

## Online Music Lessons

COVID-19 has changed many things, but that doesn't mean we can't continue music lessons! This document is to help prepare you for online lessons. I've learned a lot about teaching online and I am confident I can conduct fun and educational lessons through Zoom.

If you cannot do everything on this list, that is okay! Do as much as you can, and we can go from there. We are all just doing our best, and attitude is everything.

### How to prepare for online lessons

- Please be dressed for your lesson. This doesn't mean you need to wear anything fancy, but please do have regular clothing on, not a bathing suit etc.
- If possible, choose a common area in your home for your lesson, rather than your bedroom. Especially for minor students, one-to-one online meetings should happen with trusted adults or family members around.
- Singers, be sure you have enough space to stand comfortably, allowing both of us to see you clearly. For pianists, I'd like to see your hands and your face at the same time if possible. An angle from beside the piano often works well for this.
- Position yourself so that you are lit from the front, as this helps the computer (and me!) see you clearly.
- Please use a laptop or desktop computer rather than your phone and connect your computer to the internet via an ethernet cable rather than Wi-Fi. This affects lag and helps us hear and see things at the same time.
- I recommend using wired headphones and an external microphone

### Things to have for your lesson (voice or piano)

- A sharpened pencil and eraser
- Your sheet music in a physical format or on a device separate from your Zoom device
- Water to drink
- Notebook for lesson notes
- Chargers for any devices you use during your lesson
- Have a second device handy for playback of karaoke tracks, recorded accompaniments, etc. (phones work well for this, or tablets)
- Recommended for singers:
  - Full-length or large mirror
  - Music stand

## Setting up Zoom for online music lessons

- Download Zoom and create an account
  - <https://zoom.us/>
- Enable 'Original Sound' in Zoom. On a desktop/laptop this should appear in the top left hand corner of the screen when in a call, or in the Audio Options. This makes a huge difference in the sound, as Zoom automatically suppresses any repetitive sound, thinking it might be a refrigerator etc. when it might just be you playing a repeated note!
- If you have any troubles, I am happy to walk you through it.

This is my meeting 'address' and password.

Meeting ID: 405 045 1350

Passcode: 1LXcu7

I will admit you from the 'waiting room' at your lesson start time.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Let's make music together!

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