# **Diamond Piano's Online Academy** Made For Homeschool Students



## DIAMOND PIANO creating lifelong musicians

www.DiamondPiano.com

### **Academic Benefits of Music Education**



For the past century, people have noticed the **correlation between the study of music and academic success**. But it was always a bit of a "chicken and egg" thing. Are music students excelling in the classroom because of their musical studies, or are the students who are most likely to pursue the study of music already predisposed to excel in the classroom due to the dual blessings of talent and parental nurturing? The fact is, it's likely that both are true, but **over the past couple of decades, scientific study has proven the** 

tremendous positive impact that learning music has on a person's brain.

**An increase in gray matter** was observed in children studying music over a span of 14 months in 2004-2005. A control group of students who weren't studying music did not show these same increases. The gray matter growth was in the corpus callosum that connects the two hemispheres of the brain and the areas of both hemispheres that support spatial reasoning, verbal memory, literacy skill, movement, and hearing. (*Boston College/Harvard/Beth Israel Hospital - Schlaug, Norton, Overy, Winner*)

**An increase of 3 points in IQ** was observed in 144 students after a year of piano lessons as compared with a control group of students who did not receive lessons. (*University of Toronto – 2004 – Schellenberg*)

**Standardized Test Scores Increased** by 22% in English and 20% in Math in a study of thousands of elementary and middle school students in 2004-2005 who were exposed to high quality music instruction in school. (*University of Kansas – 2007 – Johnson and Memmott*)

**Executive Function**, the brain's ability to retain and process information, make informed decisions, and problem solve, is enhanced by learning to play a musical instrument. (2014 - Dr. Anita Collins - watch her great, short animated video on the subject on YouTube - "How Playing an Instrument Benefits Your Brain")

"As someone who took years of music lessons, my kids' understanding of music theory is already WAY above mine...all because of Diamond Piano."

- Elizabeth W., homeschool parent

#### "I think the Real-Time Tutor might be as much fun as Mario Kart 8!" - Zoe (age 8), Diamond Piano student

### How Diamond Piano Delivers These Benefits

#### What makes Diamond Piano unique in its ability to deliver these wonderful results?

**Diamond Piano provides tools for every learning style.** Prefer to learn by reading? We have over 800 pages of text to teach you. Like to be told? We have a library of over 1,000 videos that teach every concept at the whiteboard and the keyboard. More of a hands-on learner? We have an unlimited supply of self-checking tests, five music theory games with dozens of levels in each, and an amazing "Real-Time Tutor" to give students instant feedback on their music making.

**Diamond Piano is perfectly paced.** Students can't move too fast because the system only opens up new material as the student proves his or her competency on the preceding material. This built-in pacing helps keep frustration and confusion at bay.

**Diamond Piano keeps students going.** Engaging songs, lyrics, graphics, built-in incentives, and a unique emphasis on sparking the creation of original music keep students motivated. Since launching DiamondPiano.com in 2013, Gerry Diamond, has seen the average retention of his own student population increase from 3.5 years to 5.7 years. That increase must be due to the amazing support that DiamondPiano.com provides to every at-home practice session. The more help you can give a student, the more likely he or she is to succeed and stick with it (and the more gray matter is likely to grow in the process!). Diamond Piano is simply the most helpful online music education program available.

**Diamond Piano is Affordable.** At \$20 for a monthly membership, Diamond Piano is making it possible for almost everyone to bring a piano teacher into their home 24/7!

I find Diamond Piano to be intuitive and easy to follow. Each lesson progresses in depth, yet is creative and moves at a fun pace.

> -Olivia (age 15), Diamond Piano student



### Why Did I Create Diamond Piano?

It's simple: I get tremendous joy from creating music, and I want every music student to have a chance to experience that same feeling by learning not only how to read notes and play pieces, but also why the notes on the page were chosen. My mission is to unleash everyone's inner composer!

I graduated summa cum laude from Berklee College of Music in Boston, MA with a BA in songwriting in 1989. The music theory fundamentals that I learned at Berklee made it much easier to me to read music, learn pieces by ear,



improvise, and write music. I wondered why these theory basics hadn't been an integral part of my study when I was a child first learning piano. After graduating from Berklee and beginning my teaching career, I realized why my childhood teachers didn't show me this life-changing music theory. A curriculum wasn't available that made a sustained, progressive, understandable effort to develop a beginning piano student's theory, arranging, and improvisation skills alongside their reading and technique skills. So, I decided to create my own. Nearly, three decades of work later,

here it is: Diamond Piano!

Gerry Diamond, Diamond Piano Author

#### **STUDY DIAMOND PIANO INDEPENDENTLY**

- Visit DiamondPiano.com and click "Join Our Online Academy" in the header bar.
- Follow the prompts to create an administrative account ("parent account") and then as many student accounts as necessary.
- **Note:** You must have a MIDI capable keyboard, a laptop with Google Chrome installed, and also the ability to print the Pod (chapter) text.
- **Cost:** \$20 for a monthly subscription with options to purchase teacher reviews.

#### STUDY DIAMOND PIANO WITH YOUR CURRENT PIANO TEACHER

- Ask your teacher to visit **DiamondPiano.com** and click **"Free Trial"** in the header bar. There are a variety of levels for them to explore that give a good view of the curriculum.
- If your teacher is impressed with Diamond Piano (and we're confident they will be!), they can click **"Request A School Account"**. This is completely free for them and allows you to register as a student in their Diamond Piano school.

**Cost:** \$20 for a monthly subscription (each student is charged, teacher account is free).