3

5. Which of the following is an eighth rest? (circle) 1 2 3

6. Which of the following groups of notes equals a half note? (circle) 1 2 3

7. Which of the following groups of notes equals a quarter note? (circle) 1 2 3

8. Which of the following groups of notes equals an eighth note? (circle) 1 2 3

9. Which of the following groups of notes and rests equals a quarter note? (circle) 1 2 3

10. Which of the following groups of tied notes equals a dotted half note? (circle) 1 2 3
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Page 10
1. Which of the following equations is correct? (circle) 1 2 3
2. Which of the following equations is correct? (circle) 1 2 3
3. Which of the following equations is correct? (circle) 1 2 3
4. Select the natural division of a dotted quarter note. (circle) 1 2 3
5. Select the natural subdivision of a dotted quarter note. (circle) 1 2 3
6. Select the natural division of a dotted half note. (circle) 1 2 3
7. Select the natural subdivision of a dotted half note. (circle) 1 2 3
8. What does allegro mean? (circle) 1 2 3
9. Andante is a musical term meaning what? (circle) 1 2 3
10. The Italian term, quasi, means what in English? (circle) 1 2 3

Chapter 3 – Rhythm (Skip the counting system on page 3.)
Page 6
1. The organization of patterns of duration in music is what musical element. ____________________________
2. The basic rhythmic pulse in music is referred to as what? ____________________________
3. Which of the following suggests duple meter? ____________________________
4. Which of the following suggests compound triple meter? ____________________________
5. How many beats are in a measure of compound quintuple meter? ____________________________
6. With compound quadruple meter, the term "compound" refers to ____________________________
7. Which of the following is an example of simple meter? ____________________________
8. Which of the following is an example of compound meter? ____________________________
9. Which of the following is an example of quadruple meter? ____________________________
10. Which of the following represents borrowed division in compound time? (circle) 1 2 3

Page 7 (circle) 1 2 3
Page 8 (circle) 1 2 3
Page 9 (circle) 1 2 3

Chapter 4 – Meter Signatures (Skip the counting system, pp. 4-5) Page 12
1. What is another name for meter signature? ____________________________
2. In which of the following meters is there 3 beats per measure? (circle) 1 2 3
3. In which of the following meters does the beat naturally divide into 2 parts? (circle) 1 2 3
4. In which of the following meters does the beat naturally divide into 3 parts? (circle) 1 2 3
5. Which of the following meters is an example of compound duple? (circle) 1 2 3
6. Which note represents the beat in 6/8 meter? (circle) 1 2 3
7. Which note represents the beat in 9/8 meter? (circle) 1 2 3
8. In compound meter, if the division is a quarter, what note equals a beat? (circle) 1 2 3
9. Which of the following is the symbol for alla breve? (circle) 1 2 3
10. Alla breve is similar to which meter signature? (circle) 1 2 3
Page 13
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1. Which of the examples below is the same rhythm as the one on the right? (circle) 1 2 3
2. Which of the examples below is the same rhythm as this one? (circle) 1 2 3
3. Which of the examples below is the same rhythm as this one? (circle) 1 2 3
4. Which of the examples below is the same rhythm as this one? (circle) 1 2 3
5. Which of the examples below is the same rhythm as this one? (circle) 1 2 3

Page 14 (circle) 1 2 3
Page 15 (circle) 1 2 3
Page 16 (circle) 1 2 3
Page 17 (circle) 1 2 3

Chapter 7 - Major Scales

Page 7
1. Which church mode contains the same whole/half-step pattern as the Major scale? _______________
2. Between what scale degrees do half-steps occur in a Major scale? _______________
3. What is the pattern of whole-steps and half-steps for a Major scale? _______________
4. Where do natural half-steps occur? _______________
5. Which of the following examples is a Major scale? (circle) 1 2 3
6. Which of the following examples is a Major scale? (circle) 1 2 3
7. Which of the following examples is a Major scale? (circle) 1 2 3
8. If the upper tetrachord contains E, F#, G#, A, what is the Major scale? _______________
9. If the lower tetrachord contains D, E, F#, G, what is the Major scale? _______________
10. If the upper tetrachord contains C, D, E, F, what is the Major scale? _______________

Page 8 (circle) 1. 2. 3.
Page 9 (circle) 1. 2. 3.
Page 10 (circle) 1. 2. 3.
Page 11 (circle) 1. 2. 3.
Page 12 (circle) 1. 2. 3.
Page 13 (circle) 1. 2. 3.
Page 14 (circle) 1. 2. 3.
Page 15 (circle) 1. 2. 3.
Page 16 (circle) 1. 2. 3.
Page 17 (circle) 1. 2. 3.
Page 18 (circle) 1. 2. 3.
Page 19 (circle) 1. 2. 3.

Chapter 8 - Minor Scales

Page 11
1. What are the three types of minor scales? ______________________________
2. The aeolian mode is the same as which form of minor? ______________________________
3. Which tetrachord is the same with all 3 forms of minor? ______________________________
4. Which of the following patterns applies to natural minor? ______________________________
5. Which of the following patterns applies to harmonic minor? ______________________________
6. Which of the following patterns applies to melodic minor?

7. In c natural minor, which pitch is altered to create c harmonic minor?

8. In f-sharp natural minor, which pitch is altered to create f-sharp harmonic minor?

9. In which form of minor is the descending scale different from the ascending scale?

10. In melodic minor, which scale degrees are altered from the natural minor version?

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**Page 12**

1. __________________

2. __________________

3. __________________

4. __________________

5. __________________

6. __________________

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**Chapter 9 – Key Signatures** (don’t do pages 16-26)

**Page 13**

1. What is the order of sharps in a key signature?

2. ________________

3. ________________

4. ________________

5. ________________

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What is the key name for the following MAJOR key signatures?

6. ________________

7. ________________

8. ________________

9. ________________

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What is the key name for the following MINOR key signatures?

6. ________________

7. ________________

8. ________________

9. ________________

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**Page 14**

What is the key signature:

1. For F-sharp Major. (circle) 1 2 3

2. For B-flat Major? (circle) 1 2 3

3. For e minor? (circle) 1 2 3

4. For C-sharp Major? (circle) 1 2 3

5. For C-flat Major? (circle) 1 2 3

6. For f-sharp minor? (circle) 1 2 3

7. For b-flat minor? (circle) 1 2 3

8. For A Major? (circle) 1 2 3

9. For A-flat Major? (circle) 1 2 3

10. For f minor? (circle) 1 2 3.
Page 15

1. ______________________  
6. ______________________
2. ______________________  
7. ______________________
3. ______________________  
8. ______________________
4. ______________________  
9. ______________________
5. ______________________  
10. ____________________

Chapter 10 – Triads

Page 8: Name the quality of these triads.

1. ______________________  
6. ______________________
2. ______________________  
7. ______________________
3. ______________________  
8. ______________________
4. ______________________  
9. ______________________
5. ______________________  
10. ____________________

Page 9: Name the root and quality of these triads.

11. ______________________  
16. ______________________
12. ______________________  
17. ______________________
13. ______________________  
18. ______________________
14. ______________________  
19. ______________________
15. ______________________  
20. ______________________