Level 1a: Music Fundamentals in the Western World

This level is intended for individuals who have had little music experience in music theory or composition and will cover music elements that are universal (dynamics, tempo, and melody) as well as foundational practices that will be used throughout an individual's music studies, with transfers and applications towards a multitude of world styles and genres.

By the end of Level 1a: Music Fundamentals in the Western World, the student will:

Dynamics:
- Identify and demonstrate dynamic control on various "constant" dynamic levels using Italian terminology
    - Mezzo Piano, Piano, Pianissimo, Pianississimo
    - Mezzo Forte, Forte, Fortissimo, Fortississimo
- Identify and demonstrate dynamic control on various "changing" dynamic levels using Italian terminology
    - Crescendo, Decrescendo, Diminuendo
- Identify and demonstrate dynamic control on various dynamic accents and changing dynamics using Italian terminology
    - Accento, Marcato
    - Sforzando, Fortepiano

Tempo:
- Identify and demonstrate their ability to maintain a steady beat of different BPM (beats per minute) levels verbally and non-verbally
    - 60 BPM, 90 BPM, 120 BPM, 150 BPM, 180 BPM
    - 70 BPM, 100 BPM, 130 BPM, 160 BPM
    - 80 BPM, 110 BPM, 140 BPM, 170 BPM
- Identify and demonstrate an understanding of different tempo expression markings using Italian terminology
    - Larghissimo, Adagissimo, Grave
    - Largo, Lento, Larghetto
    - Adagio, Adagietto
    - Andante, Andantino
    - Marcia Moderato, Andante Moderato, Moderato
    - Allegretto, Allegro Moderato, Allegro, Molto Allegro
    - Vivace, Vivacissimo
    - Presto, Prestissimo
- Identify and demonstrate an understanding of "changing" tempo expression markings using Italian terminology
    - Accelerando, Ritardando
    - A Tempo, Con Grazia, Con Moto, Lamentoso, Maestoso, L'istesso

Melody:
- Identify and demonstrate an understanding of terms used to describe melodies in common Western theory practice and analysis
    - Contour, Conjunct, Disjunct, Range, Motive, Phrase