

# **Sammamish Rock Band**

## **Handbook**

### **About our class:**

Welcome to the Sammamish Rock Band Class! I am so looking forward to meeting all of you and fostering an environment of musical creation! In our class, we will learn important musical concepts on our chosen instrument as well as so many more skills to develop us as musicians and not just instrumentalists. In this handbook you will learn about the skills that you will develop in our class. I look forward to working with all of you!

### **Who you'll be studying with:**

Sophie Price is a Seattle singer/songwriter, composer, teacher, producer, and sound designer for film and media. She earned her Bachelor's of Music in Music Education from Queens College and a Masters of Music in Composition for Film from The Pacific Northwest Film Scoring Program. Sophie has composed in a wide array of genres including dramatic pieces for orchestra, music for horror, singer-songwriter folk music, children's music, music for podcasts and more. Sophie also records and produces music in Seattle. She released her debut solo album, "Even Birds," December, 2021 and recorded/produced Vashti Summervill's debut album, "Put My Love in a Picture," released September, 2022. Sophie has played with bands Mellow Blue, Echo in the Pine, and Sweet Stone Gypsy.

2022-2023 enrollment October-June (breaks follow the Issaquah School district schedule)

Ages 8-11

Address: 22522 NE Inglewood Hill Rd, Sammamish, WA 98074, Building C Room C-205 (Sammamish Presbyterian campus)

Contact us at (206) 972-3959 or [sophieprice@gmail.com](mailto:sophieprice@gmail.com) for more information.

**Band class meets every Saturday.**

### **Instrument training:**

Each student will get specifically catered lessons on their instrument to their playing level. The lessons will be within the context of a group and also individually. Many concepts overlap from instrument to instrument and some are very specific to the instrument itself. The class will be structured so that the students can learn and immediately apply what they are learning.

### **Group playing training:**

The students will learn how to play their instrument with their bandmates. Being able to listen and musically converse is an integral skill to group playing. On a rudimentary level, they will learn how to play in time with their bandmates and, on a more advanced level, they will learn how to communicate with their bandmates and musically “speak” when they hear appropriate and give space when needed.

### **Scales, harmony and melody:**

The students will learn the foundations of music. Scales are the foundations of music. Harmony is developed out of scales, and melody out of both. Every student will be expected to learn these concepts in this class.

### **Rhythm training:**

Each student will receive a drum pad and drum sticks to practice at home some of the rhythmic skills that we will learn. Rhythm is one of the foundations of music, without this skill it will be difficult to follow the group.

### **Ear training:**

I am passionate about aligning the students' inner ear with the notes they are playing. Giving a name to the pitches and a name to harmonic progressions that they have heard will allow the students to anticipate the pitches and harmony. This skill takes years to develop, but it is important to begin right away.

### **Composition technique:**

I am also passionate about composition. I am a composer for film and an arranger and producer of other people's music as well. I have a masters in composition for film and am excited to share some of my experience and beliefs and techniques with these students.

### **Lyric writing:**

Under the composition umbrella comes lyric writing. The students will learn the concepts involved in lyric writing such as poetic meter, rhyming patterns, structure and form. What makes a strong verse? Chorus? Bridge?

### **Vocal Technique:**

While this is not a vocal class per-say, healthy vocal technique will be addressed. As well as working on singing in harmony.

### **Positive outlook:**

It is so important that this be not just an educational environment but also a fun environment. I am so excited to hear the students making music together. There will be moments where it will feel challenging, but keeping a positive outlook is very important. Sometimes with challenge comes great success.

### **Safe and judgment free zone:**

Our class is a safe and judgment free zone. Students should know that when they walk into the door of the Rock Band classroom that they are accepted for who they are. All students should treat others as they would like to be treated.

**Thank you for reading our handbook and welcome to our class!**