



Composer Interviews and Highlights

Visit the interviews for the music professionals highlighted below. Consider what skills and knowledge they use in their jobs each day.



Star Wars - Recording Sessions - 4 minutes, 42 seconds; Interview: John Williams on scoring Star Wars - 2 minutes; Bureau of Labor Statistics - Composers



Music Alive newsletter issue - Katrina Willis describes her musical training and her work creating hit songs for artists such as Aretha Franklin and Luther Vandross.



Music Alive newsletter issue - Jay Lifton, composer shares about his training as a composer and how he works with clients to create music for commercials.

Examples of Musical Composition Work



This site highlights the collaborative work of poet Maya Angelou and Wynton Marsalis. Angelou and Marsalis Collaborate - 9 minute video



This site shows how to create an Old Time Radio Show. Interactive site and 9 minute sound clip- D.I.Y. Old - Time Radio

MUSIC ALIVE! Cool Careers

For more career interviews, click on

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Creative Composition Strategies

Try these strategies in your work as a composer.

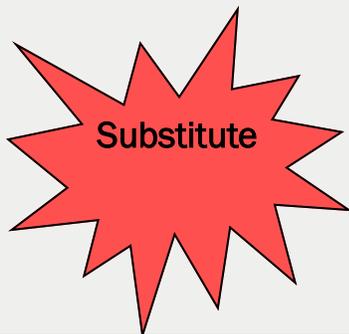
- Reflect on your music before you write.
- Stick to a general theme.
- Use vertical and horizontal song writing strategies.
- Imagine your musical idea as a painting, favorite food dish, movie, or action.

Sources:

Broker, R. Creativity in Musical Composition. Retrieved on 8-19-15 from <http://digitalcommons.buffalostate.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1062&context=creativeprojects>.

Hickey, M. (2012). Music Outside the Lines: Ideas for Composing in K-12 Music Classrooms, University Press, Oxford.

SCAMPER is a strategy which may offer you some fun in composing. It originated from Alex Osborn, but was organized by Bob Eberle into the acronym, SCAMPER. Each letter highlights a different way of altering an item, whether it is an object, sentence, or music element. Try this on your own. Start with an idea, then change this idea with each SCAMPER piece.



My Country, 'Tis of Thee

Written by Samuel F. Smith

