



**Texas Bandmasters Association  
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**Tidbits and Ideas for Pouring a Strong  
Foundation in Beginning Band**

**CLINICIANS:**

**Amy Allison-Rivera, Brandi Killough**



**HENRY B. GONZALEZ CONVENTION CENTER - SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

# **Tidbits and Ideas for Pouring a Foundation in Beginning Band**

## **Brandi Killough & Amy Allison-Rivera**

### **Beginning of the year: Procedures & Systems**

- The Band Walk
- How to Money
- Beginner Boards

### **Preparing for playing grades & performances**

- Tone Cards
- Star Boards
- Practice Techniques
- Block day Classes

### **Creating a Culture in Your Band Hall**

- Post Cards
- Wall of Fame
- Band Mascot

### **Teaching Through Gimmicks**

- Kahoot
- Mess Up/Sit Down
- Rhythm Rockstars
- Ninja Scales
- Wall of Awesomeness
- Band Olympics

### **How Lessons Work on Our Campuses**

- Canyon Ridge
- Crosby

## CRMS Practice Techniques!

### 1. The Process

Do this 1 or 2 measures at a time, then 2 or 4 measures at a time

- Count it
- Say it on your syllable
- Play it on one note
- Note name and finger
- Play it

### 2. Stacking

Start with one of two notes in rhythm

After playing correctly 3 times, add one note

Do this 1 or 2 measures at a time

### 3. Backwards stacking

Just like stacking only start at the end of a measure and add 1 note at a time before it

### 4. Zone In

Start on the note or rhythm that is giving you troubles

Add one note to the end and play 3 times

Then add one note before and play 3 times

Then add another note to the end

### 5. Backwards

Play the line from right to left in rhythm

(can also do this one measure at a time)

### 6. 4 - 3 - 2 - 1

Play each note as quarter notes 4 times

Play each note as quarter notes 3 times

Play each note as quarter notes 2 times

Play each note as quarter notes 1 time

### 7. Rhythm Shuffle

Play each note for 4 beats (whole note)

Play each note for 3 beats (dotted half note)

Play each note for 2 beats (half note)

Play each note for 1 beat (half note)

Play each note for  $\frac{1}{2}$  beat (8<sup>th</sup> note)

### 8. Dial It Up

Increase the tempo by 1 or 2 clicks

### 9. Subdivide

Play the line dividing each note into 8<sup>th</sup> notes or 16<sup>th</sup> notes

### 10. Art Fun!

When playing a technical passage with all 8<sup>th</sup> notes or 16<sup>th</sup> notes, change the articulation

- Slur 2 tongue 2
- Tongue 2 slur 2
- Slur 3 tongue 1
- Tongue 1 slur 3
- Tongue 1 slur 2 tongue 1