

# Theme and Variations Challenge

This holiday season, I would like to challenge us as a piano studio to come up with a great set of variations on a familiar Christmas tune. This is a chance for you to show off your creativity at the piano!

I will be videoing you playing your variation (don't worry, I'll just video your hands playing it) and will post the variations on my website. Then, you can share this with friends and family all over the world!

The theme we will be making variations for is Jingle bells (just the chorus). You can do anything you want to this tune, as long as it is somewhat recognizable. Start by picking a mood you want your variation to be in:

## Pick a mood:

Happy	Nervous
Grumpy	Sorrowful
Jazzy	Detached
Lively	Elated
Thoughtful	Bleak
Energetic	Proud
Expectant	Graceful
Intense	Flitting
Dark	Brave
Wishful	Easy going
Comical	Humorous
Joking	Confident
Angry	Angry
Tense	Delicate

## Compose your music:

Some of the many things that you might want to do musically include:

- Change the rhythm (use syncopation)
- Change the harmony (try 7<sup>th</sup> chords, use secondary chords)
- Change the modality (major vs. minor)
- Add notes to the melody (scales, neighboring tones, embellishments)
- Add little interruptions (if it fits the mood)
- There are many, many more things you can do! These are just suggestions!

## Details:

The deadline to come up with your variation is November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Only well polished variations will be recorded and posted on the [composecreate.com](http://composecreate.com) website.