

Est. 2012

Hanford's Piano Studio

Handbook

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Note

Greetings, future acquaintance!

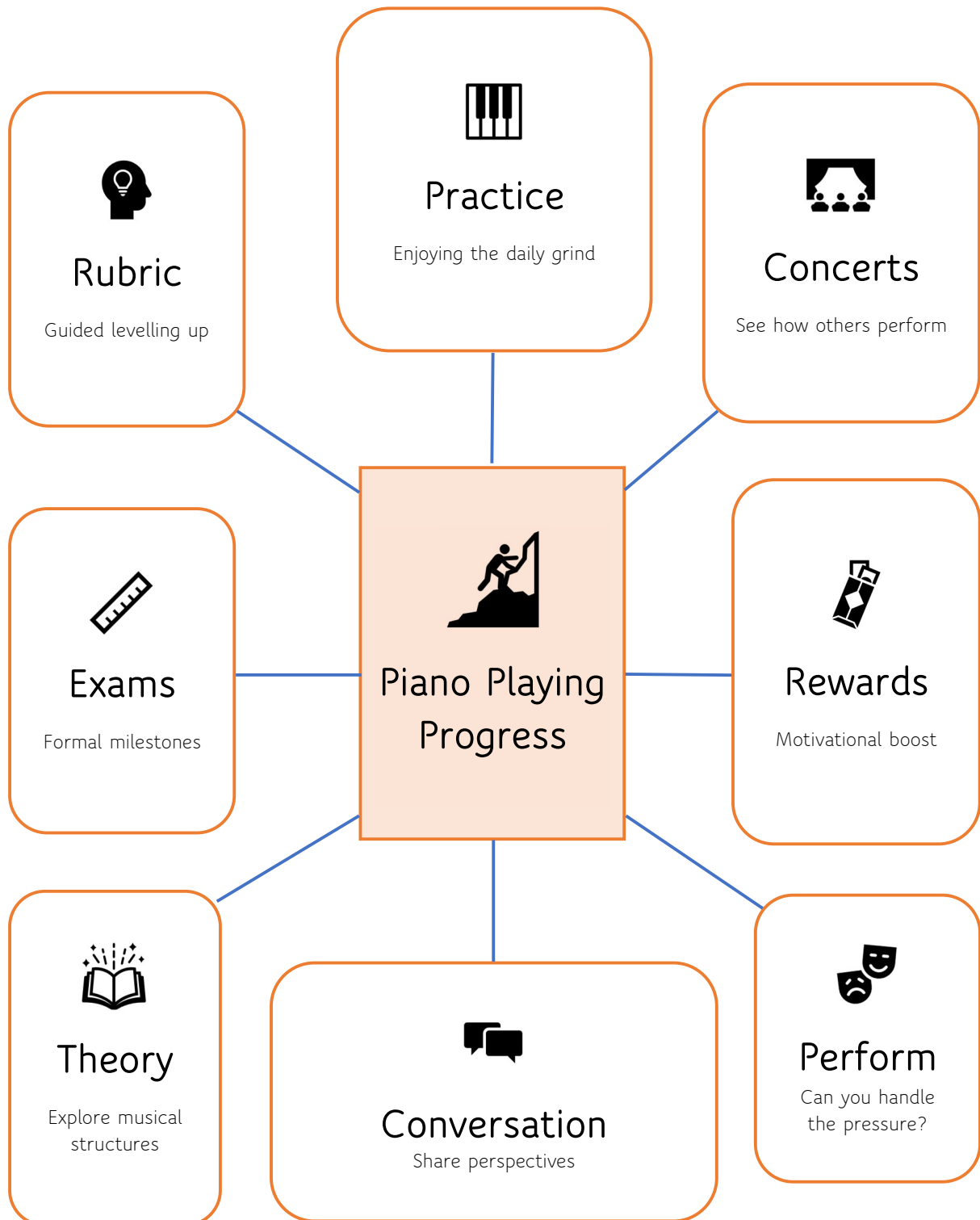
Let's keep it real—I genuinely love and appreciate my students and their families. For me, this means truly seeing you for who you are, embracing both the consonant and dissonant harmonies that our journey together may create. Each moment we share is unique, whether it's a brief encounter where we part ways with newfound clarity or a deep, enduring connection that sees us rise and fall together, like a phoenix through many cycles of rebirth.

Whatever shape our time together takes, it will always hold a special place in my heart.

Best wishes,

Hanford

Snapshot of Hanford's Pedagogy



About me

Playing the piano has been a lifelong journey for me, starting as a child and blossoming over many years of dedication and growth. Along the way, I achieved my Licentiate in Music (LMusA), as well as a Bachelor of Music with Honours from the Sir Zelman Cowen School of Music and a Master of Teaching (Music) from the Melbourne Graduate School of Education.

Winning awards like the Joan Earle Classical Prize (Monash) and the USCI International Gold Award (Malaysia) only deepened my passion and determination. Performing with ensembles such as the Monash Academy Orchestra and the Australian International Opera Company strengthened my confidence on stage and broadened my love for music.

With nearly twelve years of teaching experience, I've been privileged to connect with amazing students and supportive parents, each bringing their own insights and energy to my practice. I've also enjoyed contributing to the music community as treasurer for both the Victorian Music Teachers Association and the 2024 Australasian Piano Pedagogy Conference. It's a joy to be part of such a dynamic field, and I look forward to continuing this journey with each new student and family.

Csikszentmihalyi's Flow

Music is a profound phenomenon that captivates and inspires me endlessly. The deeper the musical experience, the less words seem to suffice—it's as if we're floating along the Dao, moving toward a state of blissful Samadhi. Music beautifully embodies the Hermetic principles in sound, weaving together universal truths in each note and phrase. The journey of learning music offers profound personal growth, challenging and elevating us as we explore and express these deeper dimensions of life and sound.

Let's Get Going!

At my studio, learning to play the piano is an inspiring journey centred on personalised, in-person coaching sessions. Each student's progress is nurtured and guided with a levelled rubric, providing a clear path for improvement. In my lessons, we focus on refining technique and expanding repertoire, making every session a meaningful step forward. But the growth doesn't stop there. Beyond individual lessons, students can dive into theory, composition, improvisation, performance, and aural skills through the engaging, social Music Club, held on Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings. Fun excursions add an extra layer of excitement, giving students unique experiences and a chance to build independence.

Thank you for taking the time to learn about my approach to music education—I look forward to welcoming you to my musical community!

Schedule

Monday

4pm-7pm: Lessons

Tuesday

4pm-7pm: Lessons

7pm-8pm: Music Club

Wednesday

4pm-7pm: Lessons

Thursday

4pm-7pm: Lessons

Friday

4pm-7pm: Lessons

Saturday

8am-8.30am: Lewis Park 5km run

10.30am-12pm Music Club

Occasionally

Concert excursions

Fitness excursions

Agreements

Home Work

- Daily, spaced, focused, short, goal-oriented piano practice is recommended.
- Theory exercises can be completed at home and submitted for marking as desired.
- Update/check-in with Hanford during the week via the portal as desired.
- Please refer to the rubric/feedback for practice guidance and goal setting.

Student Absences

- No makeup, credit, nor refund.

Teacher Absences

- Makeup, credit, or refund options will be provided.

Book and Exam Costs

- Included as part of the enrolment fees.
- Trade in your old book(s) for your new one(s).

Fee Schedule

- Fees paid upfront upon enrolment confirmation via invoice.

*** Handbook details may be modified at any time. Issued invoices are unaffected by changes.*