

# AP MUSIC THEORY

AP Music Theory is a college-level course designed to teach the skills and concepts of music theory typically encountered in the first two semesters of music theory in college. The learning of these skills and concepts will eventually be tested at the conclusion of the course by administering the AP Music Theory Exam.

## Course Objectives

At the end of the course, students should be able to:

- a. Notate pitch and rhythm in accordance with standard notation practices
- b. Read melodies in treble, bass, and movable C clefs
- c. Write, sing, and play major scales and all three forms of minor scales
- d. Recognize by ear and by sight all intervals within an octave
- e. Use the basic rules that govern music composition
- f. Harmonize a melody with appropriate chords using good voice leading
- g. Analyze the chords of a musical composition by number and letter name
- h. Transpose a composition from one key to another
- i. Express musical ideas by composing and arranging
- j. Understand and recognize basic musical forms: ternary, binary, rondo, etc.
- k. Write simple rhythmic, melodic, and harmonic dictation

## Prerequisite:

Whether gained through private music lessons, classroom work, or participation in an ensemble, it is expected that students should have a basic understanding of musical notation – pitch names and rhythm – along with some fluency on an instrument (which includes voice).