



## **Guitar Council** **Dr. Kevin Vigil, Chair**

### **Responding to COVID-19 in the Guitar Classroom**

#### Emphasis on Social-Emotional Benefits of Music

From NAFME: “In addition to music practice and music-making, the lives of students are enhanced and enriched by participation in music education. While it may not be possible to recreate all the conditions that produce all of the extra-musical benefits described here in a virtual platform, music educators must be aware of the need to promote and embed social and emotional learning into instructional practice whether working with students face to face, virtually, or both during the next school year.”

Music education affords students the opportunity to develop relationship skills such as empathy, communication, and cooperation while also fostering positive social awareness. Additionally, the maturation of positive behavioral skills such as situational analysis, anticipating consequences, and generating alternative solutions are ever-present in the music classroom. Students engaged in high arts pursuits exhibit higher levels of self-concept, in how they value themselves, their development/progress, and their achievements.

#### Best Practices: In-person/Hybrid Models

- Follow social distancing guidelines (6 feet of separation).
- Wear face covering at all times (nose and mouth).
- Students should not share instruments. Students should use

their personal instrument from home for all classes. Schools may also look to provide instruments for students through various means, dependent upon the individual school system’s guidelines and practices.

- Students should not share class materials during live instruction:
  - Pencils
  - Sheet music/texts
  - Footstools/guitar supports
  - Laptops/Chromebooks
  - Tuners/metronomes/devices
  - Music stands
- Wash/sanitize hands before and after class.
- Students do not touch face.
- Cleanse instruments/stands/chairs after use:
  - See: <https://nafme.org/covid-19-instrument-cleaning-guidelines/>
  - See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ZNUi3XxZuw>
- NFHS/NAfME Fall 2020 Guidance for Music Education: [https://nafme.org/wp-content/files/2020/08/NAfME\\_NFHS-Guidance-for-Fall-2020-August-21-Version-2.pdf](https://nafme.org/wp-content/files/2020/08/NAfME_NFHS-Guidance-for-Fall-2020-August-21-Version-2.pdf)

#### Best Practices: Distance Learning

- Maximize audio and video as possible in synchronous class meetings:
  - USB microphone or good microphone using an audio interface
  - At least 2 camera angles: computer camera and webcam
    - See: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sY\\_T7-2kxhk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sY_T7-2kxhk)
- Personalized learning
- Solo music (student voice and choice)
- Solo concerts
- Private lessons

- Tutorial videos
- Students responding to recordings (video/audio) with discussion or written assignment
- Playing tests with video or audio (opportunity to retest)
- Guest artists/teachers
- High school teacher working with MS feeder (8th grade)
- Deeper exploration of online resources, pending school system’s approval.
  - Sight Reading Factory
  - Noteflight, Noteflight Learn
  - Practice First (similar to Smart Music)
  - Auralia
  - Musition
  - Soundation Chrome
- Virtual Guitar Ensembles (but understand the amount of time and effort involved)
- Small ensembles – quartets/trios/duos (same difficulties exist as with virtual ensembles)
- VDOE Fine Arts Resources (coming soon)
  - [http://doe.virginia.gov/instruction/fine\\_arts/index.shtml](http://doe.virginia.gov/instruction/fine_arts/index.shtml)
  - GoOpenVA
    - Includes VDOE Fine Arts Resources
    - Teachers can contribute resources statewide
- Explore concepts that are often set aside during concert preparation
  - Music history (all genres)
  - Composition/improvisation/arranging
  - Instrument construction
  - Interdisciplinary:
    - Music & physics
    - Music & literature
    - Music & history
    - Music & brain
- Address diversity
  - Choice of repertoire
  - Research music of under-represented populations
- Understand, refer to and model “Netiquette”.