

# READY, SET, EXPLORE!

CREATING AN  
ELEMENTARY SUMMER  
MUSIC CAMP AS A  
TRAVELING TEACHER

**ELIZABETH SMITH**  
**ABBY TERRILL**  
**LIZZIE FRENCH**

**MTNA Collegiate Chapter Symposium  
Presentation**

**Saturday, January 14th 10:05am**

Without the time constraints the school year imposes, summer is a perfect time to help students build community with other members of their piano studio. However, summer programs can pose difficulties for traveling teachers due to a lack of common space for students to gather. In the summer of 2022, we took advantage of our university summer break to develop and execute a week-long summer music program geared towards elementary students. During this presentation, we will offer information about our process, including the ins and outs of finding a space to hold the camp, making customized lesson plans, and navigating parent-teacher communication.



**CONTACT US AT:**  
cuboulder.mtna@gmail.com

## RESOURCES

### Online websites:

- Canva
- TeachersPayTeachers.com
- Spotify (for creating a playlist)
- "Easy Piano Duets from Around the World: 32 Exciting Duets for Beginner Pianists", Amanda and Jemima Oosthuizen (2020)

### Other Supplies:

- Office Depot for printing (using the MTNA discount)
- Costco/Sam's Club for snacks
- Dollar Tree for craft supplies

## OUR COMMUNITY RESOURCES

### MTNA

- Liability insurance as a sponsored MTNA event

### Local Churches and Schools

- Venue
- Instruments
- Office supplies

## DAILY SCHEDULE EXAMPLE

### Monday, June 27th, 2022

9: Getting Settled/Hot Potato IceBreaker (Abby)

9:20: Rules (5 minutes)

1. Be nice to others
2. Listen to others and your teachers
3. Keep hands to yourself
4. Have fun!

9:25: Freeze Dance

9:35: History

Explorers: **Elizabeth**

Adventurers: **Abby**

10:00: Roll-A-Rhythm

10:10: Work on Performance

Goal: chorus and come up with the motions

10:35: Snack Break

10:50: Theory

Explorers: **Lizzie**

Adventurers: **Elizabeth**

11:15: Food Rhythms

11:30: Performance: Separate into Duets

Elizabeth: Group 1 & 2

Lizzie: Group 3 & 4

Abby: Group 5 & 6

12:00: Lunch

12:30: Musical Chairs / Singing Performance Song

12:45: Instrument of the Day: Ankle Bracelets (Abby)

1:10: Craft: Ankle Bracelets

1:45: Work on Performance / Duets

Elizabeth - pulls duets out to help them

Lizzie/Abby - work on song with kids

2:10: Snack Break

2:20: Drum Rhythms ("Sevens" and maybe "Funga Alafia")

2:55: Pack Up

## ACTIVITY IDEAS

- Musical Chairs (works better for groups of kids who are close in size)
- Whack a Time Signature
- Freeze Dance
- Food Rhythms
- Pass the Beat
- Rumble Ball
- Hot Potato
- Roll-a-Rhythm
- Guess the Animal: Carnival of the Animals
- Scarf Dancing

## TOP TAKEAWAYS

- 1) Don't be afraid to get creative with venues, themes, and lesson plans to create a unique product for your community.
- 2) Whatever activity the students are completing, switch learning modes frequently... be flexible!
- 3) Leverage the opportunity for students to learn from each other and collaborate.



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# **READY, SET, EXPLORE!**

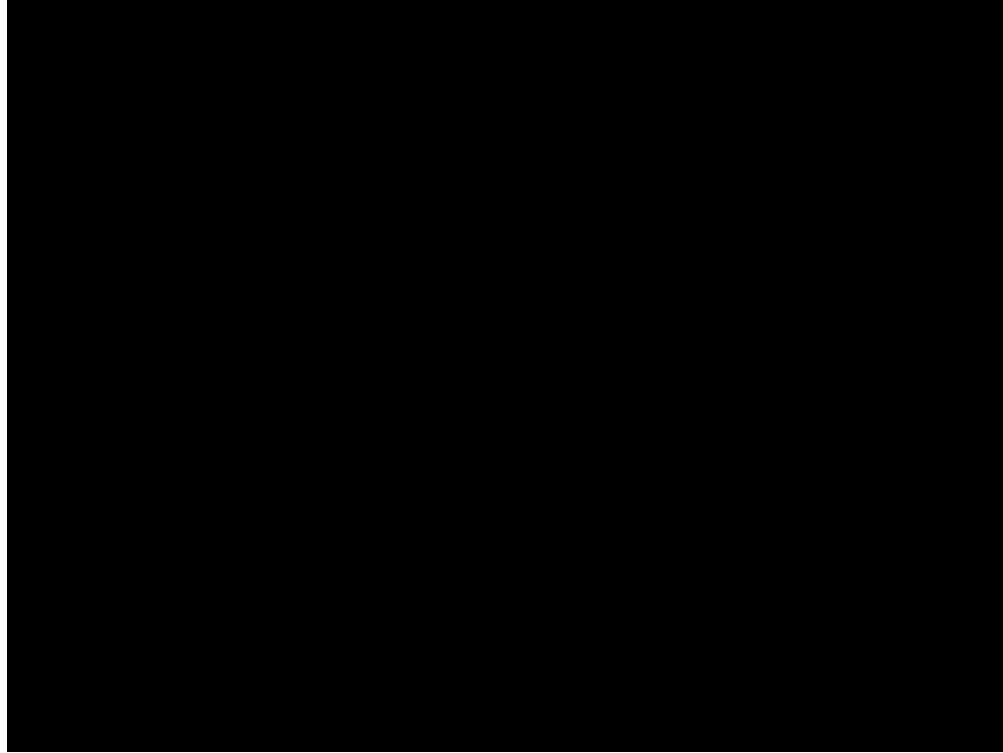
**Creating an Elementary Summer Music Camp as a  
Traveling Teacher**

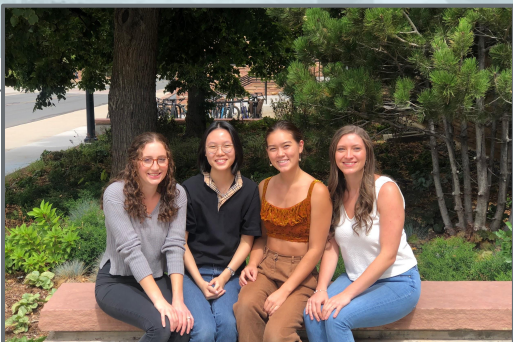
**by Elizabeth Smith, Lizzie French, and Abby Terrill**

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**WELCOME : “FUNGA ALAFIA”**





## ABOUT US



Piano Performance Majors



Piano Teachers



CU Boulder Collegiate Chapter of MTNA

Officers

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

**01**

## **DEMOGRAPHICS**

Camp attendees

**02**

## **DAILY SCHEDULE**

Activities, Classes, Programs

**03**

## **LOGISTICS**

Finding a space

**04**

## **REFLECTION**

What we learned

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## WHY HAVE A SUMMER CAMP?

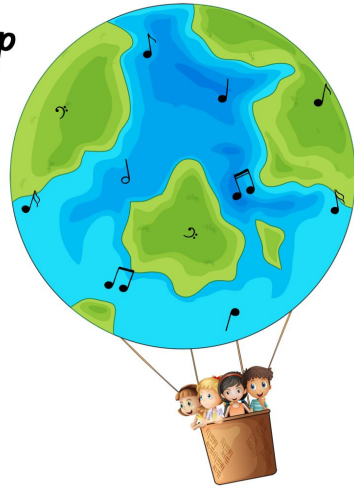
- Increased student practice time during summer
- Creating studio community
- Gaining professional experience developing a camp
- Giving students the same opportunities that impacted us



## Student Packet

# READY, SET, EXPLORE!

*music camp*



*name:*



## Advertisement Flier

**READY**

**SET**

**EXPLORE!**



*a summer music camp*


Join us for a week filled with musical experiences and opportunities to learn new skills - all while hearing and performing music from across the globe!


Two tracks available:


Adventurers: K - 3rd Grade


Explorers: 4th - 6th Grade



 Time: 9am- 3pm

 June 20th-24th

 Mesa Elementary School

 BYO lunch, snacks provided

For more information, scan the QR code or follow the link below.

[www.elizabethsmithpiano.com/readyssetexplore](http://www.elizabethsmithpiano.com/readyssetexplore)  
Questions? Contact us at [ejsmith701@gmail.com](mailto:ejsmith701@gmail.com)



# VENUE

- Student's home?
- Elementary school?
- **Church**





## **LIABILITY INSURANCE + BUDGET**

- Insurance: Check with potential venues on their requirements and packages
- Budget: Research other similarly structured camps in the area

# ADVERTISING

- Our own students
- Social media
- Teacher friends and colleagues
- CU Youth Piano Program

# DEMOGRAPHICS

## Adventurers

- K - 2nd grade
- Little to no piano experience

## Explorers

- 3rd - 6th grade
- 1yr or more piano experience



# WORKSHEETS

## Food Rhythms

Learn about all the different ways to count using food!



Scrambled Eggs



Cinnamon Bun



Hot Cocoa



Beef Ravioli



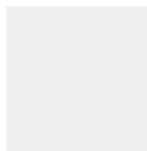
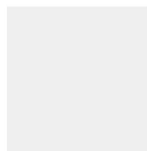
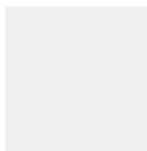
Pancakes, Maple Syrup



Chicken Nuggets



Now create your own!



## Music Makes Me Feel...

Style: \_\_\_\_\_

Mood: \_\_\_\_\_

Instruments & voices: \_\_\_\_\_

The song: \_\_\_\_\_

The composer: \_\_\_\_\_

Dynamics: \_\_\_\_\_

Tempo: \_\_\_\_\_

Other things I noticed: \_\_\_\_\_

My rating: \_\_\_\_\_

5 4 3 2 1

I felt...



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# PROGRAM

## READY, SET, EXPLORE!

*music camp*



JUNE 27TH-JULY 1ST, 2022



### **Funga Alafia (Peace to You): Welcome Song**

**Takeda Lullaby**

**Japan**

Emerson Green  
Peyton Maxhimer

**Thoughts Are Free**

**Germany**

Zephyr Dutton-Swain  
Olivia Trifon

**Pan Tal**

**Korea**

Odin Dutton-Swain  
Ollie Robinson

**Early One Morning**

**England**

June Green  
Charlotte Robinson

**Siyahamba**

**South Africa**

Eira Testa  
Stacie DeWitt

**Gentle Love Song**

**India**

Aesop Dutton-Swain  
Ethan Chan

**"Let's Take a Trip Around the World"**

Thank you to St. Aiden's Church for their hospitality!



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# ACTIVITIES



- Roll-a-Rhythm
- Whack a Time Signature
- Freeze Dance
- Food Rhythms
- Pass the Beat
- Rumble Ball
- Hot Potato
- Musical Chairs
- Listening Activity: Carnival of the Animals
- Scarf Dancing





# **“Whack A Time Signature”**

# CREATING YOUR OWN CAMP

## Resources:

- Canva
- TeachersPayTeachers.com
- Spotify (for creating a playlist)
- "Easy Piano Duets from Around the World: 32 Exciting Duets for Beginner Pianists", Amanda and Jemima Oosthuizen (2020)

## Supplies:

- Office Depot for printing (using the MTNA discount)
- Costco
- Dollar Tree

# LESSONS WE LEARNED

## CONTENT

- Leveling pieces/choosing arrangements
- Scheduling lesson plans according to attention spans
- Send out duets earlier/assigning one teacher per duet

## BUSINESS

- Earlier registration date
- Multiple sessions?



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# TESTIMONIALS

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“My daughter loved Ready, Set, Explore music camp! Being six, she’s had limited exposure to the piano and I thought joining this camp would be a great way to learn more about the piano and gauge her interest. It was the perfect mix of art and music. Everyday she came home singing a new song, or telling me about the special instrument they had made, which [showcased] music from around the world. The [best part] of the week was a performance for parents & siblings. They performed a few group songs highlighting the instruments & rhythms they had made and learned, then each child had an opportunity to perform a duet on the piano. Not only did my daughter have fun, she was really proud of all that she had learned. She is now taking regular piano lessons and claims it’s her favorite day of the week!”

— Andrea

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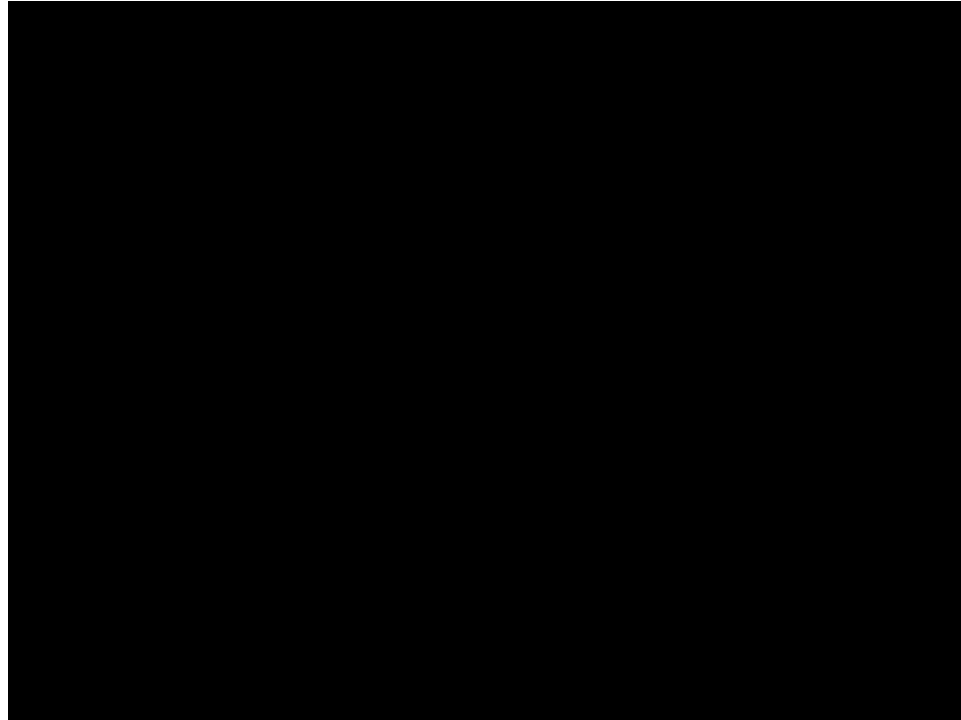
“My son, Ethan Chan, attended Ready, Set, Explore Music Camp in June 2022. It was the first time he attended a music camp. We were so pleased that he happily went to camp each morning and had fun. It was great for him to have an opportunity to make music together with other children. He could see that music is collaborative, not only involving solitary practice at home. The camp curriculum included lots of activities, theory, music history and learning about instruments from different countries. It was wide-ranging and great exposure for a child mainly playing and practicing one instrument throughout the year. He had a great time at music camp and would love to attend again next summer. It was a wonderful experience.”

– Laura

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# STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

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# Thank You!

# Questions?

Contact us at: [cuboulder.mtna@gmail.com](mailto:cuboulder.mtna@gmail.com)

Scan the QR code to visit our website to download our handout!

All identifying information was used with written permission from children's parents via a consent form. Permission was given for information to be used for academic purposes.

