



THE RIVERS SCHOOL CONSERVATORY

Clarinet Curriculum Guide (Classical)

LEVEL ONE

Skills & Goals:

- Learn to assemble clarinet; master reed placement on mouthpiece
- Learn to identify and care for playable reeds
- Long tones with full, steady sound and good intonation
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Major scales, arpeggios in 2 b and #, one octave chromatic scale

Sample Repertoire:

- Bk. 1: Accent Achievement, Tune a Day, Rubank, Standard of Excellence
- Nilo Hovey Valse Grazioso
- Robert Schumann Little Piece
- Hal Leonard Petite Promenade

End of Year Evaluation:

- One-octave C major scale and arpeggio, slurred, memorized
- One other one-octave major scale and arpeggio, memorized
- One octave chromatic scale, memorized
- One etude
- Three contrasting solos
- Sight-reading at beginner level

Additional Requirements for Young Artist Diploma Candidates Only:

- Average Score of "high pass" for evaluation
- Two performances per year
- Two year-long electives in total, suggestions include: theory class, youth orchestra



LEVEL TWO

Skills & Goals:

- Continue to develop embouchure, tonguing technique, breath support
- Demonstrate proper hand position
- Play long tones with full, steady tone, in tune for 20 seconds
- Major and minor scales and arpeggios to 3 b/# in two octaves
- Chromatic scale: low E to high C in 2.5 octaves

Sample Repertoire:

- Bk.2: Accent Achievement, Tune a Day, Rubank, Standard of Excellence
- Nilo Hovey First Book of Practical Studies
- Leon Lester Progressing Clarinetist
- Finzi Five Bagatelles: Carol
- Vaughan Williams Six Studies in English Folksong: #2
- Delibes Coppelia: Waltz
- Hovey Bagatelle

End of Year Evaluation:

- Two two-octave major and minor scales and arpeggios, memorized
- Chromatic scale, two and one-half octaves, memorized
- One etude
- Three contrasting solo pieces
- Sight reading

Additional Requirements for Young Artist Diploma Candidates Only:

- Average score of "high pass" for evaluation
- Three performances per year
- Three year-long electives in total, suggestions include: Theory Class, Chamber Music, Wind Ensemble



LEVEL THREE

Skills & Goals:

- Continue to develop embouchure strength and tonguing speed
- Play securely in third register up to high G
- Play with expression and dynamics
- Securely incorporate breathing into music
- Major and minor scales, arpeggios to 4b/# in full range
- Chromatic scale in three octaves

Sample Repertoire:

- Bk. 1, Hite Melodious and Progressive Studies
- Bk.3 Baermann
- Stamitz Concerto #3
- Schumann Fantasy Pieces # 1, 2
- Gade Ballade
- Weber Concertino, Concerto #1, mvts. 1, 2
- Plerne Canzonetta
- Cahuzac Theme, Variation 1,2,3

End of Year Evaluation:

- Two major/minor scales and arpeggios, memorized, three octaves when applicable
- Chromatic scale three octaves, memorized
- One etude
- Three contrasting solos
- Sight-reading

**Additional
Requirements for**



LEVEL FOUR

Skills & Goals:

- Continue to master excellent hand position; full, supported tone with accurate intonation
- Clean, clear articulation in all patterns
- Wide dynamic range, depth of expression, knowledge of phrase structure
- Develop, explore, and use a variety of tone colors
- All major, minor scales and arpeggios in full range
- Chromatic and whole tone scales in full range

Sample Repertoire:

- Bk. 2 Hite Melodious and Progressive Studies
- Rose Etudes 32 and 40
- Baermann Bk. 3
- Crusell, Mozart, Spohr, Weber Concerti
- Arnold, Bernstein, Brahms, Hindemith, Poulenc, Saint-Saëns Sonatas
- Schumann Fantasy Pieces: #3
- Lutoslawski Dance Preludes

End of Year Evaluation:

- Two major and minor scales and arpeggios in full range, memorized
- Chromatic scale up to high G, memorized
- One etude
- Three contrasting solos
- Sight-reading

Additional Requirements for Young Artist Diploma Candidates Only:

- Average score of "high pass" for evaluation
- Three performances per year
- Three year-long electives in total, suggestions include: Theory Class, Chamber Music, Youth Orchestra