Music Concept/Title of Lesson: Circle of 5ths/Key Signatures

Grade Level: 9-12

Date & Time: Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Objectives: *Students will be able to…*

1. Fill out a complete Circle of 5ths chart for major keys.
2. Identify the notes affected by a key signature.
3. Identify the order of sharps and flats in each key.
4. Identify a key given its key signature.
5. Explain ways to identify a given key.
6. Write a given key signature.
7. Identify notes in a scale that are affected by a key signature.

Materials:

* Circle of 5ths chart
* Pathways to Harmony Chapter 5: Key Signatures handout – [www.gmajormusictheory.org](http://www.gmajormusictheory.org) /Gilbert DeBenedetti
* [www.teoria.com](http://www.teoria.com) key signature construction and identification exercises
* Smart board or whiteboard
* Laptop for each student (from library).
* Extra blank circle of 5ths papers
* <http://musictheoryfundamentals.com/Quiz/keySignaturesQuiz.php>

Procedure:

1. A circle of fifths is a chart that organizes all keys into a system relating to each other.
2. Key signatures – an indication at the beginning of a piece that shows how many sharps or flats/what key the piece is in.
3. The uppercase letters on the outside are the Major keys.
4. Order of sharps. FCGDAEB – Father Charles Goes Down And Ends Battle.
5. Technical way - Up a 5th, down a 4th.
6. Like a clock (draw a circle, add lines for where each number would be).
7. The very top is C Major. It does not have any sharps or flats. Look at the order of the sharps. If you put the F (father) before the C on the clock, then add the rest of the order of the sharps, you will have set up the beginning of your Circle of 5ths.
8. Order of flats. BEADGCF – Battle Ends And Down Goes Charles’ Father.
9. Start with the notch on the clock next to the F and going counterclockwise. Be careful! If you look, there is already a spot for B Major!
10. This time, each note name will have a “flat” symbol next to it.
11. The circle also presents a pattern for the sharps and the flats.
12. The top our clock, C, again does not have any sharps or flats. Clockwise is sharp, counter is flat. (Draw arrows and b and # on appropriate sides.)
13. Start with G, go through all sharps (without enharmonics), then all flats.
14. Enharmonics, both sharp and flat keys. Same notes, different names.
15. How can you name a key signature just by looking at a single one?
    1. Sharp – note above the last sharp in the key signature.
    2. Flat – second to last flat. What about F? Just have to memorize it!
16. What notes are in a scale are affected by a key signature?
17. Fill out a blank Circle of Fifths with major key names, key signatures.
18. Key signature quiz <http://musictheoryfundamentals.com/Quiz/keySignaturesQuiz.php>
19. Teoria.com –Key signature identification and construction exercises.

Assessment: Written.

Evaluation: A compilation of the data will be used to determine what may need review.

NAfME National Standards:

5. Reading and notating music.