

Using Technology in Strings Education

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There are many examples of technology that can be used in strings education. Here is a brief list of apps or programs that I use regularly, and their application. Most are suited to a larger iPad which has speakers. However a phone is sufficient in most situations.

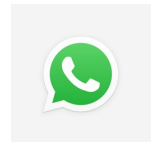
♪ **Online live lessons (Zoom, Teams, Skype, etc.)**

- for students who want to learn specifically with you but are not able to attend face-to-face due to location, travel, illness, etc.
- Create online concerts, rehearsals & meetings remotely with students in different locations
- Attend and/or conduct masterclasses & workshops (E.G. AUSTA interstate masterclasses)



♪ **Video Message Lessons (Messenger, WhatsApp, WeChat)**

- for students who are seeking feedback on performances (video exam submission)
- perfect for students who are in different time-zones, or have intermittent internet connection



♪ **Video**

- can be as simple as getting the parent to video-record you playing in the lesson
- Create videos for your students to learn with you between lessons
- Change the speed of the video in Youtube videos (settings/playback speed/custom)
- Access videos of the world's best performers
- Organise videos using Youtube playlists to share with students
- Set videos to 'unlisted' share with students by link without the general public having access



♪ **DroneToneTool App**

- a high quality reference pitch tone generator (cello)
- Use for tuning intonation of scales & arpeggios



♪ **Acapella App**

- Use this app to create multi-screen video performances
- Create accompaniment/example videos for learning ensemble parts with the volume of the other parts turned down low or off
- Create performance videos of your students who are learning the same piece, or performing in an ensemble, but can't perform together
- Include your online students in performance videos
- Use the sound editing functions to create high-quality sounding videos



2022 AUSTA National Conference

♪ **ZhangViolin.org**

- An entire video library of every piece, etude and scale from the Zhang Method books
- Each piece is broken down into phrases which has its own individual video
- Teachers can assign videos to students, add notes, and the length of time each student spends on the videos is displayed in the teacher portal



♪ **Australian Digital Concert Hall (ADCH)**

- launched in 2020 to help professional musicians continue their craft during COVID
- National provider of live-streamed Australian performances
- Access live concerts performed at City Recital Hall, Melbourne Recital Centre, ANAM, etc.
- Access live concerts performed by Melbourne Chamber Orchestra, Australian Haydn Ensemble, Australian Youth Orchestra, Taikoz, etc.



♪ **Online Video Exams**

- Online video exams are well suited to particular students, and can form part of a teacher's external assessment strategy
- Students can submit videos when they are ready, instead of waiting for the 'exam period/s'
- Students who are away during the exam period, have limited access to a piano accompanist (lower grades only), not able to travel, or are shy are now able to participate in examinations
- Obvious disadvantages include exam being 'Repertoire' only. No comprehensive option available (sight reading, aural skills, general knowledge)
- Prepared video exam has a limited benefit and experience compared to a face to face exam

♪ **Digital Sheet Music loans (Australian Music Centre)**

- downloadable PDF files of the full score file, watermarked with your name, loan status and the loan expiry date
- Digital loans are available to AMC members anywhere the world
- Perfect for HSC students

