



## “VIRTUAL REHEARSALS” FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

### “Quick Clicks!”

(Click on a link below for quick access and information.)

<a href="#">SmartMusic</a>	<a href="#">Practice Charts and Practice Pacing Guide</a>	<a href="#">Rhythm Sheets</a>	<a href="#">Circle of Fifths</a>
<a href="#">Instrument Maintenance</a>	<a href="#">Supplies and Accessories</a>	<a href="#">Coaches' Corner</a>	<a href="#">Mindfulness</a>

### **Will SmartMusic and Google Classroom work be graded during the school closure?**

Yes and no. We are looking for best work, not “perfect” work!

The sole purpose of the SmartMusic and Google Classroom items is to help you maintain your regular practice and to keep your skill sets strong and responsive (as would be the case with any physical activity). Every “assignment” will be “checked off” (✓) in Illuminate as a way for Ms. Woo and Mr. Garnreiter to monitor your progress and development.

Once again, we are not looking for performance-worthy submissions, but would compare the work to your in-class rehearsal preparation (which does include mistakes!)

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### **I’m having technical issues with SmartMusic. What do I do?**

Don’t panic!

Depending on the nature of your issue, you might be able to work it through. Since we have been using SmartMusic as a regular part of our instruction this year, you should be fairly comfortable with navigating the program. We highly recommend “trying it out” first by doing your own research. Also, use the “three heads are better than one” approach and reach out to three friends for their input (one of them might have solved the issue for themselves).

There is a good chance you'll figure it out on your own, AND you'll learn something new by doing so. There is also a good chance that with all the fast-changing developments in the world, Ms Woo or Mr. Garnreiter won't get to your email or Google Classroom message right away.

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### **Do I turn in weekly “agenda” items on the same day?**

You can...but it is not recommended. We designed the “Virtual Rehearsals” with the intent of spacing your practice over the course of the week. It's better to work on small “chunks” each day instead of one long practice session at the end of the week. You can also use your daily practice sessions as a “breather” to help balance the work you are doing for your other classes.

Click [HERE](#) to use our Practice Pacing Guide for suggestions to design an effective practice week.

By the way, you can turn in your “agenda” items in any order through the week.

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### **My other teachers are using Zoom or Google Meet for their classes. Could we set up a rehearsal or sectional through these platforms?**

Unfortunately, playing our instruments at the same time through video conferencing presents challenges beyond our control. The interfacing and signal latency (delay) is an issue. As much as we would like to, we are not able to set up a video rehearsal.

However, if you would like to schedule an individual video conference with Ms Woo or Mr. Garnreiter, we are happy to make arrangements (by appointment).

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### **Should I be practicing every day?**

YES! There are numerous benefits to daily practice:

- Keep your music muscles “warm” and responsive (as you would any physical activity)
  - Take a break from all the increased screen time from Zoom and Meet “classes”
  - Find something fun to play to make you happy (NOW is the time for “Careless Whisper!”) ;-)
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## **Can I still turn in missing work that was due before the school closure began on March 17th?**

YES! In fact, we prefer that you finish and submit any missing assignments before you start working on the “Virtual Rehearsals.”

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## **I don't have my instrument. What do I do?**

This is the trickiest situation! There isn't much you can do with the “Virtual Rehearsals” - except maybe clap and count your rhythm sheets. You could spell the note names of your scales as you finger an imaginary instrument. Other than that, your options are pretty limited. Again, your work is only being collected and “checked-off. Reach out to Ms. Woo and Mr. Garnreiter ASAP, and we could arrange to meet at JAMS for you to pick up your instrument.

