

Setting A Curriculum

What do You want Your Students to Know and be Able to Do?

1st year

Good posture, embouchure, hand position
 Good basic tone
 Concept of making tones “fit together”
 Awareness of balance (melody vs. accompaniment),
 Steady pulse
 Correct use of tongue
 Slurring
 Phrasing: hold notes full value
 Awareness of the role of the teacher/director
 Teachable attitude
 Good classroom procedure
 Respect/empathy for other students in class

More specifically:

Long tones - 8 counts
 1st col. lip slurs (arp)
 Range: (attached)
 Concert Bb, Ab, F major scales
 Meters: 4/4, 2/4, (3/4)
 Rhythms: whole, dotted half, half, quarter and corresponding rests
 (percussion: eighths)
 Method Book - Book 1 as appropriate to skills listed above
 2 performances

2nd year

Review
 (everything from 1st year)
 Blended tone
 Beginning awareness of pitch matching
 2 possibly 4 measure phrases
 Dynamics (mf – f)
 Styles of articulation (legato, staccato)

More specifically:

Long Tones: 12 – 16 counts
 Range: (attached)
 Concert Bb, Ab, F, C scales, perform and write
 2nd col lip slurs (arp)
 Introduction of # patterns
 Singing
 Bb Chromatic scale
 Meters: cut time
 Rhythms: eighths and dotted quarter eighth (percussion sixteenth's)
 Method Book – Different Book 1
 2 performances

3rd year

Review
 (everything from first two years)
 Awareness of sharp and flat (tuner to define pitch)
 Students begin to learn to listen and adjust pitch
 4 measure phrases, shaping phrases
 Dynamics: p – ff, fp
 Styles of articulation: marcato
 Recognition of basic musical terms

More specifically:

Long tones of indefinite length
 Range: (attached)
 Clarinets over the break
 Concert Bb, Ab, F, C, Eb, G, Db, D, A Scales, perform & write
 3rd col lip slurs (arp)
 Transposition of simple melodies using numbers
 Echo/singing patterns
 Meters: introduction of compound meters
 Rhythms: sixteenths
 Method Book – Book 2
 Conducting?
 Composition
 Participation in S & E
 3 performances + large group AE class C
 Guest soloist and/or guest conductor

4th year

Review
 (everything from first three years)
 Phrasing, dynamics, & correct style of articulation begin to be an automatic part of performance

More specifically:

Long Tones in Ab
 Range: (attached)
 All 12 major scales – 4/4 & cut time perform & write
 4th col lip slurs (arp)
 Transposition using numbers in all 12 keys
 Extended echo/singing patterns
 Method Book – Different Book 2
 Conducting
 Participation in S & E
 3 performances + large group AE Class A
 Guest soloist and/or guest conductor
 Convention or conference performance

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5th Year (Freshman)

Review
(everything from first four years)
Phrasing, dynamics, & correct style of articulation become an automatic part of performance
Fluency of range
Maturity of tone
Increased endurance

More specifically:

Variety of long tone exercises
Range: (attached)
All 12 major scales, perform & write from memory – 4/4 & cut time
5/th col lip slurs (arp)
Transposition using numbers in all 12 keys
Extended echo/singing patterns
Sight reading/sight singing skills
Read and play more complex rhythms
Introduction of mixed meters
Memorization/marching skills
Participation in halftime/band shows
Participation in S & E
Four concert performances + large group AE
Exposure to quality Grade 3 literature
Guest soloist and/or guest conductor

6th Year (Sophomore)

Review
(everything from first five years)
Phrasing, dynamics, & correct style of articulation become an automatic part of performance
Fluency of range
Maturity of tone
Increased endurance

More specifically:

Variety of long tone exercises
Range: (attached)
Twelve major scales, two octaves, perform & write from memory – 4/4 & cut time
5/th col lip slurs (arp)
Transposition using numbers in all 12 keys
Extended echo/singing patterns
Sight reading/sight singing skills
Read and play complex rhythms
Mixed meters
Memorization/marching skills
Participation in halftime shows/band shows
Participation in S & E
Four concert performances + large group AE
Exposure to quality Grade 3 - 4 literature
Guest soloist and/or guest conductor

7th Year (Junior)

Review
(everything from first six years)
Phrasing, dynamics, & correct style of articulation become an automatic part of performance
Fluency of range
Maturity of tone
Increased endurance

More specifically:

Variety of long tone exercises
Range: (attached)
Melodic Minor scales, perform & write from memory
5/th col lip slurs (arp)
Transposition using numbers in all 12 keys
Extended echo/singing patterns
Sight reading/sight singing skills
Read and play complex rhythms
Mixed meters
Memorization/marching skills
Participation in halftime shows/band shows
Participation in S & E
Four concert performances + large group AE
Exposure to quality Grade 4+ -5 literature
Guest soloist and/or guest conductor
Major Trip?

8th Year (Senior)

Review
(everything from first six years)
Student approaches musical independence

More specifically:

Variety of long tone exercises
Range: (attached)
Melodic Minor scales, perform & write from memory
5/th col lip slurs (arp)
Transposition using numbers in all 12 keys
Extended echo/singing patterns
Sight reading/sight singing skills
Read and play complex rhythms
Mixed meters
Conducting
Memorization/marching skills
Participation in halftime shows/band shows
Participation in S & E
Four concert performances + large group AE
Exposure to quality Grade 5 literature
Guest soloist and/or guest conductor
Major Trip