



Stephen Green
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"I have witnessed countless examples of parents and teachers rejecting computers and other electronics, wanting to hold on to the "tried and true" and keep their children/students apart from the world they are inevitably going to have to deal with. Computer technology is here to stay, and as we see through the new, innovative, effective, and relevant music education tools Adventus has developed, we now have a way to bridge the gap between what music education has been, and what it needs to become. More and more teachers, whether in traditional classroom settings, at music schools, community centres, pre-schools, public and private schools, or in one-on-one applications, are realizing how the use of computer technology can greatly enhance the education experience for children.

I have seen a very robust curriculum emerge in the Children's Music Journey titles, offering young children a very imaginative way to approach learning about music. Who could have imagined that children would be able to sit at their computer workstation with electronic piano keyboard attached, and interact with animated versions of Mr. Bach or Mr. Beethoven, as they talk about pieces of music they wrote, about their lives in general, and ask the student to create their own piece of music – an opportunity to "rub shoulders" with these famous composers! I have seen how students are so enraptured by the experience that they actually believe these composers from the 17th and 18th/19th centuries were still alive. They listened attentively, and then immediately wanted to try out what these composers asked them to do. The live interactive quality of the program sparks interest and imagination, which is essential to the success of any music education program.

I find that one of the best features of the Adventus software curriculum is that students are encouraged from the very first day to create their own music, to improvise, to listen as well as play, and to improve on what they have heard. There is no negative language, no "wrong", but instead consistent encouragement simply continue trying. The intuitive quality of the software program, in the CMJ for instance, allows step by step progression at a rate that fits the individual student, never pushing, always encouraging, and knowing when to move on, noting areas of weakness for further work in a later session. This is like having the teacher at each student's side, ready to assist with their learning and practicing. We know how busy parents are now-a-days, and how over-subscribed children can be. We don't want music lessons to add to the stress they already deal with, but rather help to reduce the stress, so that they are able to perform better in everything else they do. The Adventus programs offer really well thought-out music education based games for the students to have fun playing.

The Adventus software titles are all effective learning tools for students of any age. I have full confidence in seeing the Adventus software titles continue to develop and flourish, and am actively integrating them into the regular learning curricula of the Victoria Conservatory of Music."