



COMPARE AND CONTRAST  
Private Lessons with the Tripods Music Method

Private Lessons

- Intense focus on technique and solo repertoire, moving through larger amounts of solo repertoire, with little ensemble work
- 30-60 minutes per week of one-to-one instruction
- Minimal music theory
- No instruction in composition
- No peer interaction
- No ensemble rehearsal
- No/little improvisation
- Exclusively individualized progress, no grouping in levels of proficiency
- Private Lessons and Tripods together give a student both technical expertise and diverse breadth/creativity as total musicians

Tripods Music Method

- Integrated focus on improvisation, composition/theory and ensemble experience. Technique is monitored and strengthened but is not a primary focus
- 20 minutes of two-to-one instruction every-other week, additional 30 minutes of four-to-one shared instruction weekly
- Music theory receives focused attention for 40-60 minutes every week, plus is integrated with composition and improvisation
- Composition is integrated, receiving 20 minutes every-other week. Student compositions can be rehearsed within the ensemble period
- Social interaction with three other peers
- Ensemble skills are developed weekly, for 30 minutes. This is where students interact and have fun.
- Improvisation 20 minutes every-other week
- Students are grouped in levels of proficiency in order to have joint performances playing material appropriate for that proficiency level
- Tripods and Private Lessons together give a student both technical expertise and diverse breadth/creativity as total musicians