



Teaching Arrangements

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Foundation

The Arrangements Program is one of the SM streams. It is unique in that the supporting Teacher and Student Home Materials (SHM) are limited and don't include videos for either teacher or student.

Teachers learn to teach the pieces by sitting at the piano while listening to Neil share the strategies and tools for learning each piece.

Students learn by having their teacher show them the tools and strategies during lessons.

Purpose

- Develops pieces further
- Expands the repertoire
- Builds musical memory
- Employs learning tools and strategies
- Strongly supports the Reading Program
- Builds confidence
- Great for students moving quickly

Challenges

- Discerning which pieces to present to which students
- Knowing when to present the pieces
- Discerning the appropriate dose
- Managing the requirements (especially no note taking - for students and for parents)
- Completing pieces
- Keeping pieces alive

Pitfalls

- Starting a piece but forgetting/running out of time to keep working on it
- Not completing the piece
- Putting pieces in a different area of the Playlist
- Overdosing students
- Teaching in order (as presented in the materials)
- Trying to complete all of the Arrangements in a certain time frame
- Not addressing note taking

Conversations

Prepare students & parents:

- No notes by design
- Small amounts each week until piece is learned
- Goes on the playlist - not in a separate category
- Challenging
- Huge benefits including thinking, recall, linking the learning tools and strategies, aiding in processing and memorizing written music
- Practice after the lesson and daily
- To Adults (students and parents): I believe you can learn this without any written notes. Address concerns and take it very slowly as needed
- Ask: How will you remember this?
- Not taught in order (only you will know this - it only comes up if you have family members in different groups)

What, When, How

- Develop a strategy to personally learn arrangements
- Note your own experience with learning to develop an understanding of how a student might feel/learn/relate
- Teach variations first
- Consider your audience: Groups (duets), Private
- Map out how and when you might present them
- Consider using Arrangements 3 as reading projects