

Technology for Inspired Teaching

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Handout / Resources

No matter your place in history or geography, great teachers inspire students with the best tools they can find. In the 21st century, we have nearly unlimited access to amazing ways to engage and motivate students!

Inspiring with Keyboard Technology

Basic technologies are present on nearly any keyboard, digital piano, or reproducing acoustic piano:

- Recording and Playback
- Headphones/Volume Adjustment
- Computer / iPad Connectivity (MIDI or Audio)
- Choice of “voices” / instrumental sounds

Inspiring with Repertoire

Students are most engaged by music that sparks their interest. We have access to more repertoire than ever if we know how to find it!

Finding unique repertoire for every learner

Finding just the right music for each student is easier than ever with direct access to many composers, publishers, and with specialized apps.

- Composer websites (examples: www.ShaakPiano.com ; www.88creativekeys.me)
- Online publishing (examples: www.pianosafari.com ; www.littlegemsforpiano.com ; www.ycmused.com (YellowCat)
- App-based resources ([SuperScore](#), [MusicNotes](#) apps)

Connecting to Composers

A personal connection to a composer is inspiring for many students. Many composers are easily to reach through their own websites and are often willing to offer studio “visits” through Skype or even have an online masterclass! Example: www.RobinsonCrusoeMusic.com , <http://dennisalexander.com>

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Exploring Cultural Diversity

Digital pianos and app-based explorations can bring music from around the world to your fingertips. Example: [Folk Songs from Planet Earth 3](#): Folk Song from Guatemala

Interactive Repertoire

Many score-reading apps include interactive features such as resizing music, play-along tracks, score-following, or embedded model performances.

(examples: [SuperScore](#), [Piano Maestro](#), [Piano Marvel](#), MIDI resources (to load into play-along apps or straight into your digital piano) from www.keystoimagination.com)

Immersive Ensembles

Playing with others is not only an integral part of music-making, it's extremely motivating for students who crave social interaction in creative pursuits. Play-along experiences help students practice ensemble parts more effectively so that their in-person rehearsals with playing partners can be even more fulfilling! Example: [Obbligato Classics](#) arr. Paul Sheftel

Inspired to Improvise!

Play-along materials turn a mobile device into a one-on-one improv coach. Like training wheels or rails in the bowling alley, these tools help students define boundaries for improvisation, building confidence and skill. Examples: [Creative Musicianship by Paul Sheftel and George Litterst](#) ; MicroJazz by Christopher Norton (Available in print/CD/MP3 and in SuperScore)

Multimedia Inspiration

YouTube and other video sites are full of wonderful multimedia works to inspire deeper connections to repertoire that may seem distant to modern students. Example: Satie in Paris: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_fulMye31Gw

DIY multimedia with apps like [Visual Performer](#), iMovie, or a combination!