



STAFFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Curriculum Overview High School Guitar I

Course Description:

High school Guitar I introduces the basic elements of music and guitar performance. The high school guitar student will work to become a fully rounded musician through the study of one octave scales, simple songs and etudes, and the performance of the standard guitar repertoire. This course is performance intensive. Evaluation is an integral part of the course as it relates to the Standards of Learning. Since performances are an integral and vital extension of this course, students are strongly encouraged to participate in concerts and other performances and rehearsals outside of class time.

Essential Skills/Processes: Students will—

Guitar Instrument Techniques

- Play with proper posture: standing and sitting
- Proper left hand placement.
- Proper right hand picking and fingerstyle techniques.
- Tune individually with an electronic tuner, and by matching pitch.
- Basic articulation
- Tone quality
- Performance of grade appropriate literature
- Group Intonation; Individual intonation

Music Theory- Pitch and Rhythm

- Pitch notation and tablature
- Rhythm notation
- Time Signatures-Simple meter
- One octave C, G, and D major/A and E minor scales
- Sight reading
- Simple melodic and rhythmic dictation

Expression and Structure

- Respond to and learn conducting patterns of simple meter; 3/4, 4/4
- Dynamics
- Tempo
- Styles-historic periods of Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and 20th century

Guitar Ensemble Skills and Literature

- Cooperative Learning and behavior
- Rehearsal techniques and etiquette
- Appropriate audience etiquette
- Stage presence and Decorum
- Performance of grade appropriate literature
- Exploration of available music technology
- Positive critique of performances
- Expanded exploration of career opportunities

Essential Knowledge:

The goals of the course are to educate the student using the Guitar I Curriculum checklist to expand the understanding of the role of music in our society; to appreciate different cultures and customs; acquire stage presence and decorum; and foster positive attitudes for further guitar study in high school.

Resources:

Curriculum Connections:

Stafford County Public Schools:
<https://www.staffordschools.net/>

VA Standards of Learning:
http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/fine_arts/index.shtml

School Report Card (VA Department of Education):
<http://schoolquality.virginia.gov/>