APP-LAUDABLE USES OF APPS IN MUSIC LESSONS

BY JOY MORIN

I. Meaningful incorporation of technology.

II. Apps that make the teacher's life easier.

- Email, calendar, internet searches, <u>Facebook</u>, etc.
- FaceTime or <u>Skype</u> For lessons on snow days.
- <u>forScore</u> (\$9.99) PDF score reader for weddings/gigs.
- <u>iClassicalScores</u> (FREE) PDF score reader. Download public domain scores from <u>imslp.org</u>.
- piaScore (FREE) PDF score reader.
- <u>Evernote</u> (FREE) For keeping notes and so much more. [Inspiration at <u>PianoPantry.com</u>.]
- <u>Bobclass</u> (\$24.99) Studio management tool: scheduling, assignments, more.
- Scannable (FREE) Easily scan receipts or any documents.

III. Apps to frequent during the lesson.

- YouTube For viewing or posting videos. Speaker recommendation: Oontz Angle.
- Camera For videotaping students to provide instant feedback.
- Music (pre-installed app) Upload CD backing tracks from your piano methods.
- <u>Music Memos</u> (FREE) audio recording.
- <u>GoodNotes</u> (\$7.99) For note taking or annotating/printing PDFs. Try storing music worksheets.
- <u>Sproutbeat</u> (Full version \$19.99; subscription) Access 1000+ theory worksheets to print out or complete digitally. A paid subscription allows for sending and grading worksheets for students.

IV. Apps targeting a particular skill/topic.

PLAYING/SIGHT-READING:

- <u>PanoTuner</u> (FREE) <u>Android</u> Tuner app.
- Practice+ (FREE/\$4.99) Tuner, metronome, recorder, and more, all-in-one.
- SuperMetronome Groovebox (FREE/\$6.99) Drum machine. Fun metronome alternative.
- <u>RoboDrummer</u> (FREE) Instant drum beats. Fun metronome alternative.
- MusiClock (\$4.99) Backing tracks for scales or improvisation.
- <u>Piano Maestro</u> (FREE/subscription) Provides pieces with backing tracks and provides a score for rhythm and note accuracy. Many methods and books available. Connects to student accounts.
- <u>SightReadPlus</u> (\$9.99) For major pentascale, one-handed sight-reading. The app will evaluate your performance on your acoustic or MIDI instrument.
- ReadAhead (FREE/\$3.99 per level) Sight-reading examples with disappearing measures.
- <u>Home Concert Xtreme</u> (\$39.99) Upload your own MIDI backing track files, connect to a MIDI instrument, and it will follow and respond to your playing.
- <u>Piano Adventures Player</u> (FREE/\$4.99 per book) Responsive MIDI backing track player for the Piano Adventures method. Powered by Home Concert Xtreme.
- <u>SuperScore</u> (FREE) Purchase SuperScore files, which take MusicXML files to the next level—allowing for beautiful, liquid resizable score display and high-quality backing tracks. Connect to a MIDI instrument and SuperScore will follow and respond to your playing.

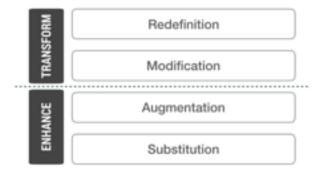
RHYTHM:

- Rhythm Lab (\$4.99) Rhythm exercises to tap onscreen. Can track the progress of multiple users.
- <u>Rhythm Swing</u> (\$3.99) A fun game which teaches and drills basic rhythm notation.
- Musition Rhythm Tapping (\$2.99) Generates rhythms and evaluates your accuracy.
- Rhythm Cat (FREE/\$4.99) Tap rhythms along with backing track. Challenging.
- <u>Rhythm Solitaire</u> (\$2.99) Learn the rhythm values.

FEEL THE BEAT:

• Mind The Beat (FREE) - Game that requires listening and echoing back rhythms.

SAMR MODEL BY DR. RUBEN PUENTADURA



- The Most Addicting Sheep Game (\$0.99) Silly but fun game that requires steady beat.
- <u>Audio Ninja</u> (\$0.99) Another game that requires steady beat.
- <u>SneakBeat</u> (\$2.99) Puzzle game that requires steady beat.

NOTE IDENTIFICATION:

- Note Rush (\$3.99) Android Fantastic note naming app that uses the mic to evaluate the pitch.
- StaffWars (\$0.99) Android | Kindle Use your acoustic instrument or the on-screen buttons.
- NinGenius Music (\$2.99 / \$9.99 Studio / \$15.99 School) Notes/fingerings on every instrument.
- Music Flash Class (\$4.99) Great note naming app also containing a "Hot Potato" group game.
- NoteWorks (FREE/\$4.99) Works with MIDI keyboard.
- <u>Flashnote Derby</u> (\$2.99) <u>Android</u> Great note naming app.
- <u>Treble Cat</u> and <u>Bass Cat</u> (FREE/\$4.99) <u>Android</u> Game: Touch all the C's, etc.

THEORY:

- My Note Games (FREE/\$6.99) Interactive games for note naming and ear.
- <u>Theory Lessons</u> (\$2.99) Theory tutorials (from the folks at <u>musictheory.net</u>).
- Tenuto (\$3.99) Theory and ear training quizzes (from the folks at musictheory.net).
- <u>Tin Pan Rhythm</u> (FREE) Compose and play back harmonic progressions.
- ChordBot (FREE/\$4.99) Android Compose and play back harmonic progressions.
- <u>HookTheory</u> (\$14.99) An ebook on harmony.
- <u>Waay</u> (\$3.99) Great tutorials and exercises for understanding music theory for songwriting.
- Music Theory PRO (\$1.49) Android only Quizzes for music theory exams like ABRSM/Trinity.

EAR TRAINING:

- Ear Trainer Lite (FREE/\$6.99) Aural identification of intervals, chords, scales, etc.
- EarMaster (FREE/PAID) An extensive selection of music theory and ear training lessons.
- <u>GoodEar Pro</u> (\$3.99)
- Auralia Interval Recognition (\$1.99)

PLAYING BY ROTE/EAR:

- Piano Dust Buster (FREE) Teaches by rote to play familiar tunes on the piano.
- Synthesia (FREE/\$9.99) Upload your MIDI files and learn the piece via falling screen indicators.

OTHER:

- <u>Anytune Pro+</u> (FREE/\$14.99) Slow down your mp3s without affecting pitch. Limited time: Teachers can apply to get Pro+ for free <u>HERE</u>.
- <u>Symphony Pro</u> (\$12.99) For notating student compositions.
- Notion (\$14.99) For notating student compositions.
- iRealB (\$12.99) Android For creating chord charts with automatic backing tracks.
- OnSong (\$19.99) For finding and creating chord charts with lyrics.
- GarageBand (\$4.99) For recording or for composition projects.
- <u>Piano Companion</u> (FREE/\$4.99) <u>Android Amazon Windows</u> Chord and scale dictionary.
- Informusic (\$0.99 iPhone only) View composer biographies, timelines, audio tracks, and scores.
- Fingering (\$5.99) Fingering charts for brass and woodwind instruments.

VI. Apps for group classes

- <u>The Orchestra</u> (\$9.99) listen/watch video and scrolling score.
- Beethoven's 9th Symphony (FREE/\$4.99) listen/watch video and scrolling score.
- MSO Learn (FREE)- Melbourne Symphony Orchestra app about instruments.
- <u>Notezilla</u> (FREE/\$4.99) Listen high quality recordings synced with scrolling musical scores.

Resources

- Video: "Ruben Puentedura on Applying the SAMR Model".
- <u>ColorInMyPiano.com/music-apps/</u> Joy's blog and app reviews.
- <u>88pianokeys.me</u> Music app directory by Leila Viss.
- <u>musiceducatorresources.com</u> iOS app list by Jennifer Foxx.
- <u>Coach4Technology.net</u> A list of iOS and Android apps for music education by David Brian Williams.
- Join the iPad Piano Teachers Group on Facebook.