

PROGRAMS OF STUDY

BRIGHT STARTS Our group-based program for younger beginners and near-beginners. This unique approach seeks to provide students with the benefits of both group and private instruction. Most students begin the first-year class between the ages of 5 and 8. At the end of the program, the student progresses to advancing individual study through our **BRANCHES** program. Students start with a weekly group class and gradually transition to individual lessons:

- 1st Year: one 55 minute class each week, no regular individual lessons
- 2nd Year: one 70 minute class each week, one 30 minute individual lesson each month
- 3rd Year: one 70 minute class each week, two 30 minute individual lessons each month
- 4th Year: two 70 minute classes each month, four 30 minute individual lessons each month

BRANCHES Our hybrid group/individual lesson program for intermediate and advancing youth students with three or more years' experience. Students receive one-on-one attention in weekly individual lessons, while occasional group classes provide opportunities for peer interaction, performance experience, duets and ensembles, and theory/ear training. Most students in this program are in grades 4 through 11.

- Students attend weekly individual lessons.
- In addition, there are about 8 group weeks during the year. During these weeks, the student attends both the regular individual lesson and also the group class. Both the group classes and the individual lessons are an essential part of the curriculum and the overall educational development of the student.
- Individual lessons are 45, 60, or 75 minutes long. (75 minute lessons are only for advanced students by teacher nomination.)
- Group classes are between 1½ and 2½ hours depending on the size, level, and ages of each class.

INDIVIDUAL/ADULT There are lots of reasons why a student might not fit into one of our **BRIGHT STARTS** or **BRANCHES** group classes. While we strongly recommend joining a group class when one is available, we also offer individual-only lessons to students of all ages. Occasional recitals and other group performance opportunities may still be available for our **INDIVIDUAL/ADULT** students.

- Students attend weekly individual lessons with no regularly scheduled group component.
- Lessons are 30, 45, 60, or 75 minutes long. (30 minute lessons are reserved only for beginners with less than three years' experience; 75 minute lessons are only for advanced students by teacher nomination.)