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February 2011

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L.I.F.E. Style

February 2011

The Power of Music

It is amazing to think how many people are making music today, who otherwise would never have fulfilled their musical dreams, if not for the special care and attention given by a Lowrey Class Leader and all the folks at our local Lowrey store. Stepping back and taking a look we see how music making quickly becomes a vital and meaningful part of our lives.

Take for example the story of Erika Koch, a Lowrey class member at one of the many Piano Gallery stores in Utah. At the urging of her children, friends and classmates Erika wrote a book, "Life Story of Erika Maria Jenschewski Koch," which chronicles her journey through life (so far).

Erika was born in Germany in 1925.

- Lived through the poverty after WWI.
- Lived through the fascist era in Germany when her brother and sisters were in the Hitler Youth Corps.
- Lived through the loss of three siblings from diphtheria and pneumonia.
- Lived through WWII and Allied bombings.
- Lived through the Soviet occupation of her sector of Germany.
- Escaped East Germany by swimming a river in the dead of night with a friend.
- Emigrated to Alberta, Canada, worked as a farm hand, and finally came to the U.S. and now lives in Salt Lake City.

Her book is full of all this, plus her devotion to her church and raising her three children. With all that she dedicated two whole pages of her book and her life story to the Lowrey Program, HOH, L.I.F.E and the Piano Gallery here in Utah.

So many of us have stories to tell and personal accounts of just how important music making is and how Lowrey Dealers, the Lowrey Magic Program and L.I.F.E. adds more meaning to the lives of the folks who come into our stores.

Submitted by Tom Moeglein
L.I.F.E. President

Chapters Rock!

Hats off to Dennis and Joyce Kaplan and Tom Moeglein for starting up the 2011 Chapter Update email newsletter. January was the very first issue and they did a great job getting numerous Chapter stories circulated.



"Since space is limited in the LIFEstyle newsletter, we decided to try a new channel for sharing all the wonderful Chapter news. We can report more news and share many more ideas; and that's what everyone has been asking," explains Dennis Kaplan, National Chapter Co-President.

If you did not receive the January 'Chapter Update' be sure to send Dennis and Joyce your email address along with your request to receive the periodic newsletter.

"Everyone is welcome to be on the Chapter Update (e)mailing list and we hope to expand distribution to everyone in LIFE with an email address." concludes Joyce Kaplan, National Chapter Co-President.

2011 Points-Earning Opportunities

Just a reminder and a few details and clarifications regarding the LIFE points program. Points earning opportunities remain in effect up to June 1, 2011. All points-earning claims need to be postmarked no later than June 1, 2011.

There are two exemptions to the 'Special Announcement' sent in December...

1. **Renew L.I.F.E. Membership-3000pts.** In light of the elimination of the membership fee, effective January 1, 2011, this particular points earning opportunity is not available after January 1, 2011.
2. **Enroll New L.I.F.E Member-1000pts.** This points earning opportunity, consistent with item 1 above, is not available after January 1, 2011. Free memberships are exempt from points.



Sakura (Cherry Blossom)

by: Bil Curry

This popular song is commonly sung to celebrate Japan's national flower. You will recognize the melody, which dates back to the 1700's.

Use **Soft & Easy** (EZ 4/4), **Intro** button, and set the **Tempo** to 70 (+/-). The **Rhythm Preset** (0) is a nice sound but you can also add traditional

Japanese sounds on the SU and A series models by starting with Rhythm Preset (0), pressing **Keypad**, and touching as follows:

3 1 6 & the red **Orchestral Genius 1** = Shamisen, a plucked string instrument.

2 7 1 & the blue **Solo Genius 1** = Shakuhachi, a bamboo flute.

Play the whole song one octave higher than written. At the end press the **FX** button and repeat playing the melody on the lower right split. With this style it sounds nice to press and release the **FX** on most or all of the half notes. Also, don't be afraid to try other **Soft & Easy** variations.

Easy Chords Rule (again)

by: Jim Wieda

Last month I wrote about how Lowrey's Easy button makes left hand chords extremely 'Easy!' One finger, one key, and you can play a full and musically correct chord.

Hopefully you have started exploring those Minor and Seventh chords and are seeing that they do increase the songs available for you to play. Another chord that pushes you a bit further along is the **Diminished chord**. Just like those Minors and Sevenths, a Diminished chord, formed with Lowrey's Easy system, needs but two fingers.

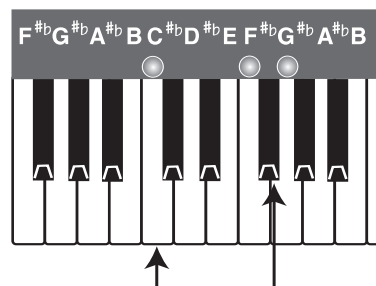
So, with Lowrey Easy-Play chords: Major, Minor, Seventh, and now Diminished, you gain access to the hundreds and hundreds of Easy Play songs and songbooks that feature these four types of chords. The best part is that these two finger chords are many times offered as an alternate chord, which gives you the option to not play them. Just have fun and enjoy your songs!

Diminished Chord Rule

All Easy-Play Diminished chords are played using the same formula.

-Play the chord name key -Play six keys up (right) For example, play a C dim chord by playing C+G^b.

C Diminished C dim

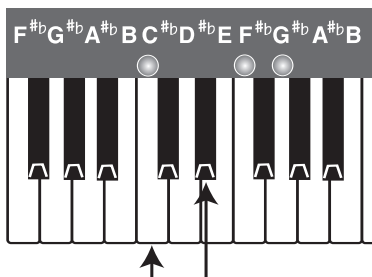


Minor Chord Rule

All Easy-Play Minor chords are played using the same formula.

-Play the chord name key -Play three keys up (right) For example, play a Cm chord by playing C+E^b.

C Minor Cm

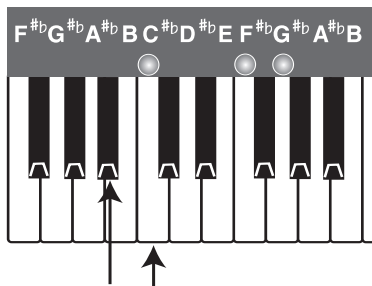


Seventh Chord Rule

All Easy-Play Seventh chords are played using the same formula.

-Play the chord name key -Play two keys down (left) For example, play a C7 chord by playing C+B^b.

C Seventh C7



Sakura (Cherry Blossom)



Am Am Dm Am Dm

Am Dm Am Dm Am Dm

Am E Am Dm Am Dm

Am Dm Am E Am Dm

Am Dm Am Dm Am Press Ending