

Dr. Eric Jackman Institute of Child Study Laboratory School

Junior Music Program

Russell Leon Hersen

Curriculum Night

Grades 4-6

This year the junior students at JICS will continue to focus on reading and writing music with a whole-body approach to better understand music. Movement and music makes for a deeper understanding of music principals such as rhythm, pitch, melody, tempo, dynamics...more by better connecting the ears, eyes and brain to the entire body.

Combined with all the movement activities, the students will be learning how to write music and music symbols on manuscript paper. Eventually, learning to compose original works. Each student will compose rhythmic compositions on staff paper. Learning to notate music combined with a full body movement approach is essential to understanding and connecting to music at a deeper level.

The students will focus on singing. First understanding that posture and breath are the physical essentials to achieving a good sound. Then, pitch correction, singing notes, intervals, scales, then songs. Rhythm is a very important topic and well as melody, followed by harmony.

JICS also has many different types of percussion instruments that each student will have the opportunity to play, including maracas, guiros, hand drums, claves, boomwhackers, xylophones, ukuleles, and glockenspiels to name a few. Any student who wants to perform always has an opportunity to play the piano or any instrument they bring to school for a class performance. The students will have an opportunity to perform at assemblies and concerts throughout the year.

The students will continue to learn how to carefully listen/watch different styles of music from around the world, and identify instruments, rhythms, scales as well as discover the genre and discuss the history and social context relating to different music.

Lessons integrate live performance, video/audio examples, I am also working with various music software programs, including Logic Pro X, Chrome music lab, Ear Master Pro and Smart board technology.