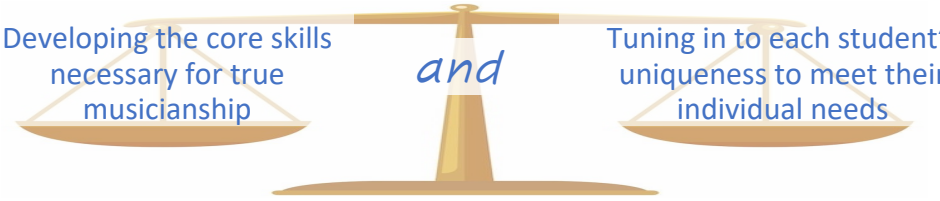
HARMONY HOUSE
SEBASTIAN PIANO STUDIO

OUR TEACHING METHOD

What is the Harmony House method?

Short answer: 30+ years of teaching, infused with intuition and love.

Our approach to teaching is unique. It is broad and varied, highly personalized to each student, and ever evolving. As non-traditional piano teachers who have adapted core teaching traditions to fit our modern times, our approach is based on a thoughtful balance between



. . . while having FUN.

To experience the true power and magic of music, it **must** bring out joy!

Our **Mission** in teaching is "Together we discover your **Inner Master**, through the power and love of music."

A master seeks to be the very best they can be at their craft. We all have an "Inner Master," and discovering this higher self is challenging, empowering, and fun!

As we gradually learn to master the fundamentals, and then more specialized areas of music, we also learn to apply these same tools and skills to our whole life – because everything is connected.

Musicianship requires a devoted, focused effort. The challenge of balancing the *effort* with the *fun* – is what keeps the fire burning after 30 years of teaching.

WE TEACH TO ALL LEVELS:

- Sight-reading
- Piano technique and artistry
- Pop, Rock, Classical, Blues, Jazz, and other styles
- Music theory (*the amazing hidden patterns in music*)
- Reading by chords and playing by ear
- Repertoire development – *students can choose pieces!*
- Piano Exam Board assessment and certification *(Trinity)*
- Advanced ear-training
- Singing while playing and vocal harmonizing
- Performance technique; solo and group jamming
- Drums and bass guitar
- Improvising / composing / songwriting / notation software

STRUCTURE OF LESSONS

Lessons are tailored to you, and generally flow along these four tracks:

1) Warmup exercises, focusing on **Music Theory** and **Technique**
2) **Reading** the notes, at progressive and contrasting levels of difficulty
3) Maintaining a **Repertoire** of songs that cover a balanced mix of styles and skills
4) **Performing, Learning by ear**, musical **Creativity**, and other **Specialized Skills**

Each student is supported in discovering their personal love for music and revealing the Master within.

This involves gently revealing obstacles we *all* have to self-mastery, which we call "learning how to learn." Students are guided and empowered to break through challenges and gradually take charge of their own learning.

Most importantly – we gain confidence and *HAVE FUN!!*