

Master Classes

by

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For Students & Teachers

The Fundamentals of Playing the Flute

Students are shown proper embouchure, instrument alignment, hand positions, diaphragmatic breathing and correct body placement. In this interactive class the students will demonstrate proper use of the flute, head joint, controlled breathing exercises, proper fingerings and how to achieve a good tonal core sound. Students will also learn how to correct basic pitch problems as well as the basic exercises for each skill discussed.

The Other End of the Flute

Class participation is used to teach students and teachers how to improve one's tone and develop one's embouchure by using exercises starting in the upper register of the flute and working to the lower end. Most beginning exercises for the flute start in the lower register and work up to the upper register. Students and teachers will learn why it is advantageous to start at the other end of the flute. Students will learn how to adapt certain exercises to develop their embouchure and improve technique.

Breathing – The Life Line to Playing the Flute

Through specific exercises, students learn correct diaphragmatic breathing. The students will learn the role of correct breath control in relation to the support of tone quality, pitch control, articulation, and phrasing. A concept of "Controlled Diaphragmatic Breathing" is illustrated through demonstration and class participation. Students learn how to develop and control their air column and why it is so critical in properly playing the flute.

The Cavally Method

Students and teachers learn how to develop their tone, embouchure, and technique through a specific course of study incorporating Tone Studies, Velocity Studies, and Scale Patterns. This systematic and developmental course of study is designed for progression from the beginner to the professional player. Students will learn how to practice to maximize results. Students and teachers alike will learn why this course of study is so effective and how to begin making practical changes to improve practice routines and performance.

Development, Maintenance, and Improvement of Flute Technique

Lecture demonstration regarding the progressive development of flute technique. Topics include: developing technique in the beginning flutists, progressive exercises for the intermediate and advanced students, technical development through use of various scale patterns, and a progressive curriculum guide for numerous method books on technical development. **Demonstration uses audience participation through performance of various flute developmental studies.*

Class Exercises in Tonal Development

The entire class participates in exercises designed to improve tonal development. Students learn various exercises, designed to strengthen the embouchure, and discover why and how certain exercises can lead to a consistent tone in all registers of the flute. Dynamics, vibrato, tone coloring and other techniques are taught and demonstrated. Method books designed for tone development and appropriate practice techniques are discussed. Knowing your goal makes practice fun and constructive.

Improving Performance Note by Note

Lecture, discussion and demonstration showing students how to maximize their practice. The saying “inch by inch, life is a cinch” also applies to learning scales, exercises and solo repertoire.

Like an athlete, students will learn how to divide their practice routine into a structured format in order to gain the optimal progress in the shortest amount of time. One must have a game plan in order to come out a winner. Students will learn techniques giving them skills to play a job when they only see the music for fifteen minutes before a concert. Techniques learned will be applicable throughout their career.

Evaluations of Solo Performers

Master class where performers are critiqued on solo literature of their choice.

Evaluations of Small Ensembles

Coaching Masterclass where small ensembles can perform works of their choice for evaluations and helpful performing hints.

For Teachers, Band & Orchestra Conductors

Conductor and Flute Teacher Seminar

Lecture, demonstration, and discussions regarding the following topics: What to look for in selecting the best student for flute. Ideas on starting beginning students, what to look for in the selection of the instrument, how to avoid intonation problems, identifying and correcting embouchure and hand position problems, how to teach basic fingerings, common mistakes in flute fingerings, setting up private teachers in the school curriculum, curriculum development, etc.

Diagnostic-Prescriptive Techniques

Discussions and demonstrations on the technique of identifying and correcting fundamental flute problems. Designed for flutist, flute teachers, and band and orchestra directors, the class teaches how to visually identify and correct problems affecting tone, technique and pitch. Solutions are taught on how to cure the problems identified.

For the Professional Flutist & Wannabes

Managerial Seminar in becoming a Professional Flutist

Lecture and discussion of (1) “What one needs to know to become a professional flutist,” and (2) “How to make a living playing the flute.” Topics include: organization of small ensembles, funding possibilities, association affiliations, contract negotiations, marketing, and how to set up a private teaching studio.

Recording Seminar

How to make and market a CD. Topics include setting up the recording studio, recording, rehearsing, licensing and royalties, cover design, marketing, and legal requirements.

Legal Concerns of being a Concert Artist, Teacher, and Author

How to survive in a legalistic society. Topics include contract negotiations, protecting your personal assets, copyrights, royalties, and legal liabilities. Learn what you can do to protect yourself, your ensemble, and those you serve.

How to Set up a Flute Studio

Flutists will learn how one should go about setting up a functional flute studio. Topics include: Marketing, brochure development, web design, contracts with students and parents, and legal liabilities to avoid.

Seminar on Developing and Funding a Performing Ensemble

Lecture and discussion on the necessary steps in establishing a professional ensemble. Topics include: Creation of incorporation, by-laws, funding, marketing, tax exempt status, and legal requirements. How to make it successful and a good experience for all involved.

Deciding Your Career Path

Lecture & Discussion on setting one's goals and establishing a career path. Topics include *Music Education vs. Flute Performance, Teacher, Concert Flutist or Both, University Teaching and Maneuvering through the Tenure Process, Contract Negotiations, Having it All. How to Make it Work and How to Zig and Zag through Life*. What can be done to avoid making costly mistakes.

Making Lemonade from Lemons:

Lecture & Discussion on staying positive in today's job market. How to overcome obstacles. How to keep your chin up when life is getting you down. What positive steps can one make for a life in transition. What happens when life does not go as planned. Learn from one who has faced numerous challenges in her life and what was done in overcoming these obstacles. An inspirational talk. This is a message that resonates with many.