8th Grade Vocabulary List

8th Grade Vocabulary Set 1

1. Arpeggio- Notes of a chord played in succession (1st, 3rd, 5th notes of a scale)
2. Tempo – Rate of speed
3. Poco a Poco – Little by little
4. Marcato – Emphasis at the beginning of a note, shorter note value and heavy
5. Simile – Same
6. Genre – Style of music or art
7. Tenuto- Emphasizing the full value of a note
8. Subito or Sub. – Suddenly (usually in front of dynamics – sub forte or sf)
9. Theme – Melody
10. Interval – Distance between notes
11. Accent Putting emphasis at the beginning of a note
12. Fine – Finish, the end
13. Poco – Little
14. Molto – Much, Very

8th Grade Vocabulary Set 2

1. Meno Mosso- Less Motion
2. Cantabile – Siningly
3. Con Moto – with motion
4. A tempo – previously established tempo
5. Expressivo – expressive
6. Range – span of notes from lowest to highest
7. Meno – Less
8. DS al Coda (Del Segno al Coda)- The sign to the coda
9. Ornaments – Embellishments or decorations added to music such as trills and grace notes
10. L’istesso – Same
11. Caesura – Grand pause
12. Con- With
13. Duration – Length of note
14. Piu Mosso – More Motion

8th Grade Vocabulary Set 3

1. Chord – Two or more notes sounding simultaneously
2. Ritardando or Ritard or Rit. Or Rallentando or Rall. – Gradually slowing down
3. Piu- More
4. Quadruple Meter – Four beats in a measure
5. Anacrusis – Pick up note(s)
6. Segno – the sign
7. DC al Coda (Da Capo al Coda) – The top to the coda
8. Enharmonics – Notes with 2 or more names
9. Duple Meter – Two beats in a measure
10. Capo – Top or head (beginning of the piece)
11. Fermata – Held note, usually lengthens note by twice the original value
12. Triple Meter- Three beats in a measure
13. Accelerando or Accel. – Gradually speeding up
14. Coda – Short concluding section of a piece of music
15. Motive – Short melodic; rhythm idea

8th Grade Vocabulary Set 4

1. Maestoso – Majestic; dignified
2. Dynamics – Describing how loud or soft to play
3. Crescendo – Gradually getting louder
4. Decrescendo or Diminuendo – Gradually getting softer
5. Mezzo Forte – Medium Loud
6. Cut Time or All Breve – Translated to 2/2 time…half note gets the beat
7. Meter – Pattern of which a steady succession of rhythmic pulses are organized (like time signature)
8. Mezzo – Half/medium
9. Mixed Meter- Combination of changing meters between simple and compound
10. Compound Meter – Meter in which the basic beat is divisible by three
11. Piano – soft
12. Mezzo Piano – Medium soft
13. Common Time- Translated to 4/4 time…the most common time, quarter note gets the beat
14. Simple Meter – Meter in which the basic beat is divisible by 2
15. Forte – Loud

8th Grade Vocabulary Set 5

1. Legato – Smooth and connected, no bumps in sound
2. Vivace – Fast and Lively
3. Rubato – Varying tempo, freely, going faster and slower at no real, regular pace
4. Pesante – Heavy
5. Staccato – Space between notes, light
6. Moderato – Medium
7. Stringendo – Adding intensity to music by changing the tempo
8. Tonic – Starting pitch of a scale, center of key structure
9. Relative – Same key, different tonics (C Maj. Vs. A min.)
10. Tacet – Don’t play; Silent
11. Tutti – Everyone; all
12. Key – In reference to music related to a particular scale
13. Whole Step – 2 half steps
14. Chromatic – moving by half steps
15. Modulation – changing from one key to another

8th Grade Vocabulary Set 6

1. Ictus – The exact spot where a conductor’s baton shows the beat
2. Music – the art and science of combining vocal or instrumental sounds or tones in varying melody, harmony, rhythm, timbre, tone and texture to form structurally complete and emotionally expressive compositions
3. Dissonance – Discord or state of tension in music
4. Quasi – as if, most
5. Penultimate – Next to last
6. Ostinato – repeated rhythmic or melodic statement
7. Soli – Plural of solo
8. Sempre – Always
9. Consonance – Absence of tension or discord in music
10. Antiphonal – musical groups that perform alternately in call and response manner
11. Contrapuntal – the combining go melodic lines
12. Syncopation – Shift of beat usually occurring on the up-beat or on the off beat