

## **SING WITH FRIENDS, LEVEL 1**

(formerly Explore Singing)

### **Details:**

**Age: 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grade** (ages 7-9)\* ages and grades are typical, but other ages may be considered on an individual basis.

**Class Size:** 4-8 students

**Price:** \$1200

New Student Fee- \$110 (upon enrollment- due by start of class)

Encore Enrollment- \$110 (to hold spot for continuing enrollment- due April-May)

Choose from 3 billing options:

1. 10 monthly installments of \$109 from Aug-May or Sept.- June
2. 2 installments of \$600
3. Pay in full (5% discount if paid by August 31)- \$1140

### **Instrument: Voice**

Students will need access to a playback device such as a phone, tablet, or computer for practicing. A bluetooth speaker is also recommended.

### **What is Sing With Friends, level 1?**

1SWF is a group singing program that teaches children how to use their voices, how to prepare and perform, and how to explore music through singing.

Students of any ability level are welcome. There is no music reading component to this level, though we learn many songs!

This level encompasses 30+ lessons, rehearsals, Crescendo Classes (performance classes) and 2 performances for family and friends.

### **Why Sing with Friends 1?**

- Many kids love to sing but it is not a widely accepted practice to have children learn to use their voice like an instrument. The Sing with Friends program gives kids a solid foundation in music by using the instrument that they were born with!

- In over 22 years of teaching voice, I have found that young students much prefer learning in a group setting rather than in a private lesson- even those who are shy to sing in front of others.
- The group setting provides an opportunity for kids to learn to sing for each other in a way that is very organic rather than performance-based. That healthy view of using the voice spontaneously will serve them well as they grow up!
- Performance classes and opportunities are baked into the SJMS programs because they provide natural goals and deadlines. They also offer an opportunity to do something difficult and possibly even uncomfortable.

### **How does Piano with Friends 2 help families?**

- Giving children experiences with beauty through the arts is so beneficial for their development because it raises them above the many challenges and woes that are so often a part of life.
- Our classes are fun! It's not a fight to get kids to go to singing lessons! Kids love coming to class and enjoy their hour long lesson!
- We have a recording library with multiple tracks to help moms and dads help their kids learn and practice at home.
- The pacing of the course takes a busy family into consideration and includes variations that allow individuals to succeed at their own level, with "Virtuoso Challenges" for those who want to learn more and "Modifications" for those who need simplifications.
- It brings kids and parents together as parents provide accountability at home for accomplishing songs.

### **What do students learn in Piano with Friends?**

**General Overview:** Students use their God-given instruments in order to learn music! We focus on the very foundations of healthy singing, instill healthy thoughts that help us keep our singing voice in proper perspective, and we focus on easing into singing alone and then performing for an audience.

Transformational Goals for the course:

1. Students can sing alone for the group without stress or fear.
2. Students can sing in unison with a group.

3. Students will successfully perform for an audience through the Crescendo Class/Midyear Program/Recital structure.
4. Students can learn to sing/perform a song independent of a guide voice.
5. Students will demonstrate proper posture (particularly regarding singing)
6. Students will demonstrate the Singer's breathing pattern, with understanding that of "squeeze/release" pattern.
7. Students will learn to use awareness in feeling the sensations of singing.
8. Students will learn to listen and describe vocal tone qualities with descriptive words rather than preferential words. (Bright or mellow vs. Good or bad)
9. Students will learn a proper introduction and bow a recital performance.
10. Students will incorporate the elements of stage presence into their performances.
11. Students will learn that warm-ups have different phases and are important to healthy singing.

#### Music Fluencies:

12. Students can learn, practice, and master songs on their own.
13. Students can find and maintain a sense of beat in a song
14. Students can match pitch accurately
15. Students will learn the diatonic solfa symbols of the major scale.
16. Students will hear and sing accurate intervals.
17. Students will improvise singing and become accustomed to making spontaneous songs.
18. Students will accurately sing and recognize the major scale.
19. Students will sing major, minor, and blues tonalities.
20. Students will demonstrate loud, soft, head voice, belt, legato, and staccato singing and their associated symbols.

#### Secondary Goals:

21. Students will build trust and friendship with the teacher and classmates
22. Students will develop a healthy mindset around singing for others and their own vocal value.
23. Students will understand the Learn, Practice, Master method of practicing voice.
24. Students will understand that the voice is an instrument and singers are musician

