



*Come for the Fun, Stay for the Education*

## **Music Makers: At the Keyboard (MMKB I)**

### **(An introduction to keyboard for beginners, ages 4 and up)**

Through weekly music classes as a preschooler at The Children's House, your child will build a strong aural (listening) foundation essential for success at the keyboard. Activities such as **drumming and dancing** nurture rhythmic development, **singing** nurtures tonal development, and **echoing patterns** nurture aural development.

Music Makers at The Keyboard (MMKB) builds upon these foundational skills and leads each student to apply their knowledge of rhythm and pitch to playing songs on the keyboard. **MMKB** offers two years (60 weeks) of classes in which the students will be taught to play more than 25 songs in the keys of C, D, E, F, and G Major and c, d, e, f, and g minor. Additionally, the children will be playing I, IV, and V7 chords in multiple keys with both hands and be involved in **composing and musical dictation activities** which lead the child to musical literacy.

**The MMKB beginner's class** will focus on each student becoming familiar with the keyboard while developing the ability to play a two-note chord with a steady beat and both hands together! We have a variety of fun and engaging activities, which help each student learn to differentiate between the black and white keys of the keyboard, recognize the patterns or groupings of the keys and learn to find finger positions based on these groupings.

The home materials you will receive are essential for your child's success at the keyboard as they reinforce and help to build the skills which will be introduced and demonstrated in each class. The songs your child will learn in class are included on the listening CD and the practice CD offers instructions, which are easy to follow, on how to play the card games and do other keyboard activities.

Studying the piano in a group setting keeps music making fun! It also helps each child overcome performance anxiety and often motivates them to practice as the children look forward to sharing songs with their peers.

Children who complete Music Makers: At the Keyboard will be well prepared for future piano study and may apply the musical literacy skills they gain to any other instrument (or voice) they may wish to pursue in the future.