

## New Music Lab configuration

### Computers

**IBM NetVista A30p** – running Windows XP Professional

Specifications:

| General              | Multimedia                               |
|----------------------|--|
| Processor: 2.266 Ghz | NVidia GeForce4 MX 420, 64 MB video card |
| Memory: 512 MB SDRAM | CD-RW/DVD-RAM/DVD-R drives               |
| Hard Drives: 80 GB   | Sound Blaster Audigy sound card          |

**Monitors: IBM T710 17.0 inch Black Analog Flat Panel Monitor**

### Keyboards

**Korg SP500** digital pianos with 3 pedal boards (keyboard features: full scale, weighted keys, recording function, metronome, “Play Piano” button)

### Audio network

**Korg Group Education Controller III** (digital interface for controlling communication between students and instructor).

### Additional audio equipment

**Tascam CC222 CD-R/Cassette recorder combo deck** (for analog and digital recording of classes and practice sessions – connected to the GEC3).

### Desks

**Omnirax SN Custom Workstations with Plexiglass music stands** (accommodates the tower CPUs and allows for correct height of keyboards).

### Lab Software

**Finale 2002** – music notation software used by Stew Carter in teaching theory. The students can obtain the free version of this software, Finale NotePad from the Coda Music website and files created with Finale can be shared with them. Finale NotePad is installed on all the R40 and R51 ThinkPads.

**Sibelius 2** – music notation software used by professor Dan Locklair, music theory III and composition students. Many find Sibelius easier to use than Finale.

**Musition (new 2003)** – drill based music theory and fundamentals program with the ability to create customized tests.

Note Reading:

Advanced Clefs, Chord Recognition, Note Reading, Meter Recognition, Rhythm Notation, Rhythm Tapping.

Terms and Symbols:

Chord Symbols, Concepts, Symbols, Terms.

Key Centers:

Intervals, Chord/Scales Relations, Jazz Scales, Key Signatures, Modulation, Scales, Scale Degrees, Scale Home Keys.

Instruments:

Drum Sticking, Guitar Symbols, Instrument Keys, Instrument Range, Instrument Recognition, Transposition, Drum Styles.

**Practica Musica (new 2003)** – music theory and ear training program with customizable activities and tests.

Activities

|                                |                        |                        |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Pitch Matching                 | Pitch Reading          | Rhythm Matching        |
| Rhythm Reading                 | 2 Part Rhythm Reading  | Pitch & Rhythm Reading |
| Interval Playing               | Interval Spelling      | Interval Ear Training  |
| Scales and Key Signatures      | Spelling Scales        | Scale Ear Training     |
| Chord Playing                  | Chord Spelling         | Chord Ear Training     |
| Chord Progression Ear Training | Pitch Dictation        | Rhythm Dictation       |
| Pitch & Rhythm Dictation       | Melody Writing         | 2 Part Pitch Dictation |
| 4 Part Pitch Dictation         | Hearing Altered Chords | Progressive Dictation  |
| Visual Chords                  | Visual Intervals       | Building Intervals     |
| Interval Series                | Speed Intervals        | Active Listening       |
| Real Transposition             | Tonal Transposition    | You-choose Scales      |

|                       |                      |                            |
|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| You-choose Intervals  | You-choose Chords    | Composition Tools          |
| 2 Part Writing Tools  | 4 Part Writing Tools | Vertical Reading           |
| Dictation with Chords | Atonal Dictation     | Non-Harmonic Tones         |
| Modal Melodies        | Pitch Errors         | Transposed Pitch Reading   |
| Reading in Keys       | Rounds               | 4 Part Writing Tools       |
| Chorale Writing       | Shaping Melody       | Reading Syncopation        |
| Reading Triplets      | Tonics               | Building Triads            |
| Recognizing Sevenths  | Tonal Sequencing     | Playable Textbook Examples |

**Auralia (new 2003)** - a drill based ear training program with the ability to create customized tests.

Intervals and Scales:

Interval Comparison, Interval Recognition, Interval Recognition, Interval Singing, Scales, Scale Singing, Advanced Scale Singing

Pitch and Melody:

Counterpoint Singing, Note Recognition, Melodic Dictation, Tuning.

Rhythm:

Meter, Rhythm Imitation, Rhythm Dictation, Rhythm Elements, Rhythm Element Dictation, Rhythm Styles.

Chords:

Cadences, Chord Recognition, Chord Singing, Chord Progressions, Advanced Chord Progressions, Cluster Chords, Jazz Chords, Jazz Chord Singing, Jazz Chord Progressions.

**MacGamut 2003** – ear training software with the ability to track student progress.

- Intervals, Scales, and Chords will be useful as you begin ear training. This component provides intensive drill and practice on all intervals, both melodic and harmonic, simple and compound; on major and minor scales, modes, and other scales (pentatonic, octatonic, etc.); and on triads, 7th chords, and four-voice chords in all inversions.
- Melodic Dictation may be used for as long as you wish to improve your proficiency in melodic dictation skills. The program comes with an on-disk library of more than 1000 real (not computer-generated) melodies, arranged in levels from the simplest (step-wise with skips in the tonic triad) to the most complex (highly chromatic, modulatory, rhythmically sophisticated). As each melody may

appear in various keys and clefs, Melodic Dictation will continue to challenge you at every level of accomplishment.

- Rhythmic Dictation gives you the chance to concentrate on notating rhythm from dictation, without the added complication of pitch. It offers more sophisticated rhythms in advanced levels than would be practical in Melodic Dictation.
- Harmonic Dictation offers unlimited practice in identifying and notating chorale-style 4-voice chord progressions. Beginning with simple chord pairs, Harmonic Dictation gradually introduces longer and more difficult exercises, selected and transposed from an on-disk library of more than 1000 real (not computer-generated) harmonic progressions. The higher levels include chromatic chords (secondary dominants, augmented sixths, etc.) in progressions as long as ten chords. In addition to labeling the chords by selecting appropriate harmonic analysis symbols from an on-screen array, you may also notate any number of voices.

**MiBAC Music Lessons** – drill based music theory and ear training program – students can track their progress.

- **Note Reading**  
Learn to read notes and improve your sight reading skills. Sight reading is one of the most important musical skills you can develop, because the better you are at sight reading, the more easily you can learn music. Skill levels use treble, bass, and alto clefs, with notes on just the spaces, to notes with double sharps and double flats up to two ledger lines above and below the staff. This is an essential drill for beginners, and very useful for advanced musicians learning new clefs.
- **Circle of Fifths**  
Learn how the Circle of Fifths is used to identify major and minor keys based on the number of increasing sharps and flats found in the key signature, the order that sharps and flats appear in key signatures, and the ability to play through the ascending or descending circle of fifths beginning with any note. Circle of fifths motion is used extensively in jazz, pop, and classical music chord progressions.
- **Key Signatures**  
Learn to identify major or minor keys based on the number of sharps or flats appearing in the key signature. Key signatures appear just after the clef symbol on each line of music. When you know the key signature and the notes of the corresponding major or minor scale, you know the notes the composer used as the raw materials for the melodies and harmonies in the piece. Skill levels let you select any combination of major or minor keys, using sharps or flats. You can control the number of sharps and flats that will be used
- **Major / Minor Scales**  
Learn what notes are used in the major, natural minor, harmonic minor, and melodic minor scales. The notes of these scales are the raw materials used to construct melodies and chords.
- **Modes**  
Learn the modal scales. Modes were commonly used by Renaissance composers and are used today in jazz, pop and some 20th century concert music. The major and natural minor scales are derived from the Ionian and Aeolian modes.

### Jazz Scales

Learn the notes of several jazz scales. The notes of these scales are used as raw materials for improvising. The more advanced musician can practice playing scales like Dorian flat 2, Lydian Sharp 5, Mixolydian sharp 4, Mixolydian Flat 6, Minor flat 5, and Locrian flat 4.

- Scale Degrees

Learn a note's position within a major or minor scale or key. Each scale degree (position) has a name. The different scale degrees have melodic and harmonic tendencies. Knowing the scale degrees will be very useful when studying intervals, melodies, and chords.

### Intervals

Learn to visually identify intervals. An interval is the distance in pitch, measured in half steps, between two notes. Quick visual recognition of intervals is very important in sight reading and transposing. You begin with diatonic intervals in a major key, and advance to fully chromatic intervals without key reference. Covers ascending and descending, doubly diminished to doubly augmented intervals, spanning a unison to a tenth.

- Note / Rest Durations

Learn how many beats a note or rest receives in various time signatures. This is essential for understanding how rhythm and counting work. The lower number in the time signature can be a two, four, eight, or sixteen. Note and rest values can range from a sixteenth to a whole, including dotted values.

- Scales / Modes / Jazz Scales Ear Training

Learn to identify scales by listening. Learning to recognize what you hear is an important musical skill. You'll have to listen closely to distinguish between the four types of major-minor scales, the eight modes, and the seven jazz scales played on any pitch level. You can work with each group independently or in combinations.

- Intervals Ear Training

Learn to identify intervals by listening. Learning to recognize what you hear is an important musical skill. From diatonic intervals in a major key to fully chromatic intervals spanning a unison to a tenth, this drill will really improve your ear.

### MUSIC LESSONS Features

- Multiple Skill Levels

Each drill has multiple skill levels that make it just right for the beginner, yet challenging for the advanced musician.

- Your Choice of Clefs

Each of the eleven drills can be done in treble clef, bass clef, alto clef, or a mix of those clefs.

- On Screen Music Theory Help

You won't need additional books explaining music theory. Explanations of all music theory terms and concepts necessary to master the drills is available in the Help window. Choose Help and then select from a list of topics pertinent to that drill.

**Cakewalk Express 8** – supports multitrack audio recording with MIDI and the capability to edit and mix tracks. Includes support for real-time audio and MIDI effects and multiple projects.

### **Multimedia CDs**

**Microsoft Mozart**  
**Microsoft Stravinsky**  
**Multimedia Strauss**  
**The Ninth**

**Other software** (installed on the instructor machine)

**Neuratron PhotoScore Professional** – for scanning scores into Sibelius for editing.

**FineReader Pro** – for scanning documents for editing in Word, Excel or PDF.

**Adobe PhotoElements** – for editing images.

### **Other Equipment**

**Epson Photo 2400 scanner** – located at MUSLAB12 (the instructor station).

**Digital Video editing workstation** – for converting miniDV tapes to VHS, digitizing clips for classes and electronic portfolios.

As you can see the new lab is more organized and gives students many opportunities to improve their skills. The new desks and layout also provide for more space in the lab and a better line of sight for the students and the instructor. See the picture below for details!



Please call me if you have questions about the lab and the software (ext. 3952). I'm happy to meet with any student individually to show them how to use the lab. Please pass on my contact information to students who are interested. Thanks! - Jolie