



Virtual NEMC Technology Requirements and Recommendations

Equipment

- All students must have access to high-speed internet. We recommend that students hardwire directly into their at-home service. WiFi will work, but hardwiring is faster and more efficient.
- Students should have access to a computer or iPad. Phones can be used, but computers and iPad will enhance the experience.
- Any student who plans to audition for an Honor Recital should have access to a secondary piece of equipment from which to play pre-recorded accompaniment.
- USB External Microphones are recommended, but not required.
- All students should have access to email and to Zoom. All classes will be on Zoom and Google Classroom.

Room Etiquette

- All students are required to have their video on during their classes.
- Students should be in appropriate attire to stand up and play/perform. No pajamas or bathing suits.

Attendance

- Attendance will be taken for all classes and lessons. Should a student be unable to attend a class, it is their responsibility to contact the instructor and the registrar to get the recording of the session.
- If a student is sick and unable to attend a lesson, they must notify the instructor **24 hours in advance in order to reschedule. Missed lessons will not be rescheduled.**

Acoustics

- Make sure the room you are in sounds good to begin with. Check for any echoing and other household noises. If your space is too "live"-sounding, maybe consider picking another room. Many people think they sound great in their bathroom, but that much echo will be too much echo for a live stream.
- When in doubt, soft surfaces and a "dead" sound are always a better choice. Maybe set up on a carpet or go into a room with heavy curtains. Plants and soft furniture can also help eliminate severe sound reflections. Hard-surfaced rooms are not your friend in recording and/or streaming.

Microphone Placement

- People often think that the closer the microphone is to the source, the better the sound will be. But generally, this isn't the case. Often when you move a microphone closer to an instrument, the amount of bass in the recording will increase, sometimes so much so that the sound is muffled and inaudible. If you have that problem, experiment with moving the microphone farther away, as opposed to closer.
- Since you are only using the one microphone, give some thought to where that microphone is placed. Can you adjust it to be in a place that picks up your instrument/voice and the recording at equal levels? A slight move up or down can make a huge difference.

Sound Check for Recitals

- Experiment offline. Find the best-sounding spot in your home by performing test streams and have your camp teacher listen to you before the official sound check. Once you find that sweet spot, try to find the best microphone placement, test stream again at the full sound check and see if you're ready.
- The soundcheck will be your time to make sure you sound your best, and, most importantly, it will give you time to feel comfortable performing before you go live.