

PROGRAM





SMARTTM(Seimpi MIM[®] Accelerated & Robust Training) Program

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- ✓ Empower students to elevate their musical proficiency through a comprehensive and demanding music educational curriculum.
- ✓ Enhance students' performance opportunities and foster collaborative experiences with peers who share their musical aptitude, promoting increased exposure and performance skills.
- ✓ Establish a robust and suitable groundwork for students' forthcoming music studies.
- ✓ Equip students with the necessary skills and knowledge for potential admission to specific secondary schools via Direct School Admission (DSA).

PROGRAM MODULES

Performance

Students will engage in weekly one-on-one instruction tailored to their respective instruments. To fully maximize the benefits of this program, consistent daily practice of their instruments at home, ranging from 1 to 2 hours depending on grade level, is strongly recommended.

Practical Musicianship & Theory (PMAT)

At each level, students will partake in weekly group sessions designed to enhance their understanding of both music theory and practical musicianship. This aspect is crucial as it provides the essential framework for cultivating a proficient musician. The quality of instrumental performance is heavily influenced by the performer's internal perception and comprehension of the music, playing a pivotal role in achieving success in music examinations or competitions.

Collaborative Interactive Practice (CIP)

Participation in a mandatory monthly ensemble practice is a key component of this program. Given the predominant emphasis on individual instrumental learning, the inclusion of group performances is essential to provide students with valuable experience in collaborative settings. This practice not only deepens their comprehension of musical texture but also enhances stylistic awareness, while simultaneously strengthening their aural and rhythmic senses. By engaging in improvisation, harmonization, and ensemble arrangement, students open up new avenues for a gratifying musical career as they acquire and refine their musical skills.

Masterclass

Scheduled bi-monthly, this class requires each student to present one to two pieces from their existing repertoire. This exercise aims to enhance both intellectual and technical aspects, preparing students for upcoming performances or examinations. Furthermore, students are encouraged to broaden their musical horizons by actively listening to a diverse range of music repertoires, fostering the development and refinement of their analytical thinking skills.

Audition Requirements

To enter the SMART[™] program at Seimpi School of Music, every student (Distinction holders of MIM® Assessment or SPAC[™] Examination are exempt from the audition) must successfully complete an audition. The audition process involves:

1. Performing TWO pieces of music, each from different genres.

2. Participating in aural tests conducted during the audition, with a preference for students showcasing strong aural skills.

It is important to note that Seimpi School of Music reserves the right to reject any application. Students who fail the audition may attempt to sit for the audition again. Non-Seimpi School of Music students are subject to a \$30 audition fee.

Further info about MIM and SPAC is available on the website: <u>https://www.seimpi.edu.sg/mim</u> <u>https://www.seimpi.edu.sg/spac</u>

DESCRIPTION OF EACH MODULE IN SMART PROGRAM

Performance

Every SMART student must complete the number of repertoires specified in each grade's syllabus. It is not encouraged for students to move on to the following grade if they do not complete mastering the repertoires. How well a pupil performs in a future grade is based on how well they have played their repertoires in the current grade. Additionally, it also helps students in the development of firm and secured playing techniques, exposure to various styles and interpretations, and sight-reading proficiency.

Practical Musicianship and Theory

For each level of the SMART program, we have created aural material that emphasizes sight singing, twopart listening and singing, rhythmic response, memory practice, dictation, chord recognition to foster a student's creativity and quick response. The PMAT class's curriculum includes the SMART aural syllabus as well as the music theory syllabus to adequately prepare students for advanced level and professional study in the future. Children at the same level should practice as much as they can to develop the skills needed for that level. Anyone who joins the class at any time must learn to deal with the demands of the in-class exercises and continually improve. Students who have demonstrated that they have met the standards necessary for their particular level will be invited to enroll in a class at a higher level.

Every six months, we will conduct a test to the students to establish their proficiency level and assess and evaluate their performance. The benefits of working in a group environment clearly outweigh the benefits of working alone. We will only permit a one to one lesson setting if there is a scheduling issue. To get the most out of the training, students must take the PMAT exercises seriously and practice them frequently, much like they would practice an instrument.

Collaborative Interactive Practice (CIP)

Monthly gatherings are scheduled for students to engage in group rehearsals featuring ensemble repertoire. These sessions foster collaborative skills among participants, encompassing diverse genres such as classical, jazz, and pop. Students are tasked with sight-reading, engaging in keyboard harmony, transposition, and improvisation exercises. These activities not only keep musicians in tune with contemporary music skills but also broaden their repertoire, ensuring their readiness for diverse demands within the music industry.

Attending Masterclass

Masterclasses are done on a bi-monthly basis. We strongly urge students to prepare well and refrain from talking and chatting in the class. As regular performances in masterclasses not only keep the progress in checks, but it only gives you an opportunity to listen to the other students' performances and learn to be critical, building on sensitive hearing, and opening up one's ear to more exposure of a variety of repertoires.

Grading System

The School has introduced a grading system to keep students and parents informed of their progress in the program and to better monitor the success of the SMART students. Additionally, it facilitates communication between our parents and our SMART team.

In addition to the PMAT test that we conduct every six months, students are evaluated in every masterclass. Parents receive a report every six months, and we encourage them to speak with the performance teacher or the Principal to learn more about their child's development in this program.

SMART modules	Assessment mode	Frequency
Instrumental performance	Based on performances in	Bi-monthly
	masterclasses (60%)	
Practical Musicianship & Theory (PMAT)	Based on the result of a test (40%)	Half a year once

Below is the summary of the SMART assessment:

Students will then be given an overall grade at the end of the year.

Students will then be given a grade based on the following assessment system:

A – Able to cope very well of the expectation of SMART program. Allowed to skip the grades

 \mathbf{B} – Able to cope fairly well of the expectation of SMART program but needs more effort to be able to skip grades. Recommended to stay in the same grade

C – Struggling to cope with the expectation of SMART program. Recommended to take a break from SMART program, and come back when given the approval from the Principal.

 \mathbf{D} – Not be able to cope with the expectation of SMART program. Recommended to terminate from the SMART program

Recommended daily practice hours

Students are strongly advised to draw up an effective practice time table at home. The recommended practice hours for the different levels are as below:

Level 1 : 45 minutes daily Level 2 : 60 minutes daily Level 3 : 60 minutes daily Level 4 : 90 minutes daily

Students' attitude and parents' support

The SMART curriculum requires students to maintain a high level of discipline in managing their daily instrumental and PMAT practices. The school expects parents and teachers to collaborate to foster traits like tenacity, perseverance, and motivation in students so they may successfully complete this program. Parents must also be aware of their own children's skills and refrain from using the accomplishments of others as a yardstick for evaluation. Challenges should be managed in a positive way and children should be taught how to manage it. All students and teachers must be treated with respect, and any differences that may develop must be resolved in an amicable manner.

SMART students' achievements

Please refer to our website: www.seimpi.edu.sg or www.facebook.com/seimpieducation