**­­­­­­BEGINNING MUSICAL TERMS & DEFINITIONS**

**Personal Progress Tracker**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

**As you become familiar with each term and its symbol and name, shade in the boxes next to it according to the following scale:**

1. I don’t know what this is.
2. I can tell the meaning of this.
3. I can write this, draw it, and tell the meaning.
4. I can find examples of this in real music and teach it to a friend.
5. I knew this all last time and I still remember it without being reminded.

**BEGINNING MUSICAL TERMS & DEFINITIONS**

**Personal Progress Tracker**

 **“A TEMPO”:** return to the original tempo

**Accelerando:** to get faster

**Accent:**  to emphasize a note

**ARTICULATION:** the style in which you perform the notes

**Audiate**: hearing a pitch in your head.

**barline**: vertical lines that separate measures.



**clef:** helps organize the staff so notes can be easily

read

**Crescendo:** to get louder

**Decrescendo:**   to get softer

**dot**: adds half the original value to the note

**dotted half note**: 3 beats

**dotted half rest:**  3 beats of silence

**dotted quarter note**: 1.5 beats

**dotted quarter rest:** 1.5 beats of silence


**double bar line:** shows the end of the song or section

**DYNAMICS:** the volume of the music

**eighth note**: .5 beats

**eighth rest:** .5 beats of silence


**Fermata:** hold the note and watch the conductor

**Flat**: lowers the pitch be one half step

**Forte:** loud

**Fortissimo:** very loud

**Grand staff**: bass and treble staff connected by a brace and a line

**half note**: 2 beats

**half rest**: 2 beats of silence

**Half step**: the distance from any key on the keyboard to the very “the next key above or below, whether black or white”

**HARMONY:** notes that compliment the melody

**Interval**: distance between two notes

**Key Signature:** sharps or flats at the beginning of music to indicate scale and tonality

**Ledger line**: short lines that are added to extend the range of the staff when the notes are too low or too high to be written on the staff

**Legato:** smooth and connected

**Lines:** Lines on treble clef (EGBDF)
Lines on bass clef (GBDFA)

**Major Scale:** scale built on the formula (WWHWWWH)


**measure:** music between two bar lines

**MELODY:** the main tune of a song

**Mezzo Forte:** medium loud

**Mezzo Piano:** medium soft

**Middle C:** the note in the middle of the grand staff and the C nearest the middle of the keyboard

**Natural Sign:** the natural sign before a note cancels a previous flat or sharp

**Notes:** the oval-shaped symbols that are placed on the lines and in the spaces of the staff. They represent musical sounds called pitches

**Pianissimo:** very soft

**Piano:**  soft

**pick up:**  a note before the first complete measure

**Pitch:** a musical sound

**quarter note:** 1 beat

**quarter rest:** 1 beat of silence

**Repeat Sign:** return to the beginning or previous repeat sign at the beginning of a section

**RHYTHM:** division of a steady beat

**Ritardando:** to get slower

**Segno:** a musical sign that marks a section; used with repeats

**Sharp**: raises the pitch by one half step

**Slur:**   a curved line drawn over or under two or more notes of different pitches

**Solfege:** *do re mi fa sol la ti do* a system of reading musical notes by assigning a different syllable to each note

**Spaces**: spaces on treble clef (DFACEG);

spaces on bass clef (FACEGB)

**Staccato:** short and detached; notated as a dot above or below a

note

**Staff:** horizontal lines and spaces on which music is written

**syncopation:** accenting the off-beat

**TEMPO:** the speed of the music

**tie: asdf** a curved line that combines two notes of the same pitch and adds their value together.

combines two notes of the same pitch together

**time signature:** top number: number of beats per measure

bottom note: which type of note gets the beat

**Treble or G clef**: the clef used for notes in the higher pitch

range

**Unison**: interval between two identical notes;
unison singing is when everyone is singing the same pitches

**Whole note**: whole measure, 4 beats

**Whole rest:** whole measure, 4 beats of silence

**Whole step:** the distance from any key on the keyboard to two keys away

