

# **Renaissance Music Academy**

## **Theory Class Schedule and Information**

### **2025-2026**

All RMA Piano Students are required to enroll in theory class. RMA theory classes for young beginners will be taught by new RMA faculty member, Dr. Kim Loeffert. Children typically begin theory when they are in first grade (age 6). However, Dr. Kim will allow any kindergarten age children to join Music Mind Games who have had 6 months of piano lessons. Intermediate and advanced RMA theory classes are taught by RMA faculty member, Dr. Carl Derfler.

RMA theory faculty use the Music Mind Games curriculum and a program based on the syllabus associated with the Royal Conservatory of Music, an internationally recognized examining board. Theory class Levels are Music Mind Games 1, 2, Rudiments Level 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, and Harmony 1A, 1B. When a student has successfully completed Harmony 1B, they have finished the RMA theory requirement.

In the same manner that students are diligent in their instrument practice, it is important they attend theory class and complete the homework assignments on a weekly basis. This will lead to good, solid understanding of theory concepts. Weekly theory reports are shared with RMA faculty, who are always ready to help students with further explanation, if needed. Additionally, the theory program incorporates music listening, music appreciation, music history, sight singing and ear training into the weekly lessons. **Theory homework is due the week following each class in order to receive credit.**

**Parents are required to attend class with their child in Music Mind Games Level 1. Parents are always welcome to sit in on any class level.**

**MMG and THEORY CLASS DATES** (13 weeks of classes) Music Mind Games and Theory classes for Semester 1 begin on Friday, Sept. 5th and end on Friday, December 5th. (There are NO theory classes during Thanksgiving break week.)

If weather is bad, the RMA theory classes follow the MCPS school cancellation schedule. If MCPS is closed due to bad weather, RMA theory classes are canceled as well. Makeups are not guaranteed, but faculty will do their best to make-up classes missed due to bad weather.

**MATERIALS** \*Please bring a check made out to “Carl Derfler” for the Rudiments Level 1A, 2A, and Harmony 1A books on the first day of class. (see below)

\*Please bring a check made out to “Kim Loeffert” for Music Mind Games Level 1 & 2. (see below)

**\*If you do not have any fee listed below for your class level, be sure to bring your book from last year!**

Music Mind Games Level 1	\$35.50 Music Mind Games materials
Music Mind Games Level 2	\$10 Theory Time Level 3
Rudiments Level 1A	\$16 Rudiments: A Foundation
Rudiments Level 1B	No new book needed
Rudiments Level 2A	\$16
Rudiments Level 2B	No new book needed
Harmony 1A	\$45
Harmony 1B	No new book needed

**RMA Theory Teachers**

**Carl L. Derfler**  
Email: [lassus@aol.com](mailto:lassus@aol.com)  
Cell: 540-239-7918

**Kim Loeffert**  
Email: [kimloeffert@vt.edu](mailto:kimloeffert@vt.edu)  
Cell: 405-633-4811