

The Class System consists, firstly, in arranging students in graded classes, so that each class shall contain students of very nearly similar acquirements in the branches to be studied.

Secondly, the lesson, usually in classes of four, is *one hour in length*, each pupil receiving a proportionate share of individual instruction while having the advantage of listening to other members of the class, and hearing all criticisms made by the teacher on their performances. Thus the entire hour becomes to such pupils a continuous lesson, a portion of which constitutes instruction of such a nature as is difficult to obtain by means of private lessons only.

Individual instruction has distinct merits and advantages of its own, both of which are greatly enhanced by the broadening and elevating musical atmosphere of a Conservatory. The student may take individual lessons at the Conservatory either once, twice or oftener each week, the lesson consisting of thirty, forty-five or sixty minutes each in length, as may be desired, the tuition fees being proportioned to the length of the lesson.

There are many circumstances which should be taken into consideration by the pupil when deciding whether to take class or individual lessons. In many instances a combination of *both systems* produces the best results. The Musical Director may be consulted at any time by pupils or parents on this or any other subject connected with the welfare of Conservatory students.

Whether class or individual instruction is selected, the Conservatory system can hardly fail to induce among its students, emulation, ambition and self-reliance. The student is spurred on to greater efforts by observing the proficiency of those who have attained a higher degree of perfection; energy is directed into proper channels, the critical faculties are sharpened by frequent opportunities afforded for hearing the performances of other pupils and comparing their respective merits; confidence, ease and grace are acquired in performing before an audience, and a refined and cultivated musical taste is rapidly acquired under the stimulating influences by which the student is surrounded.

In the study of music, theory and practice should always go hand-in-hand. While it is possible to obtain excellent instruction from private teachers, provided the best are selected, yet it is only the Conservatory, with its specialists in every department, that can give the student a full equipment as a musician, and send him forth into the world thoroughly prepared to make his mark as an artist, whether it be in the capacity of a teacher or a virtuoso.

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