



## **Scales at every (ST)AGE**

**CLINICIAN:**

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# SCALES AT EVERY ST(AGE)

Take the Next Best Step

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By Debra Haburay

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## **Prelude: The Purpose of Scale Proficiency**

### **Step 1: Master of the Alphabet**

- Learn + practice note names before reading notes on the staff (pre-note reading)
- Learn + practice note patterns before reading or playing scale patterns (pre-scales)
- Make it Automatic

### **Step 2: Speed Staff**

- Learn + practice the staff (pre-note reading)
- Learn + practice note reading (pre-music/rhythm reading)
- Make it Automatic

### **Step 3: Fingerings and Positions**

- Label the Keys/Valves/Slide
- Practice moving the Keys/Valves/Slide (pre-playing)
- Key Chant (WW) and Position/Valve Chant (Brass)
- Make it Automatic

### **Step 4: Notes by Rote** (Concurrent with Steps 1 through 3)

- Instrument Specific Instruction
- One Note, Two Notes, Three Notes
- Mini-Scales
- Chromatics
- 3 Note Songs/5 Note Songs

### **Step 5: Synthesize** (Read the Note + Name the Note + Position/Finger the Note)

- Practice with Speed Staff
- Practice with Fingering Charts (Woodwinds)
- Practice with Scale Sheets
- Practice with Songs/Pieces
- Make it Automatic

## **Step 6: Basic Scales and Scale Patterns (Beyond the Region Scale Pattern)**

- Major 3 Note, 5 Note and 8 Note Scales
- Major 6 Note Scales
- Chromatic Scales

## **Step 7: Theory!**

- Chromatics
- Half Steps and Whole Steps
- The Major Scale Pattern and the 12 Major Scales
- Order of Flats/Order of Sharps
- The Circle of 4ths/5ths

## **Step 8: Key Signature Chant**

- Order of Flats/Order of Sharps
- All the Flat Scales
- All the Sharp Scales
- Make it Automatic

## **Step 9: Key Signatures**

- Read *without* Key Signatures
- Read *with* Key Signatures
- Make it Automatic (this is a critical connection)

## **Step 10: Scale Circles (To Infinite and Beyond)**

- Major 3, 5, 6, 8, 9 Note Scales
- Extended Range
- Chromatic 4, 5, 7, 9, 12 Note Scales
- Scale Circle Workouts
- Make it Automatic!

## **Postlude: The Purpose of Scale Proficiency**

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