About Ruth Boden and Music Theory Aspire

Ruth Boden has been teaching music theory courses designed for beginners through first year college students for over twenty years. She has taught theory courses at Mount Union College (OH), University of Alabama (Graduate Teaching Assistant), Washington State University (where she currently holds tenure and has been teaching intro and first year theory for 16 years), and in master classes, guest artist positions, and clinics around the world (including Asia, Europe, and the United States). Her unique approach to making music theory approachable for all levels has put her in high demand as clinician and educator. Dr. Boden believes that every student can succeed in the difficult area of music theory if given the right tools. She believes these tools begin with a face to face learning style that encourages and accepts all questions and curiosities.

The purpose of Music Theory Aspire is to provide affordable lessons in music theory that give students regular assessment opportunities while also having an in-person instructor to facilitate questions, discussions, and group activities. While there are other courses available on-line, Music Theory Aspire is unique in that it offers weekly meetings with small class sizes and the ability for students to network and ask in real-time the questions that matter. Music Theory Aspire is an ideal opportunity for students enrolled in private lessons to boost their ability to sight read, learn music faster, and understand the patterns which shape much of our music. It also affords students in public schools to pursue a deeper level of musicianship which can help them decide if a career in music is right for them. Lastly, this site gives students who wish to apply for a music degree in college a solid foundation for passing entrance exams—this can save students thousands of dollars by not having to take remedial courses which often puts their degree plan behind by a year!