

"DIGITAL MAGIC": SEAMLESSLY FROM 'LIVE' RECORDING (TO MP3) TO WEB POSTING IN MINUTES!

by John Kuzmich, Jr.

Clinic Blog:

<http://kuzmichmediablog.tumblr.com>

Clinic Outline:

http://www.kuzmich.com/Meet%20John%20Kuzmich_StLouis.html

5/22/2010

[2010 JEN National Jazz Educators Conference](#) in
St. Louis, Missouri

Clinic Objectives #1

1. Newer, simplified digital recording tools, computer music software and the Internet audio streaming techniques offer educators a new world of creative instructional opportunities beyond traditional classroom music instruction for posting "live" recordings on the Internet.
2. This clinic session is designed for music educators in teaching them the necessary techniques to record rehearsals/concerts and using these true CD quality (44.1 KHz) recordings for making fund raising CD's and posting the recordings on your school web page via MP3 file conversion and audio streaming.

Clinic Objectives #2

- The good news is that this **technology is becoming easier for both teachers and students to use and very economical**. You don't need a lot of equipment to make great digital recordings that can be easily done and then converted to much smaller audio MP3 files with affordable software, then posted on a website for mass listening or burned to CD.
- Will **illustrate how good blogging with multimedia** is for presentations as well as HTML and podcasting formats.

Three Steps to Digital Magic!: page 1

- Step 1: Digital Audio Recording: Three Options for Hardware and Software Apps
 - Dedicated Hardware: primarily SD Card recorders. It's possible to make digital audio recordings with a computer, but the process can be complicated. A **dedicated portable digital recorder is usually the way to go**, especially at the current reasonable prices. There are two sizes of these devices to choose from: handheld (Sony, Zoom, Yamaha, Edirol, M-Audio, Marantz, Tascam, et cetera); and the larger, desktop size (Roland, Marantz, Tascam, Fostex, and Superscope, among others).
 - Click for [local](#) for more Superscope info.
 - For sample audio recordings done at JEN, click for [local](#) or [web](#).
 - See representative digital audio handheld and voice recorders!

Three Steps to Digital Magic! page 2

- Digital Hand-Held Recorders: for a good overview to this market, go to: [The Magic of Hand-Held Digital Recorders](#)
- Computer Software Recording: Digital recording with computers and digital sequencing software options is another option. The **downside is that it requires a second hard disk drive for maximize efficiency and avoiding possible computer crashing. Lots of RAM, fast CPU processor and large hard disk drive is a plus.** There are a wealth of digital audio recording products on the market. PC: Cakewalk products, Cubase, and on MAC: ProTools, Logic, and *Digital Performer*, *ProTools*, and *GarageBand* among many others. For an easy to use product that makes the recording process rather simple, consider Elevation by Superscope.

Three Steps to Digital Magic! page 3

- Tips for making digital recordings with handhelds
- Price difference between voice and music digital recorders is no longer a significant issue. Nor is audio quality if...
 - a modestly priced external miniature condenser microphone, it is difficult to tell the difference between voice & music digital.
 - the unit has manual recording level controls.
 - the unit's VU meter needs to be manually set to optimize the recording for both loud and soft passages
 - Manual recording level controls at 128 kbps and higher as a minimum audio standard in an MP3 recording mode.
 - hand-held digital recorders are not electrically grounded, hand noise can affect the recordings

Three Steps to Digital Magic!: page 4

- More tips for making digital recordings: page 2
 - ▣ Smaller the unit, the smaller the speaker will be, and the lower output power it will have.
 - ▣ Purchase a Y-cable so two sets of headsets can be plugged into the unit. Two students can then listen
 - ▣ Obtain a WAVpedal 7 system with USB footpedal by Dictran.com for transcribing text and music painlessly.
- Here are some worthy competitors for your comparative shopping for hand-held digital recorders.
 - ▣ Sony, Olympus, Marantz and Yamaha
 - ▣ Edirol, Zoom, Tascam, Korg, Roland and M-Audio

Step 2: Working With Audio Files: Converting Digital Audio Files to .MP3 File Format

- The **secret of multimedia** on the Internet is compressed files. In terms of file size and audio quality, Flash is recommended for video and .MP3 for audio.
- Many good software products to use.
 - [Smart CD Ripper](#) (free) and their Pro version
 - [Audio Creator](#) by Cakewalk
 - [Acoustica Audio Converter Pro](#) (AACCP)
 - [Samplitudes Music Studio 1.6](#) by Magix is a good professional-level music making software solution for digital perfect recordings!
 - [iTunes](#) by Apple is also good for file conversions and free.

Step 3: Web-casting with Audio/Video Streaming to the Internet: Via Blogging, Podcasting and Web Sites #1

- **Streaming Web sites should be the norm** by now for school music programs promoting themselves to parents, administrators, community, and the world. In order to post and play audio and video over the Internet, you need two key technologies: data compression and streaming or Web-casting.
- **Streaming provides instant gratification.** Rather than downloading a complete file, the user receives the audio or video as a bitstream. The bits are played in the order they are received, and then they are discarded.

Step 3: Web-casting with Audio/Video Streaming to the Internet: Via Blogging, Podcasting and Web Sites #2

- Blogging represents the fastest and most efficient way to post audio and video files to the Internet without being an web master. While blogging techniques may be simple, free and readily available, strongly suggest you investigate www.tumblr.com for creating blogs because it may be the **only blog that allows you to post 10 MB audio file** directly on the blog daily with no limit of the number audio files posted. And if you use their free third-part application, [Tumbltape](#), you can have your entire *Tumblr* library of daily audio postings in one standardized index for immediate playback for your students.

Step 3: Web-casting with Audio/Video Streaming to the Internet: Via Blogging, Podcasting and Web Sites #2

- Most popular blogging sites are:
 - [WordPress](#)
 - Blogging.com
 - [Golden Stake Employment Blog](#)
 - [Denver ERC](#)
- Demonstrate editing and posting a blog
 - [Kuzmichmediablog.tumblr.com](#)
 - [Golden Stake Employment Blog](#)
 - [Tumblr.com](#)

Step 3: Web-casting with Audio/Video Streaming to the Internet: Via Blogging, Podcasting and Web Sites #3

- Podcasting can be also be multimedia treat. See: Welcoming Podcast: [Meet Mr. Cruse and Dr. Data](#)
- Podcasting entry-level clinic at:
http://www.kuzmich.com/podcasting/Podcasting_short.html
- Check my daughter's library at:
<http://www.tumbltape.com/onebrickshy> and my media blog at: <http://kuzmichmediablog.tumblr.com/> for examples on how audio and video files can be loaded and used seamlessly on a blog. Note: **all audio files can be stored on Tumblr for free** if posted on different days and not exceeding 10 MB in size.

Step 3: Web-casting with Audio/Video Streaming to the Internet: Via Blogging, Podcasting and Web Sites #4

- [Camtasia Studio](#) by TechSmith is a must multimedia applications for creating videos by recording anything you see on your computer screen with along with webcam and audio with a capacity of three different tracks to mix and edit. You can convert *PowerPoint* slideshows, web pages, digital photos and videos all with narrations that can be customized. You can convert the videos to a multitude of file formats, most notably FLASH which is compressed and runs promptly over the Internet. Examples of exclusive use of FLASH is located at *YouTube* and *Vimeo*. Special educator price is 50% off.

Audio Tools for Music Educators: Noise Cleaning & Audio Enhancements #1

- Music educators live in a world full of sounds. Unfortunately, not all of their music is perfectly performed and/or imperfectly recorded. **The ability to fix what's broken is an important attribute of today's music restoration technology products.** Particularly when trying to archive student performances to share with students, their parents, administrators and others via Internet blogs, podcasts or web postings and/or CD's and DVD's. For examples, click [here](#).
- See the music technology column in the [February 2010 issue](#) of [School Band & Orchestra](#) magazine for an article of mine on the products that can make a difference with the audio quality of your recordings ranging from primer to entry/intermediate to professional software applications. See URL for their free web edition if you don't have a free subscription.

Audio Tools for Music Educators: Noise Cleaning & Audio Enhancements #2

- Removing Broadband Noise from a Concert Recording
- Using EQ and other tools with the Spoken Word
- Restoring an Historical Speech: Making Voice More Intelligible
- Cleaning up a Phone Interview.
- Removing Clicks and Pops from a Concert on Record
- Cleaning up a phone interview by removing clipping from a phone Interview.
- Removing Guitar String Squeaks

Audio Tools for Music Educators: Noise Cleaning & Audio Enhancements #3

- Filling a Gap in Audio
 - ▣ Restoring old recordings while removing unwanted noise
 - ▣ Putting analog tapes or vinyl onto CD's.
- **Identifying Common Noise and Audio Problems frequently found digital recordings.**
 - ▣ **Hum and Buzz**
 - ▣ **Hiss and other Broadband Noise**
 - ▣ **Clicks and Pops**
 - ▣ **Clipping**
 - ▣ **Intermittent Noises**
 - ▣ **Gaps**

Audio Tools for Music Educators: Noise Cleaning & Audio Enhancements #4

- Five products were selected for this clinic. Before and after audio cleaning samples [here](#) and [local](#).
- [Spin It Again](#) by Acoustica is a stand-alone product.
- [Magix Audio Cleaning 15](#) by Magix is a stand-alone product.
- [SoundSoap 2](#) by BIAS-Inc Note: SoundSoap is available in both plug-in and as a stand-alone edition.
- [SoundSoap 2 Pro](#) by BIAS-Inc. Note: SoundSoap Pro is plug-in only
- [iZotope RX](#) by iZotope is a plug-in only

Closing Comments #1

- Audio and video streaming are essential ingredients for top-notch school music Web sites. I can record a concert and post recording of the entire show in less than an hour, and that includes the time needed for Web site construction. Featuring our students work on the Web can be a public relations tool that will catch the attention of students, friends, parents, relatives, and administrators.
- One of the best examples of good public relations comes from New Trier High school band program at www.ntjazz.com and <http://www.newtrier.k12.il.us/page.aspx?id=9595>

Closing Comments #2

- MySpace is another place where you can post your audio and video files posted for free. **MySpace was originally designed for promoting music groups.** It has become a free social-networking Web site with an interactive, user-submitted network of friends, personal profiles, blogs, groups, photos, music and videos for teenagers and adults. And although my daughter performed in two professional bands in Atlanta for 5 years, one with it's own independent Web site (www.thebordercollies.com), but they still use MySpace (www.myspace.com/thebordercollies) because it is so easy to update fans about upcoming events as well as blog entries about their recent work

Closing Comments #3

- YouTube - Broadcast Yourself. Share your videos with friends, family, and the world. YouTube is a video sharing website on which users can upload and share videos. Unregistered users can watch the videos, while registered users are permitted to upload an unlimited number of videos. Music educators can easily post their video recordings to YouTube for free plus attract a viewing audience that is literally the world. For example, a music teacher in New York City has used blogger and YouTube to skyrocket his school to fame (**Over 14 million views and over 100,000,000 downloads**) as of 1/4/2010.

Closing Comments #4

- This teacher teaches in the ghettos of Manhattan at PS22 and has literally changed the lives of his students through the success with YouTube!
 - <http://ps22chorus.blogspot.com/>
 - Here's his YouTube page with all the videos:
 - <http://www.youtube.com/user/agreggofsociety>
- Here's the Wikipedia article explaining what it is: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/YouTube Symphony Orchestra](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/YouTube_Symphony_Orchestra) it is the first-ever online collaborative orchestra. Must see the orchestra in action remotely and read how it actually was done! Click [here](#) to see and hear them!

Musical Examples with Excitement Of Multimedia Web Sites #1

Digital Recording has never been easier, cheaper and professional sounding.

File conversion to .MP3 has never been easier.

High-speed Internet is inexpensive.

Blogging is it for the novice music educator!

1. [PS22 Chorus](#) with over 16 million viewers and 100,000,000 downloads of a inner-city school in Manhattan. Must see to believe the implication of music education on how it “does” change lives.
2. [Maurico Saravia School of the Arts](#)
3. [20+ Internet-based Music Technology Courses](#), including TI:ME courses with a presentation using a webcam and web sites.
4. MIDI Synthesis Clinic: [click here](#) Reva Paget on MIDI violin with performance and teaching illustrations for non-keyboard instruments.

Musical Examples with Excitement Of Multimedia Web Sites #2

1. [Meet Bergenfield High School Band Program](#) with 18 videos posted on YouTube. All videos can be downloaded for free.
2. [Meet John Kuzmich, Jr.](#) as a music technology and jazz education clinician
3. [110+ feature music technology articles](#) published in national and international music educator journals.
4. Check out Reva's first music video entitled [Butterfly](#)
5. [The Duluth High School Marching String Orchestra](#) with members of their middle school orchestra program totaling 200 marching strings members! Must see to believe!!!
6. [Reva's first night club gig](#) at The Paper Heart in Phoenix
7. [Kuzmich Family blog](#) with much multimedia.

Musical Examples with Excitement Of Multimedia Web Sites #3

- Whotune.com is a must **free** multimedia web site for musicians. Click [here](#) for sample portfolio.
 - Jam cam allows you to broadcast to 150+ students “live” over the Internet and record all concerts/lectures as well.
 - Can load MIDI and .MP3 files for students to download and practice with.
 - Post videos
 - Post photos
 - Post calendar
 - Post bio credits
 - Sell recordings from web site and earn 85% of all sales.

Meet John Kuzmich, Jr. #1

- **Dr. John Kuzmich Jr.** is a veteran music educator, jazz educator and music technologist. His music technology column appears regularly in *School Band and Orchestra* magazine with more than 100+ feature articles since 1998. Dr. Kuzmich is a nationally known music educator with more 43+ years of public school teaching experience with a specialty in videoconferencing instruction.. He has institute certification from TI:ME (Technology Institute for Music Educators) to serve as a training instructor throughout the country. His academic background also includes a Ph.D. in comprehensive musicianship. As a freelance author, he has more than 500 articles and five textbooks published. As a clinician, Dr. Kuzmich frequently participates in workshops throughout the U.S., Europe, Australia, and South America. This past year, he has taught in Hawaii, Switzerland and Brazil besides his full-time middle school teaching assignments for Jefferson County Schools in the Denver, Colorado suburbs. May, 2009, he officially retired from Carmody Middle School. For more information about Dr. Data, visit his Web site:
www.kuzmich.com/clinics.html.

Meet John Kuzmich, Jr. #2

- **History of American Popular Music** is a three-credit college class that I teach for Minnesota State University on-line and the entire repertory is literally on the web for students to both listen and see the original artists.
 - [Roll Over Beethoven](#) by Chuck Berry
 - [George Harrison Roll Over Beethoven](#)
- [Meet John Kuzmich, Jr.](#)
- [Clinician Web Site](#)
- [110+ Feature Published Articles](#)
- [E-mail](#)



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