

Cartoon Character Contest

Letter to Parents

Here are some of the highlights of this program

:

- Students will learn to notate (write down) their motive which is good for their sight reading and note naming skills.
- I will post everyone's motive on the composecreate.com blog for all kinds of teachers and students to see.
- Students will learn cool, new exotic sounding scales.
- Students get to draw cool looking characters and incorporate art into their music study.
- Everyone can participate even if they don't like composing.

1. The students will draw 2 interesting characters and bring them to their first piano lesson this summer. I will send home a document with them this week with tips on how to do this. This is a great way to incorporate art into the music studio, so I hope all students will try their hand at drawing cartoon characters.

2. We will vote on the best 2 characters in our next group lesson and in the following weeks, everyone will write a short musical motive about both characters.

3. During our group lesson, we will talk about

- What kind of music might be good for each character
- How to write a musical motive (a small theme that is usually only a few measures long)
- Other cartoon character's music and why they work
- Musical modes you can use (cool scales that are different than the ones you usually practice (older students will need to learn these for Music Progressions next year anyway, so this is a fun way to do this)

4. Students will write a musical motive (less than 10 seconds or 2-4 measures long) during the next few weeks.

5. We will play our motives for each other at the next group lesson, record them, write them down, and everyone will vote on their favorite musical motive. Students can also expand on their motive and write "theme music" for their character.