



# How to Create a Virtual Jazz Band for the First Time

Presenter, Julius Tolentino

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## ***Outline your Project***

- I. Decide on the piece and group
- II. Create a guide track
- III. Plan who starts to record in stages
- IV. Directions to students, how to record
- V. Gathering audio and video
- VI. Using Logic for the first time
- VII. Using Final Cut Pro for the first time

### **I. DECIDE ON THE PIECE AND GROUP**

When choosing your piece, I suggest playing something the band is all already familiar with or something simple you know they will be able to execute. This process is foreign to them and don't expect the same kind of execution or playing level from your students. When deciding on the group, know that more players means more editing in both the audio and video process.

### **II. CREATE A GUIDE TRACK**

I suggest creating a click track or guide track from the bottom up, in a jazz project that would be your rhythm section first. I like to have my bassist or drummer first record themselves playing the whole arrangement while listening to a metronome. You can also create a guide track with a midi file, but I like using the players with a metronome to create a guide track.

### **III. PLAN WHO STARTS TO RECORD IN STAGES**

You should decide which individual would be the strongest to make the first recording, or you can make it yourself. Make sure they give a clear count off at the beginning. Then I add the drums or bass. Depending on the arrangement I will add piano and guitar or wait till the end to add them. If there is a lot of interaction between rhythm section, you can always go back and have them rerecord after all the soloists have recorded.



After your rhythm section guide track is made, send it out to just the lead player to record. Then send out to the rest of the players.

#### **IV. DIRECTIONS**

Compose an email with very simple instructions on how to submit their video to you. For example:

*Dear Students,*

*Here are the directions to submitting your video for our virtual project. You will need your cell phone, another device (laptop) to listen to the guide track, and headphones. Please hold your phone in landscape position and make sure you are centered in the video. Also put your phone on airplane mode when recording. If you can count out loud with the count off. Make sure you are well lit with no lights behind you in the video.*

*Record a little sample of yourself playing and listen back to the sound. If the sound is not right, or your playing is too loud for the phone, I suggest trying a side profile especially for brass players. We need one complete video take from beginning to end. It will most likely take several attempts and possibly days to get your video right. Please make sure you are warmed up and tuned up with a tuner before recording. Listen back and be critical of your submission. It is not easy to record with just a guide track so don't be discouraged if I ask you to record it again with some helpful suggestions.*

*Please submit the video by (date here) and label it with your name and instrument. Don't try sending your video from the phone. Instead, Airdrop it to your laptop and send it from a Gmail email address. This will send it as a Google Drive or you can email it using Dropbox.*

#### **V. GATHERING INFORMATION**

I highly suggest creating a folder for each project. You can even make a google sheet form for students to upload their google links to. This will save time going through each email especially for larger groups. It is highly advised to also have a separate hard drive for all the videos you will be downloading. When you download each video make sure you label it with the correct name and save it to the correct folder. You will eventually export the sound from that video, which will automatically have the same name and go to the same folder.





Presenter, Julius Tolentino

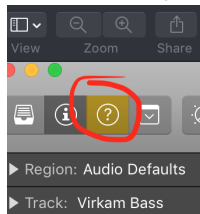
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## Basics for Logic

Before opening Logic, **download** all the student videos and **label** with name and instrument and **save** in a folder labeled **File- Export As -Audio Only...**

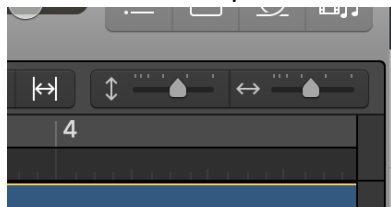
### **Important Keys or Functions**

Info on everything

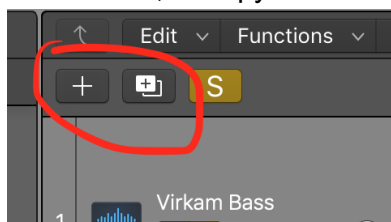


Command and arrows= Vertical Zoom or Horizontal Zoom

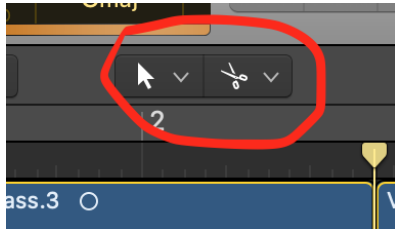
Also located in top left



Add a track, or copy a track



Option of having two tools- set to pointer tool and scissors tool



Command T= Split Regions

Command Z= Undo

### **Steps to make a guide track**

Open Logic

1) **File - New**

2) **Audio** - (Choose number of Tracks) **Create**

3) Open Finder to Folder

4) Drag and Drop Audio File to Track (Bass and Drums)

Two ways to add tracks- drag and drop and browser button.

5) Line up tracks with a metronome click giving yourself two measure ahead for a count off.

6) Create another audio track and record your voice counting off

7) Select all the regions and bounce track

### **Potholes and Helpful Hints**

Create printed out lists of your groups

Have them count off with the guide track

Sample Rates- you can change them in Browser Button, top right hand corner

Trying to line up tracks- find an ideal spot could be anywhere

Making sure your outputs are correct

Getting your tracks at the same volume, **Audio EFX- Dynamics- Expander**

Make sure your master track is not too loud

Don't dwell, reach out to a friend. Contact me if you want my contact (Jason Anderson) for a lesson on Logic.





### **Steps to making a master track**

*Same beginning process for making a master track with the whole ensemble*

- 1) **File - New**
- 2) **Audio** - (Choose number of Tracks) **Create**
- 3) Open Finder to Folder
- 4) Drag and Drop Audio Files to Tracks and label and group in sections  
Two ways to add tracks- drag and drop and browser button.
- 5) Line up tracks with your guide track
- 6) Make edits
- 7) Mix and Master
  - A) Line up phrases
  - B) Small fixes
  - C) Pan tracks
  - D) Get an overall balance of the group, add EFX
  - E) Tracking- latch a track to bring it up or down in the mix
  - F) Make sure all the tracks start and end clean and add fade. Take out Metronome.
- 8) Select all the regions and bounce track



## Final Cut Pro Basics, JEN Webinar 5/6/2020

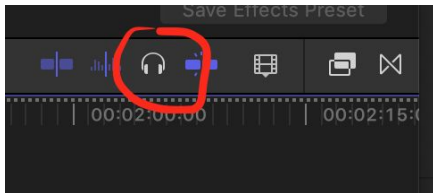
### Important Keys or Functions

Command + and - this will zoom in and out horizontally of your project

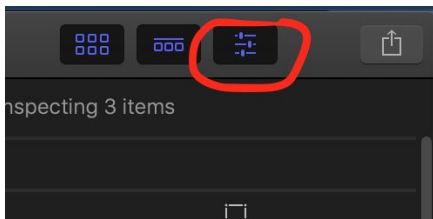
Command B is Blade, used to splice your footage.

Shift can be used to select more than one track.

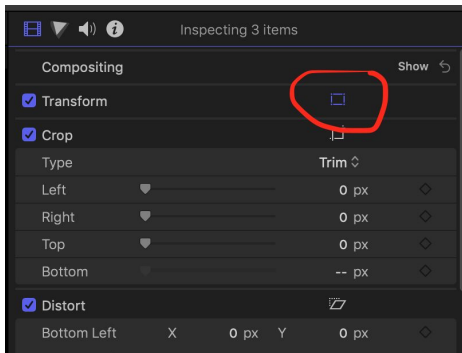
Headphones - turns sound on and off when working with your footage



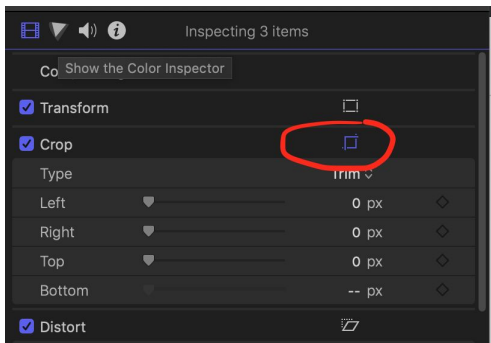
Show the "Inspector" view



Transform- Changes position, size, scale of the selected video or videos.

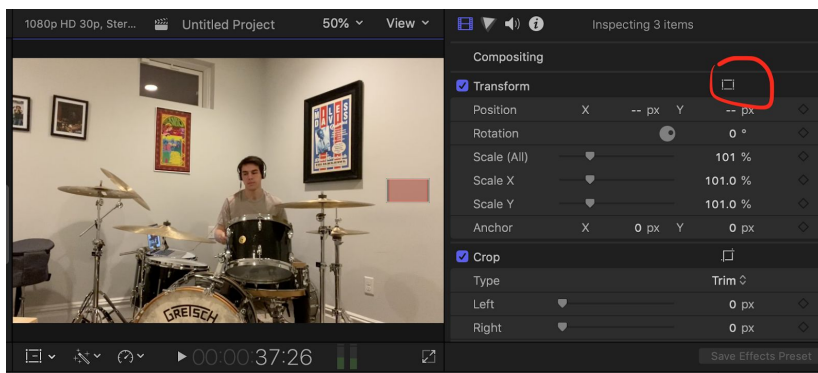


Crop- Crops the borders of the selected video or videos.

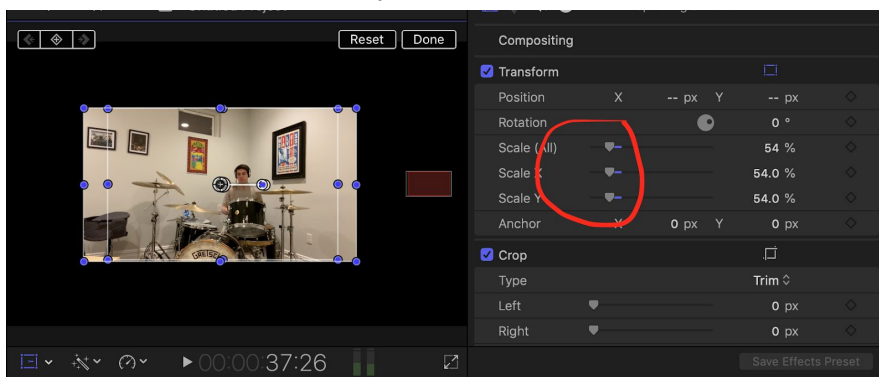


## Create a New Event

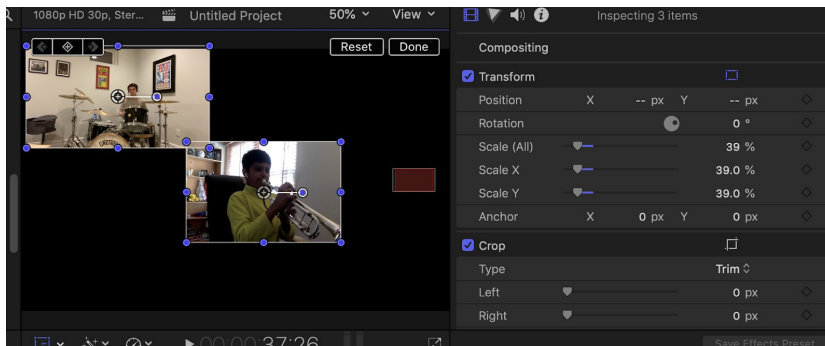
- 1) **File - New - Event**
- 2) 2 Ways to import footage
  - A) Drop and Drag all your videos and master track from your folder to event library
  - B) Media Import Button
- 3) Start with the video that has extra at the front of the video before count off and keep it at the bottom of the page.
- 4) Add the master track from Logic.
- 5) Line up the master track with the first piece of video, turn the volume off once lined up.
- 6) Add all the other video and line up according to the audio and continue to turn the volume off once lined up. Tip: I like to erase the videos from my library once I use them in a project, especially when I have lots of videos. Also use your printed list of the group.
- 7) Select all the videos by using select and shift.
- 8) Click the Transform Button



- 9) Set the scale to the size box you want



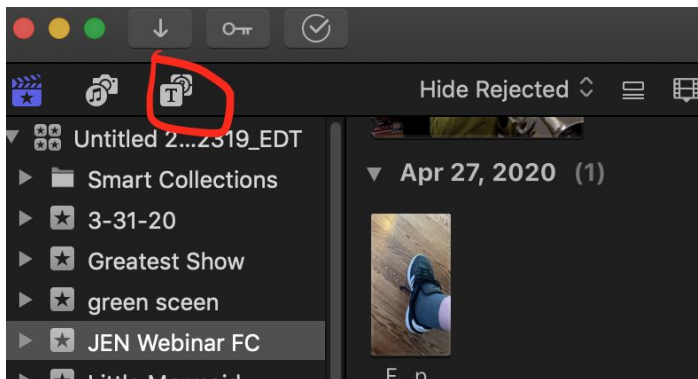
10) Move the boxes (cards) around.



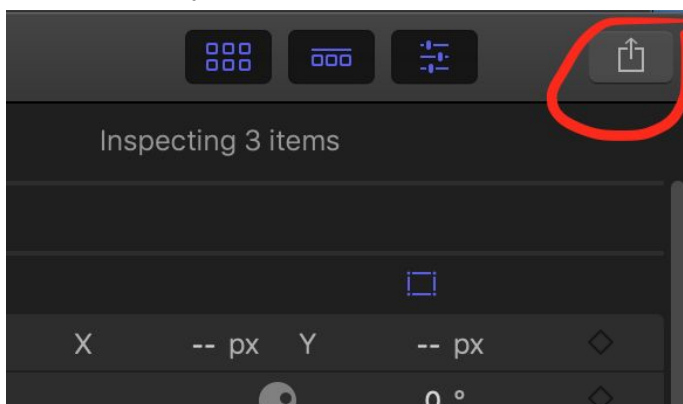
11) You can crop and center pictures using Crop and Transform.

12) Create different configurations by choosing the boxes you want and editing the rest.

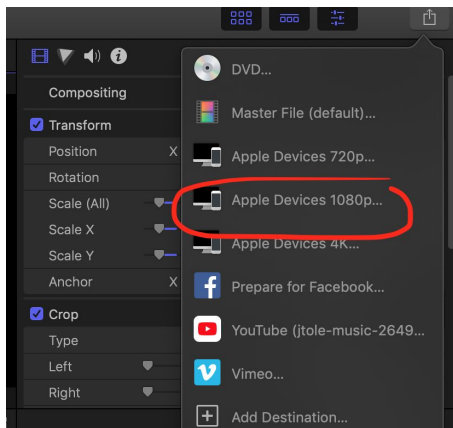
13) Add introductions or credits using Titles and Generator button



14) Export your finished video



15) I always format to Apple Devices 1080p...



16) Upload to YouTube or just share the video!



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## **Zoom Lesson Set Up and Equipment, JEN Webinar 5/6/2020**

### **EQUIPMENT**

We all have different school budgets, and hopefully you can spend some of that money you have left from our early dismissal from band room activities and concerts. All the equipment I describe here (and more) is in the list below. If I had to recommend the bare minimum it would be to acquire just the ethernet cord with adapter and the cheaper Bluetooth Speaker.

#### ***Ethernet Cable and Adapter***

Using an ethernet cord and adapter to connect to your internet modem is the best way to have no interruptions and prevent any lag. You will already be dealing with lag from your students' setups from home, so it helps to have your side interruption free.

#### ***Bluetooth Speaker***

Getting a clear sound from your speakers that represents your students' true tone will be so much better by purchasing a Bluetooth speaker. I have listed two in the equipment list below. Even the cheaper one makes a big difference from the speakers in your laptop in terms of the depth of sound. I have upgraded to a Bose speaker which is even better but is more expensive.

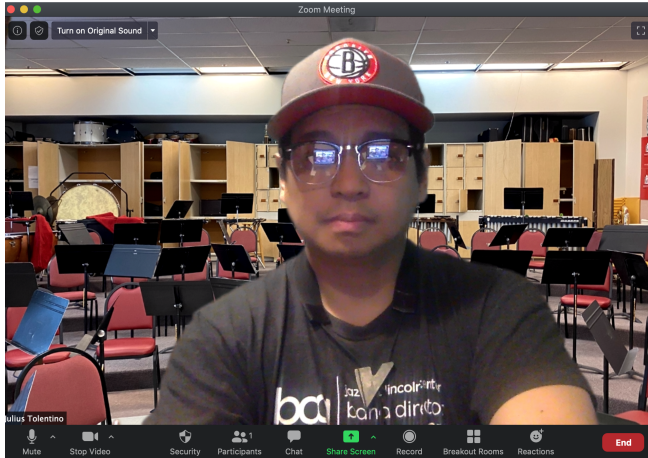
#### ***Microphone***

You also want your students to hear the depth of your sound and buying a nice microphone setup will do just that. As far as microphones, a nice USB microphone produces great results for teaching and recording. The next level up would be an interface and cardioid microphone combo. If you are doing your own recording projects, this might be something you want to invest in.

#### ***Green Screen***

The green screen is a great addition for Zoom users. Besides giving you a very clear virtual background, you can actually use it to project words and slides behind you for presentations. Here's my band room virtual background.

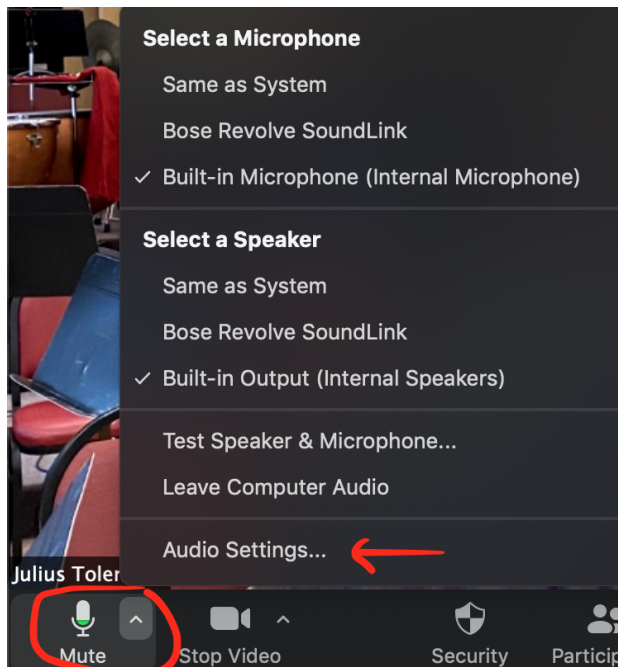




### Optimal Zoom Settings for Sound

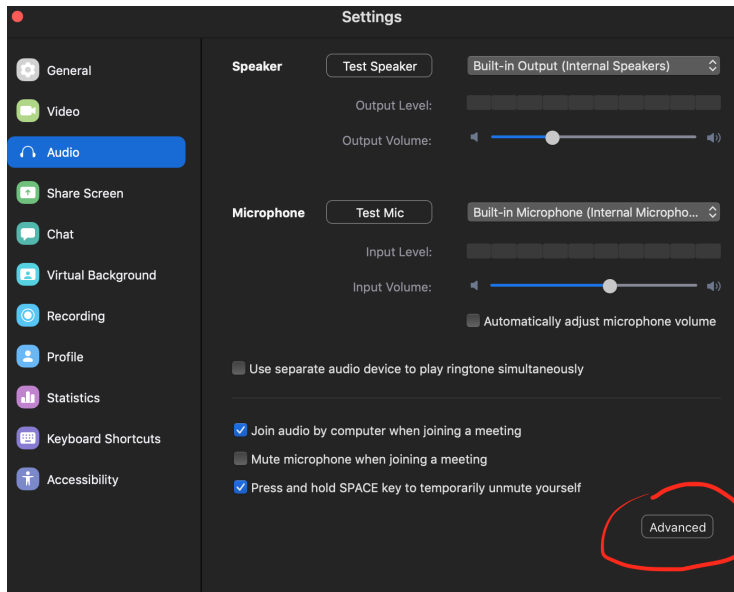
There are a couple of settings to also help the sound that should be adjusted on your end and your students zoom settings.

Step 1) Click the arrow next to the microphone icon in the bottom left corner.  
Then choose **Audio Settings...**

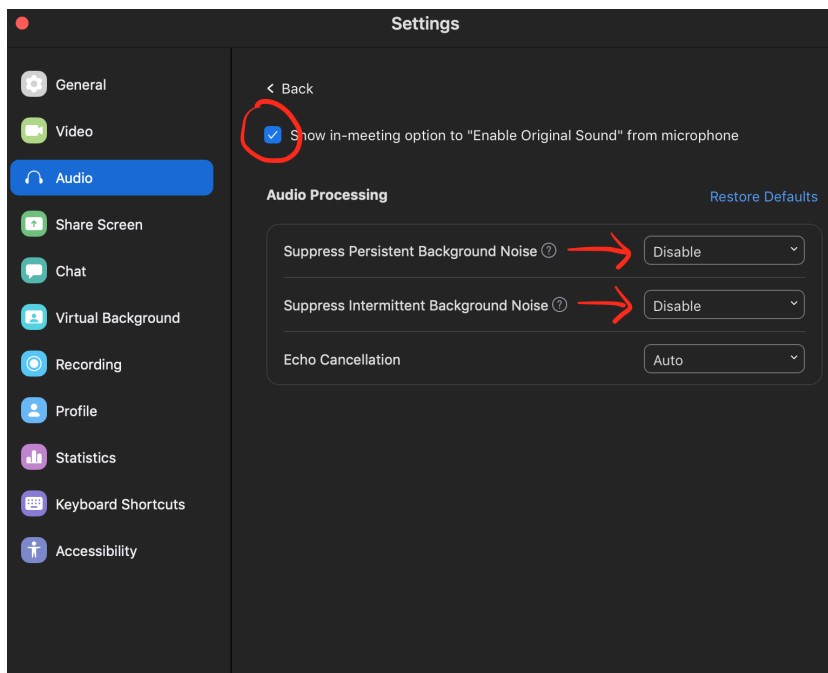


Step 2) Click **Advanced**





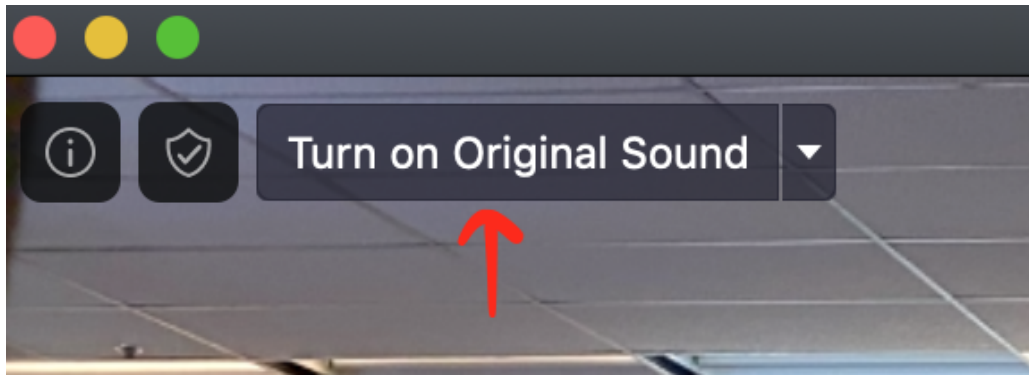
Step 3) Disable the first two Background Noise Options and check the Show in-meeting option to “Enable Original Sound” from microphone.



Step 4) Have your students do the same steps on their end. There will now be a little box in the top lefthand corner. Experiment with Turn on or Turn off Original Sound.







These steps should automatically save after changing them!

### ***Zoom Lesson Tips***

By now we have all experienced how difficult it is to get the same kind of engagement from your students online. I suggest breaking up the lessons in several short activities. Working through warmups, technique, and a new concept or review a concept just like you would in a normal one on one lesson. This basic technique works well in the online classroom setting.

Playing together online is not going to happen, but you can still model for your students. Have them playing along with you several times while they are on mute is a great way for them to still match style, articulation, dynamics, etc. You can also play duets this way. I often have my students play with me on mute two or three times then I will hear them alone.

Running your usual warmups in the same fashion where you are modeling, and the student or students are playing along on mute is one way to start a class and or a lesson.

Playing with drones:

I've been using drones from YouTube in class and in lessons by sharing my screen (don't forget to check that share actual computer sound). I will have my students play a Bb Major Scale in whole notes against a Bb having them listen for the consonant and dissonant intervals. I will also give them time to play freely over the drone, trying thirds, playing simple melodies, or just improvising and trying to lock in their intonation.

I can still trade choruses with my students when improvising when using the same technique of sharing my computer sound. Depending on their internet connection, I may go to just having them improvise while listening to a backing track on their end too.

Using apps like *Acapella* and *Sound Trap* are ways to put together duets in a short amount of time. I'm also assigning students to form small groups and submit a combo recording using these apps too.



I also like to break the classes up and just have some fun and play games. It's important to remember how online school and everything that's going on is affecting our students mental state. They are not having the normal social interactions with their fellow classmates and the natural joking around we have in the hallways or during class is just not there. Playing a game of Pictionary with the whiteboard function goes a long way.

I recently played a game I call "Guess the Senior" where I compiled 25 different quotes from my 5 seniors that I found in group texts, or emails or things they have said to me. Everyone in the class had cards with the Seniors names on it and they had to guess which senior said it. They would get a point if they got it right. I'd also throw in a two pointer and use the chat box. The first one to guess and write the senior's name would get that bonus two points. Students compiled their own scores using the honor system. It was a blast. I even used my virtual backgrounds to give the answers away.



Please reach out with any questions about anything I have covered or anything else jazz ed related. If I can help I will.

All my information is in the PDF titled JTole Music.



## ONLINE TEACHING EQUIPMENT LIST

### **Ethernet Cable and Adapter**

Several options, make sure you get the correct adapter for your laptop

#### **Green Screen w/ Stand**

[https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B01ACF5P2K/ref=ppx\\_yo\\_dt\\_b\\_asin\\_title\\_o07\\_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B01ACF5P2K/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o07_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1)

#### **Blue Tooth Speakers**

##### ***Oontz \$26***

[https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B010OYASRG/ref=ppx\\_yo\\_dt\\_b\\_asin\\_title\\_o01\\_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B010OYASRG/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o01_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1)

##### **Bose \$200**

[https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B06XCQKTKR/ref=ppx\\_yo\\_dt\\_b\\_asin\\_title\\_o03\\_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B06XCQKTKR/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o03_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1)

#### **Headphones**

##### ***AKG Pro \$64***

[https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B0001ARCF4/ref=ppx\\_yo\\_dt\\_b\\_asin\\_title\\_o05\\_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B0001ARCF4/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o05_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1)

##### ***Sony \$100***

[https://www.amazon.com/Sony-MDR7506-Professional-Diaphragm-Headphone/dp/B000AJIF4E/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?dchild=1&keywords=sony+headphones&qid=1588695188&s=musical-instruments&sr=1-2](https://www.amazon.com/Sony-MDR7506-Professional-Diaphragm-Headphone/dp/B000AJIF4E/ref=sr_1_2?dchild=1&keywords=sony+headphones&qid=1588695188&s=musical-instruments&sr=1-2)

#### **Interface and Cable**

[https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B074F3F2CM/ref=ppx\\_yo\\_dt\\_b\\_asin\\_title\\_o06\\_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B074F3F2CM/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o06_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1)

#### **Microphone**

##### ***MXL BCD-1 Dynamic Podcast Microphone \$150***

[https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B004OCD73M/ref=ppx\\_yo\\_dt\\_b\\_asin\\_title\\_o06\\_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B004OCD73M/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o06_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1)

##### ***KSM 32 \$550***

[https://www.amazon.com/Shure-KSM32-SL-Single-Diaphragm-Microphone/dp/B0002GZK02/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?dchild=1&keywords=shure+ksm&qid=1588695604&s=musical-instruments&sr=1-1](https://www.amazon.com/Shure-KSM32-SL-Single-Diaphragm-Microphone/dp/B0002GZK02/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=shure+ksm&qid=1588695604&s=musical-instruments&sr=1-1)

##### ***KSM 44A \$1000***

[https://www.amazon.com/Shure-KSM44A-Multi-Pattern-Dual-Diaphragm-Side-Address/dp/B003UYUP94/ref=sr\\_1\\_8?dchild=1&keywords=shure+ksm&qid=1588695654&s=musical-instruments&sr=1-8Q1pYJndpZGdldE5hbWU9c3BfYXRmJmFjdGlvbj1jbGlja1JlZGlyZWNOJmRvTm90TG9nQ2xpY2s9dHJ1ZQ==](https://www.amazon.com/Shure-KSM44A-Multi-Pattern-Dual-Diaphragm-Side-Address/dp/B003UYUP94/ref=sr_1_8?dchild=1&keywords=shure+ksm&qid=1588695654&s=musical-instruments&sr=1-8Q1pYJndpZGdldE5hbWU9c3BfYXRmJmFjdGlvbj1jbGlja1JlZGlyZWNOJmRvTm90TG9nQ2xpY2s9dHJ1ZQ==)

#### **LED Light**

[https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B07C9ZNY17/ref=ppx\\_yo\\_dt\\_b\\_asin\\_title\\_o03\\_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B07C9ZNY17/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o03_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1)







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JTole Music creates programs and events that bring communities together, from performances and festivals to summer workshops, jam sessions, lessons, and educational videos. Please visit our website for more information.

## JTOLE SUMMER JAZZ WORKSHOP ONLINE

July 13-25, 2020





# ABOUT

Now is an opportunity to study with some of the top jazz musicians and educators in the country. You will be able to take master classes, private lessons, a big band and combo class all from the convenience of your own home. The online workshop will happen from July 13th-25th in a three hour time frame. The time slots will be according to the different levels. All of our instructors have experience teaching online via Zoom and have found ways to help move your playing forward through online study. 2-4 private lesson slots can also be scheduled with the different instructors, not included in the tuition.

1 hour- Master Class

1 hour- Big Band/Sectionals

1 hour- Combo Class

Tuition- \$500

“Mr. T changed my child’s life by introducing him to jazz. He is an inspirational and dedicated teacher that your children will always remember as making a difference in their lives.”

-Parent Testimonial

Open to all instrumentalists from 10 years to adults.

Play with talented and motivated students just like you, and study with world-class artists and educators.

Big Bands: Learn how to phrase, articulate, blend and SWING in a section by working towards a virtual project.

Combos: Develop improvisational skills in a group tailored to your level.

Master classes: Focus on instrument-specific technique, theory and jazz language.

