

Course information:

Title: Guitar Class 1

Class Description: This guitar class functions as both a group lesson and performance ensemble. The emphasis will be on note reading, proper left and right hand techniques, melodic and rhythm guitar, and overall musicianship.

Student Expectations: Students need to bring their instruments, music or handouts, and a pencil to class every week. I would prefer that all hands be put in a 3 ring binder. To ensure constant growth, students are expected to practice 20-30 minutes per day, 5-6 days a week. This is of course just a minimum! The more time spent doing anything, the easier and better it gets!

Grading: Grading/HS credit is available for this class and will be based on the following criteria:

- Class participation, preparation, a willingness to grow, behavior and attendance- 40%
- Assessments- both summative (announced performance test) and formative (assessment that occurs as I am listening throughout class/rehearsal/performances)- 40%
- Practice records- 20%

General Goals/Objectives:

- Correct posture and left and right hand placement.
- Proper right hand strokes, rest and free, both with the thumb and fingers.
- Beautiful tone production.
- Understanding of pitch notation and rhythm.
- Ability to execute standard repertoire.

Course Calendar: Weeks 1-4 focus on right hand rest stroke, quality tone, and notes and rhythms on strings 1-3. Apply technique to melodic repertoire.

Weeks 5-8- Introduce first position chords and common strumming pattern applied to popular guitar music.

Weeks 9-14- Focus on repertoire that utilizes these techniques and textures. Prepare for winter concert.

Weeks 15-19. Introduce first position notes on strings 4-6. Continue to develop technical facility with increasingly difficult rhythms and note combinations.

Weeks 20-24. Begin spring concert selections utilizing more active melodic, harmonic and chordal parts.

Weeks 25-31. Refine concert repertoire introduce new musical concepts as needed.

Work: Course log of instructional and practice time.

Materials: Christopher Parkening Book 1

Instructor Information:

Name: Brian Ivan

Contact Information: (248) 930-4060 brianivanguitar.com

Qualification: Masters degree in Guitar Performance from Wayne State University.