



online teaching for studio teachers

step-by-step



midnight music



about me



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Midnight Music

digital learning coach for music teachers
podcaster, blogger, speaker





Victorian Music Teachers' Association





housekeeping

- tech issues? refresh the browser
- delay...
- chat window: log in
- copy of slides – provided
- Q&A at end



other things

- session is being recorded
- replay link with copy of slides emailed 24 hours after session
- free training every month



first things first...

don't panic!





your superpowers

- you know your content
- you know how to teach
- you're awesome

about this session

- an **overview** of solutions
- tech for lesson delivery
- tips for teaching in this format
- we can't cover everything...





about online lessons

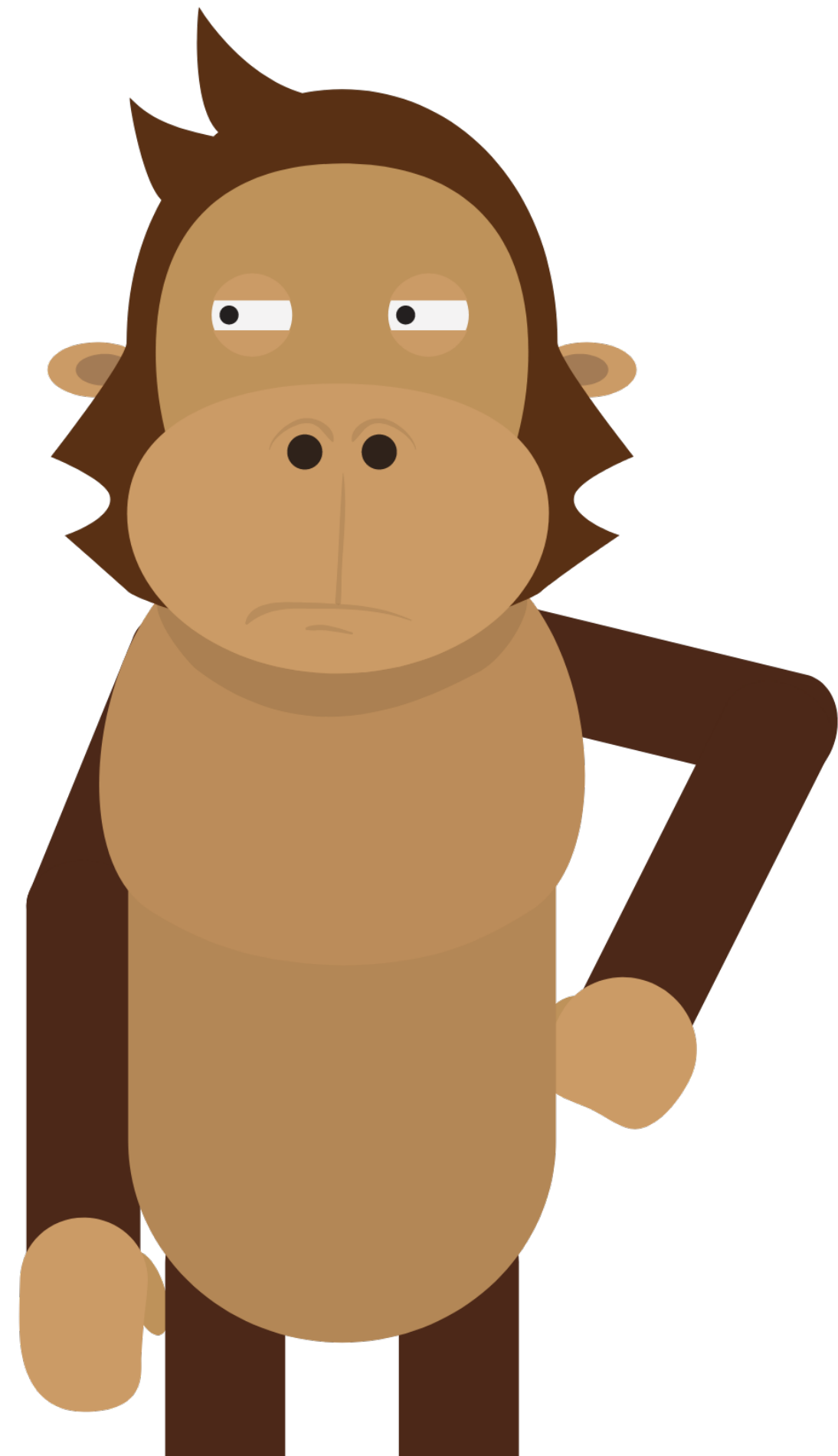
two things you need

- your content (lesson materials & resources)
- delivery method (the tech)



rethink things (somewhat)

- lessons will be a little different to normal
- be open, adaptable, flexible
- consider challenges students are facing at home
- the tech does not need to be hard (really...!)





general tips

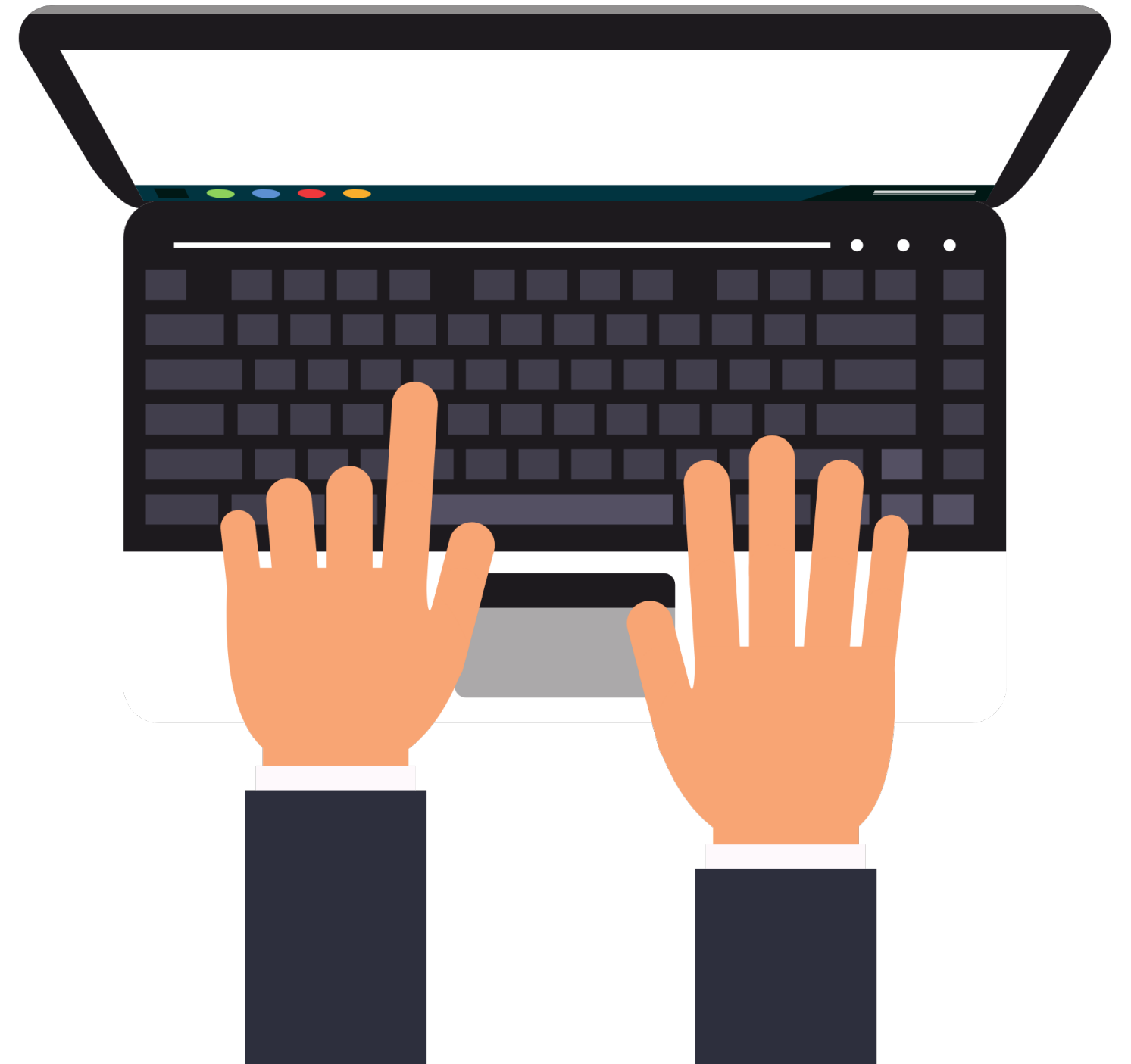
- start with the tech you already have
- avoid stress: not too many new things
- focus on the MUSIC & learning outcomes
- KEEP IT SIMPLE



hardware

which device to use?

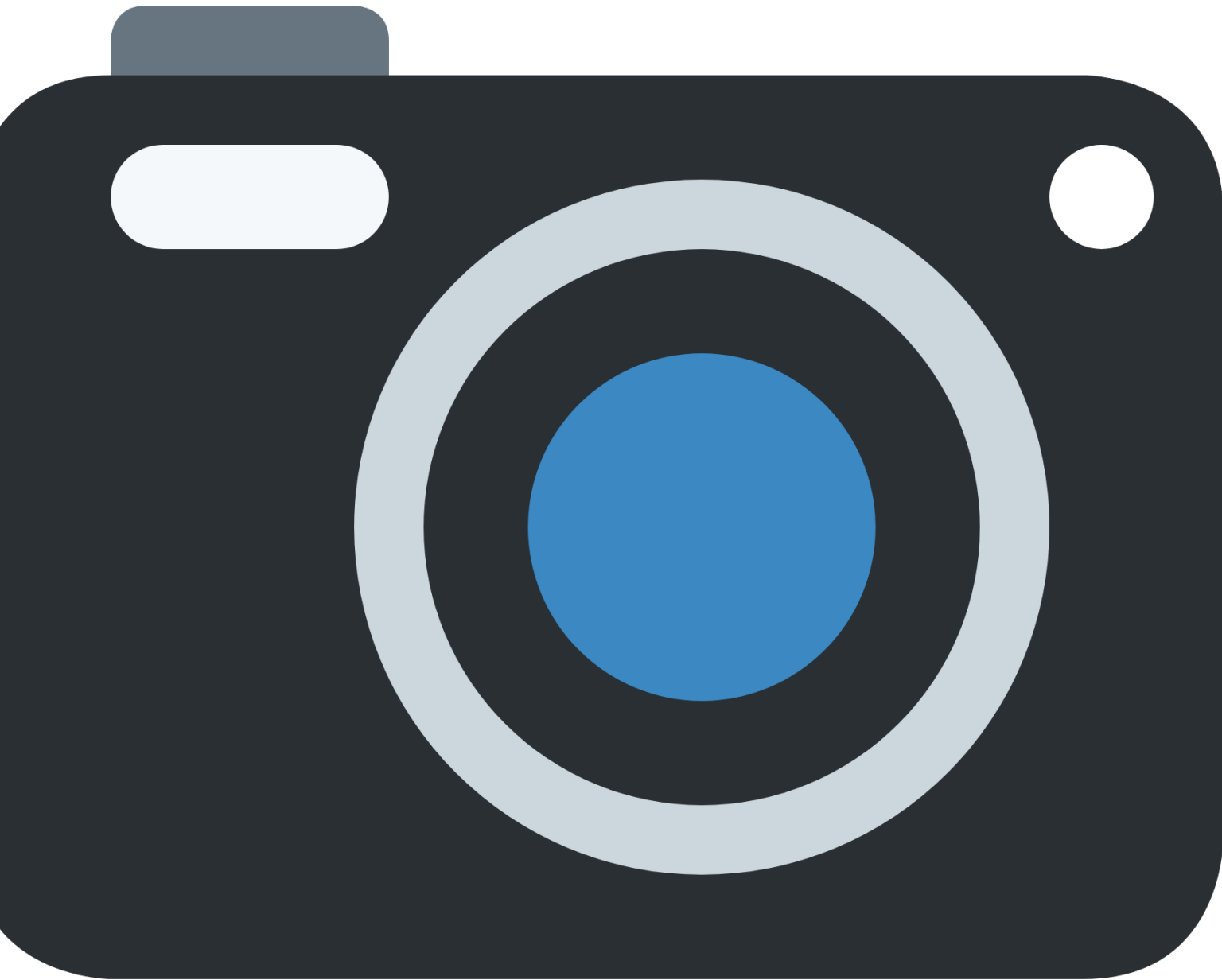
- **laptop** is easiest
(screen space, options)
- **iPad or other tablet** possible
(can also use as a second "camera")
- **smartphone** possible
(but not advisable)



microphone

- start with your inbuilt mic
- level up if possible
- options: USB mic, XLR mic, lapel mic, audio interface





camera

- start with your inbuilt camera
- optional: external webcam
- optional: second device as camera



software options

software - things to know

- latency (lag)
- internet speed/bandwidth
- audio quality
- picture/camera





main software options



Zoom



Skype



Facetime (Apple only)

zoom concerns?

- zoomraiders/privacy/security
- make sure you have latest version
- YOU control in-meeting settings
- invitation method options



inviting students to Zoom call

- option 1: student adds you as contact & you call student at each lesson time (turn off password option)
- option 2: you schedule a Zoom meeting for each lesson (using a unique meeting ID) and send student the link (with or without password option)
- option 3: you schedule one Zoom meeting for an entire day of lessons – students join via link at appointed time. Use Waiting Room feature





inviting students to Skype call

- student add you as a contact in Skype
- you call them at lesson time



teaching online

adjustments

- my turn/your turn workflow ("follow the leader")
- you can't count along with student (student: metronome)
- playalong tracks: send to student or share computer audio (NO live duets!)





student safety/privacy

- permission in writing from parents
- parents present (under 6)
- student in family area if possible
- record each lesson
(built-in record option in Zoom and Skype)



software: optimize your sound

general tips

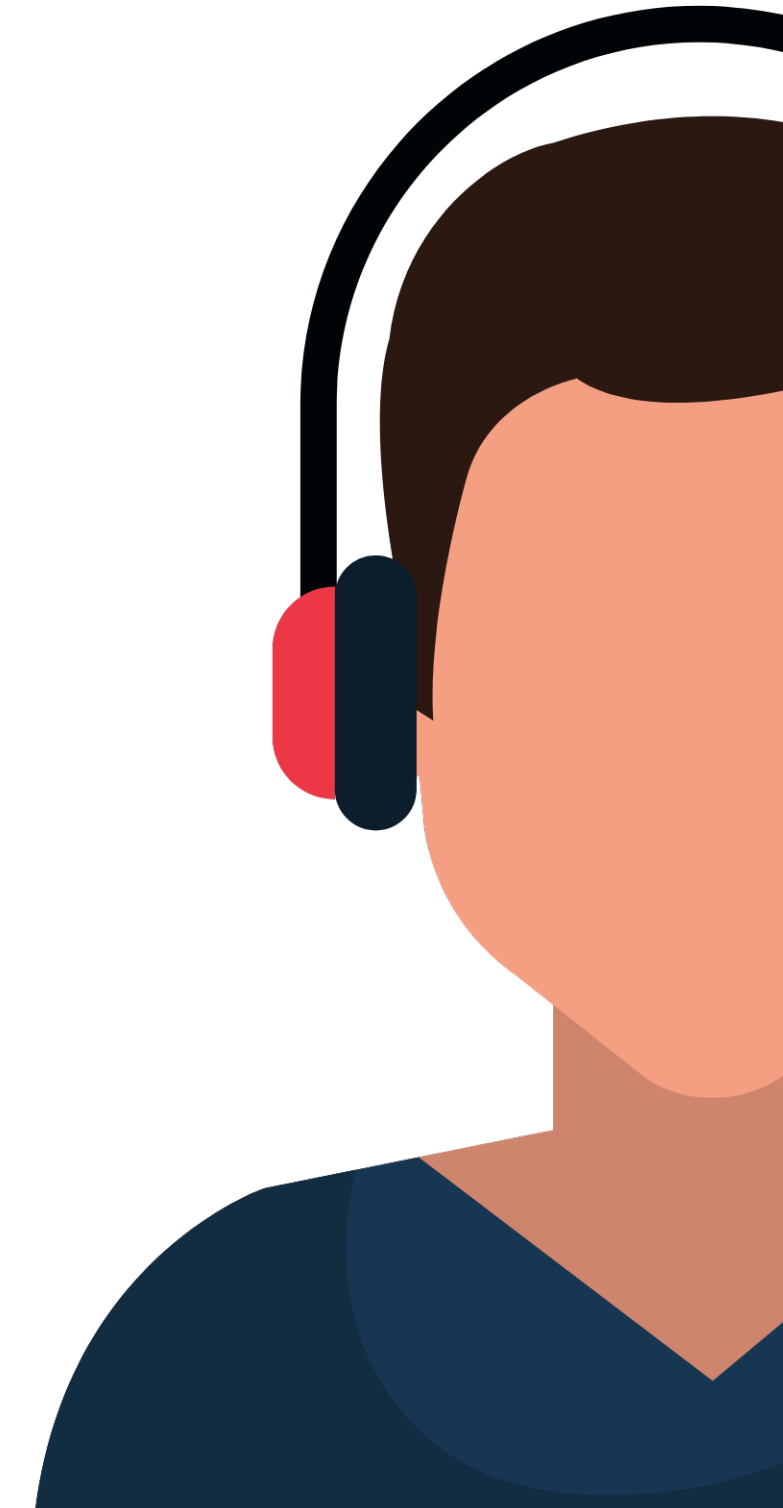
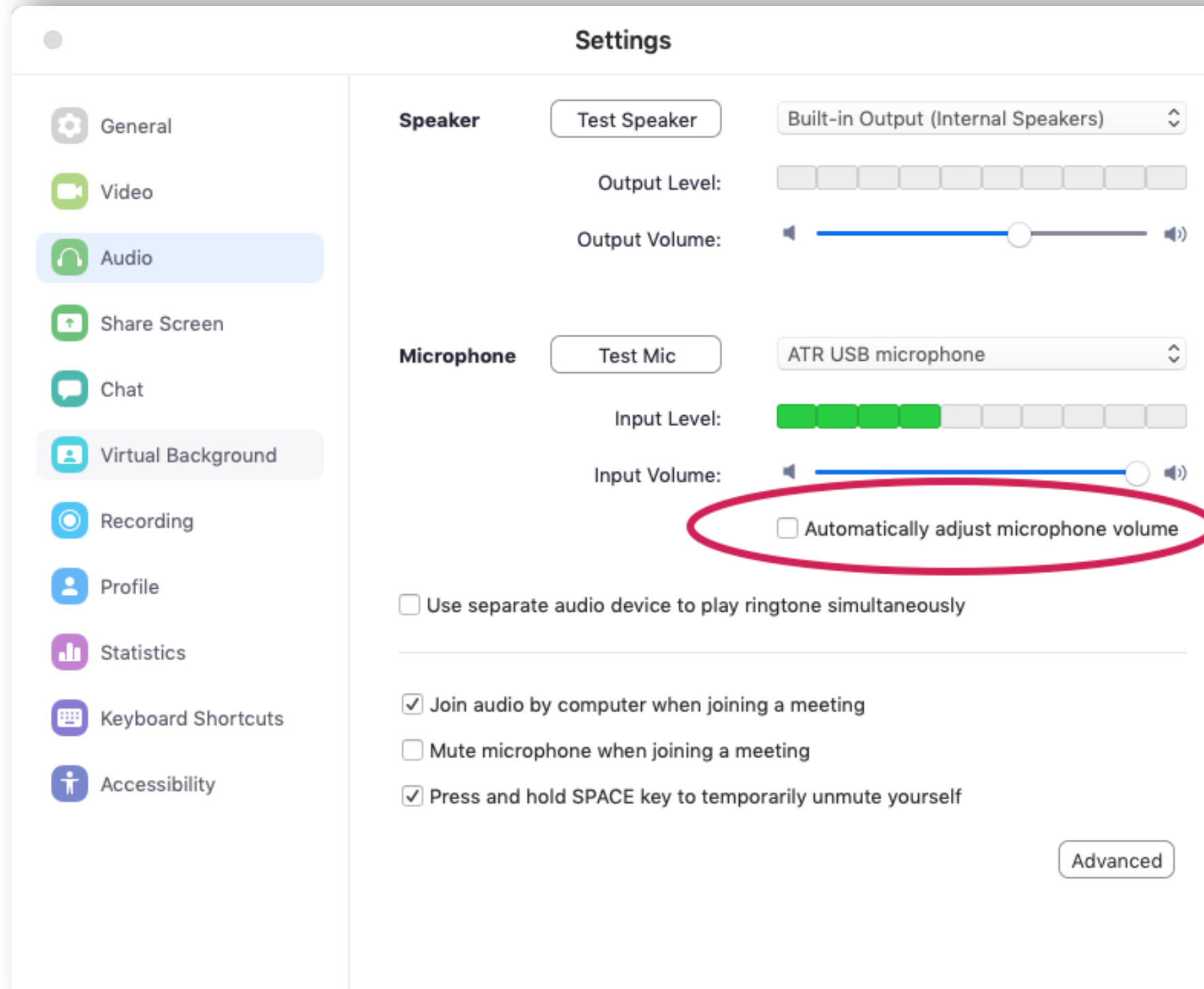
- software designed for "regular" meetings
- it tries to suppress background noise
- it will automatically adjust volume



4 important Zoom audio settings



1. turn off: automatically adjust mic volume



2. advanced > disable background noise suppression x 2

Settings

Speaker

Test Speaker

Built-in Output (Internal Speakers)

Output Level:

Output Volume:

Microphone

Test Mic

ATR USB microphone

Input Level:

Input Volume:

☐ Automatically adjust microphone volume

☐ Use separate audio device to play ringtone simultaneously

☒ Join audio by computer when joining a meeting

☐ Mute microphone when joining a meeting

☒ Press and hold SPACE key to temporarily unmute yourself

Advanced

Settings

< Back

☒ Show in-meeting option to "Enable Original Sound" from microphone

Audio Processing

Restore Defaults

Suppress Persistent Background Noise ?

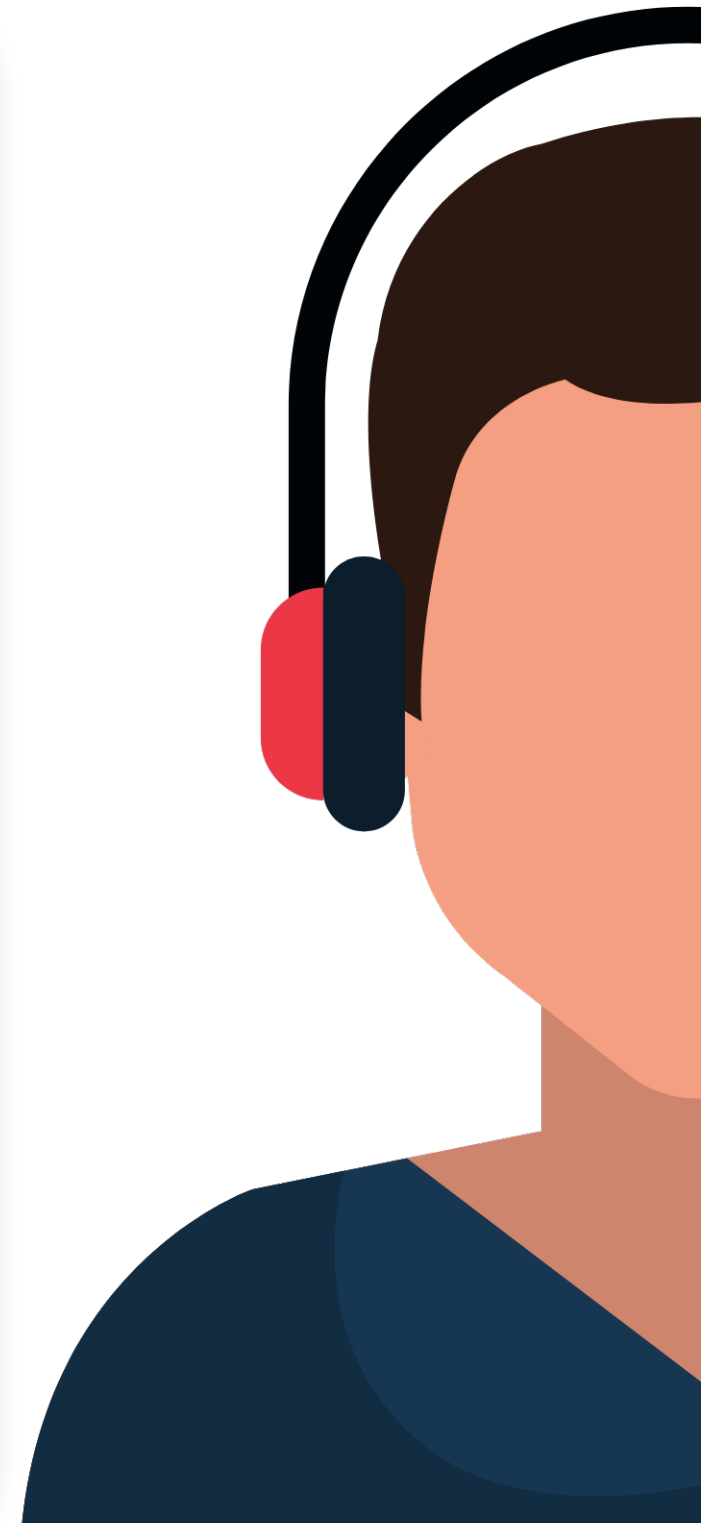
Disable

Suppress Intermittent Background Noise ?

Disable

Echo Cancellation

Auto



3. advanced > show “Enable Original Sound”

Settings

Speaker

Test Speaker Built-in Output (Internal Speakers)

Output Level: [Progress Bar]

Output Volume: [Volume Slider]

Microphone

Test Mic ATR USB microphone

Input Level: [Progress Bar]

Input Volume: [Volume Slider]

☐ Automatically adjust microphone volume

☐ Use separate audio device to play ringtone simultaneously

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Advanced

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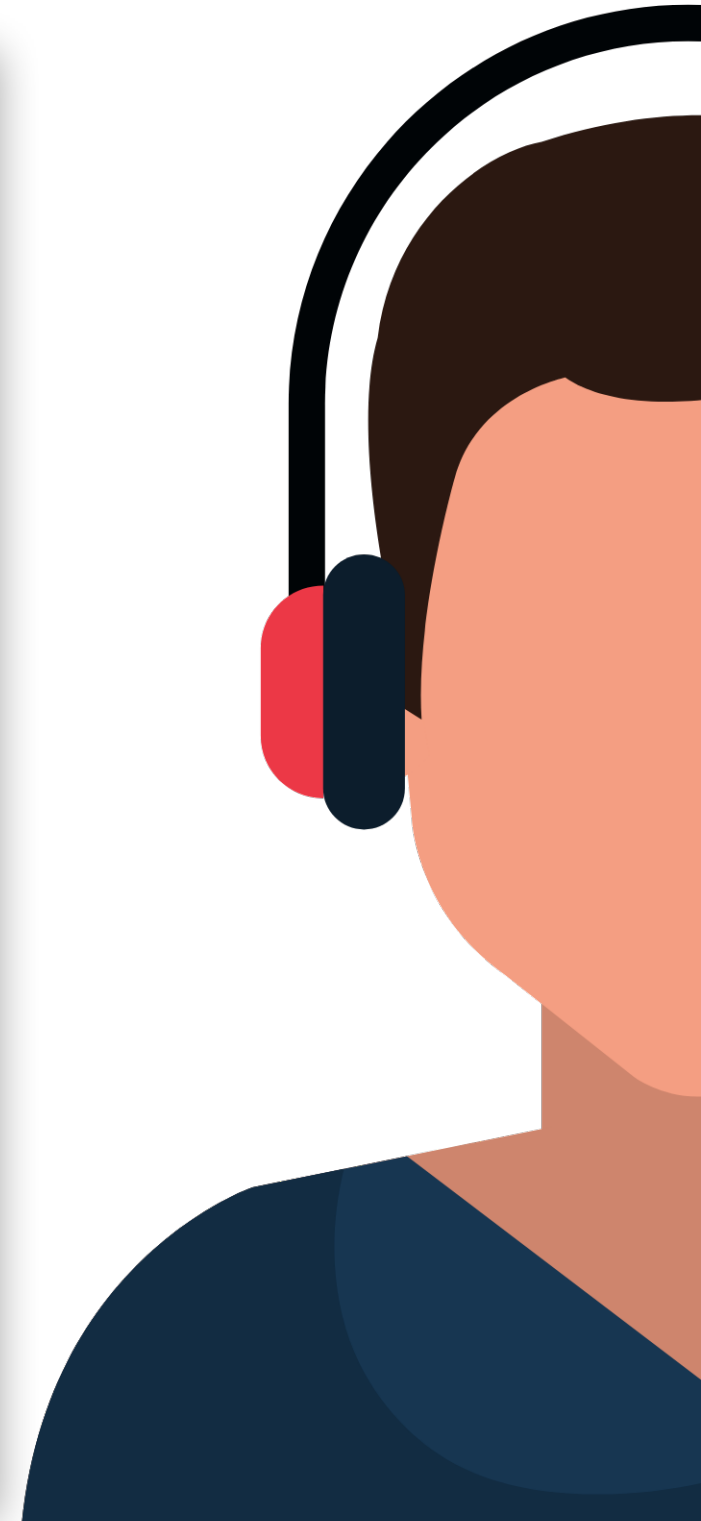
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Audio Processing [Restore Defaults](#)

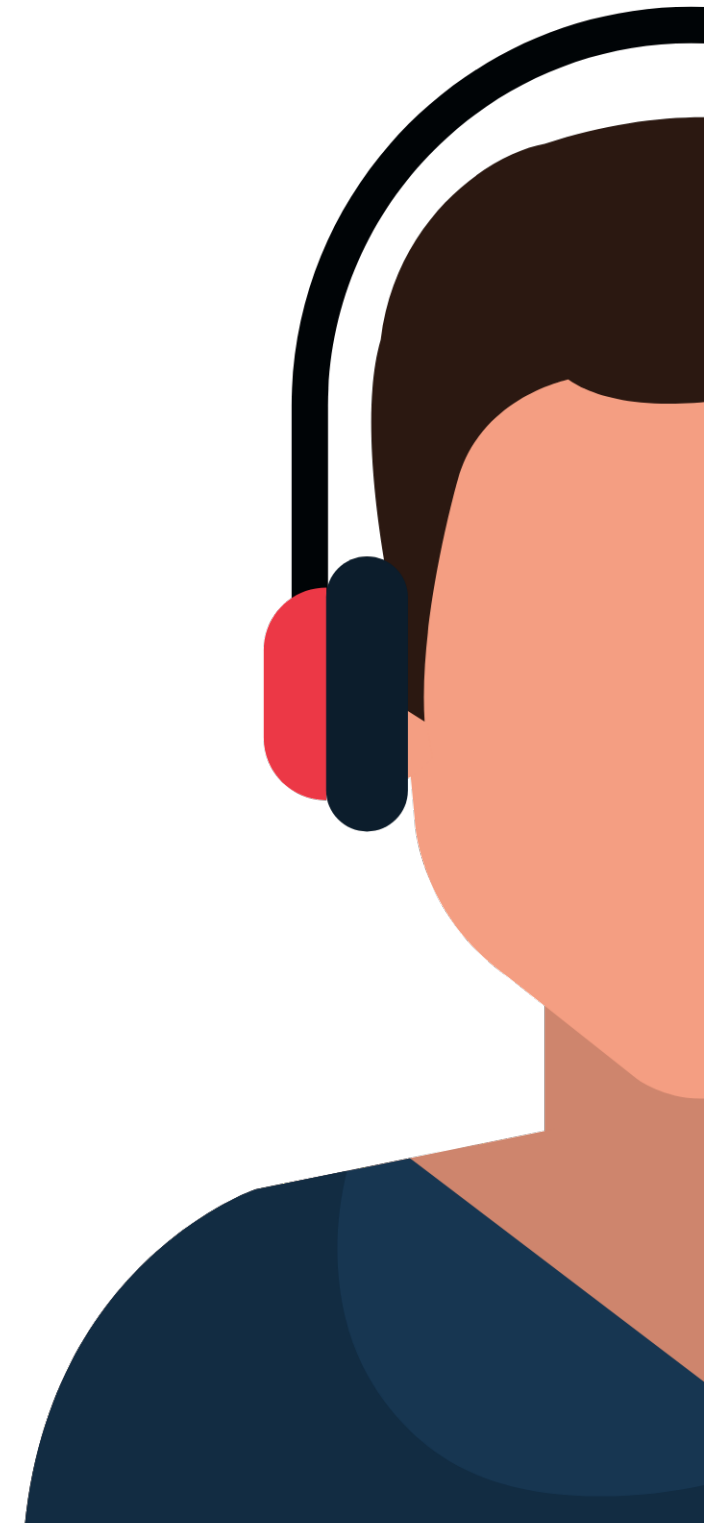
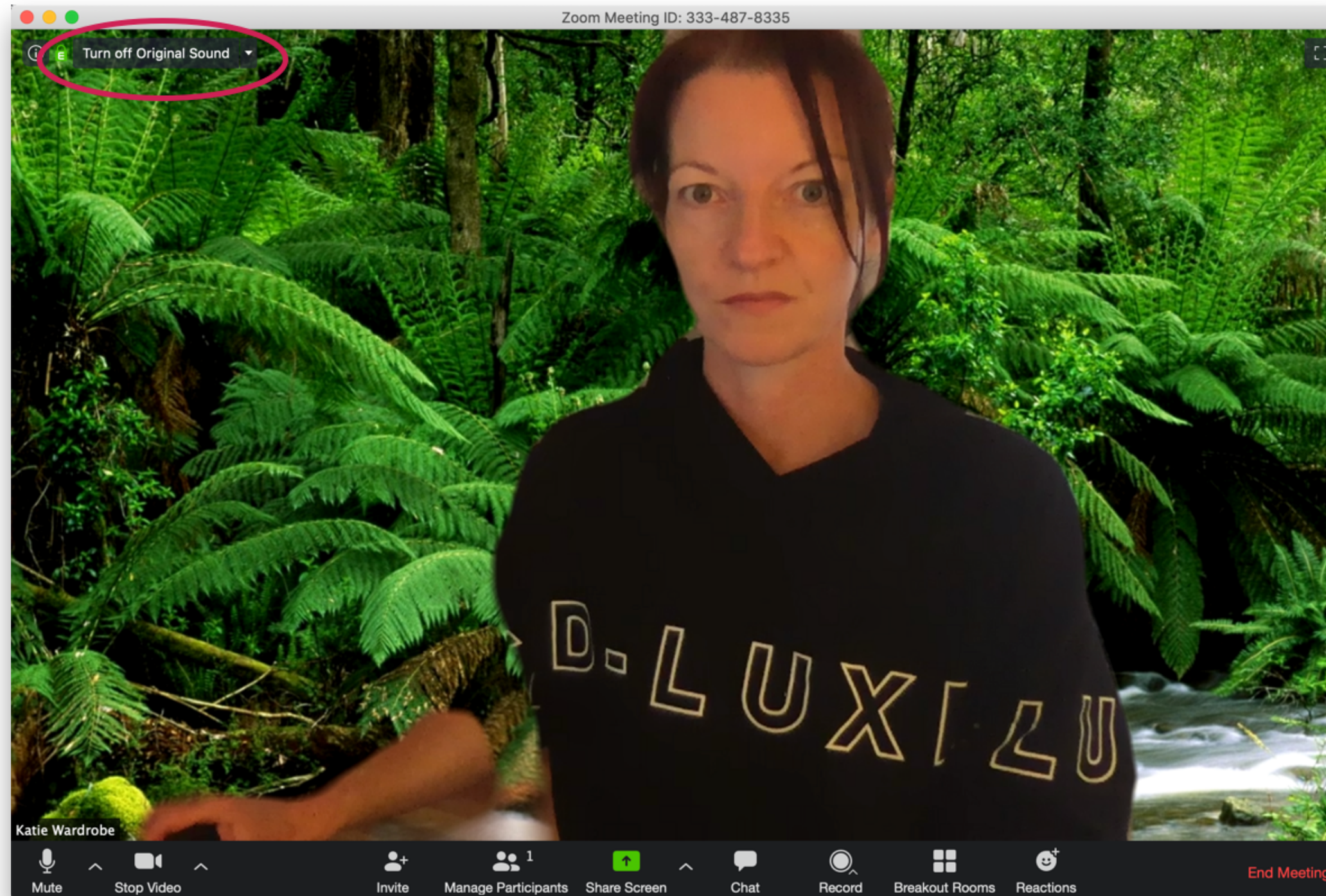
Suppress Persistent Background Noise ☐ Disable

Suppress Intermittent Background Noise ☐ Disable

Echo Cancellation ☐ Auto



4. in meeting window, turn on Original Sound



zoom guide

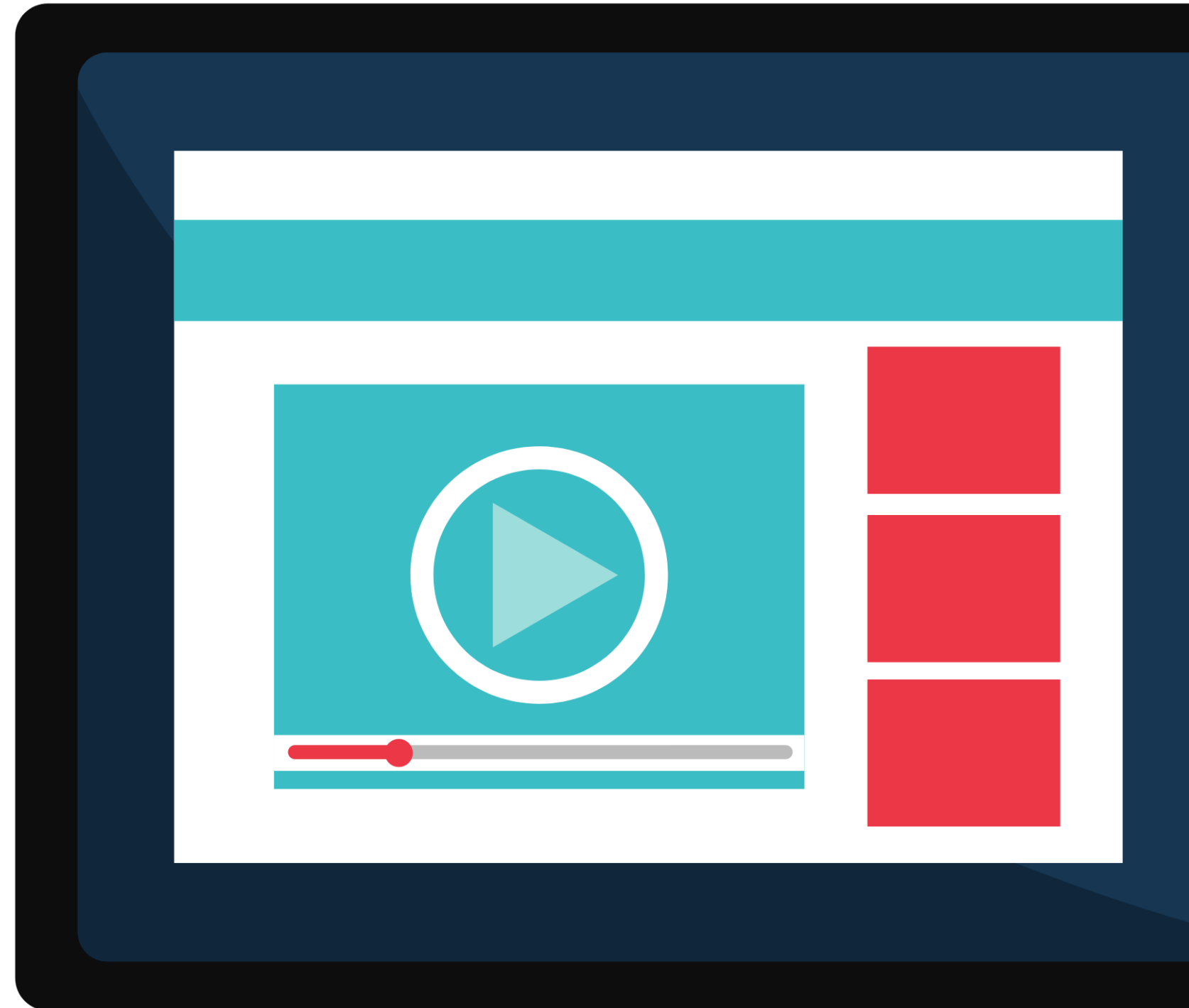


Zoom Guide For Music Teachers
(coming soon!)



zoom other features

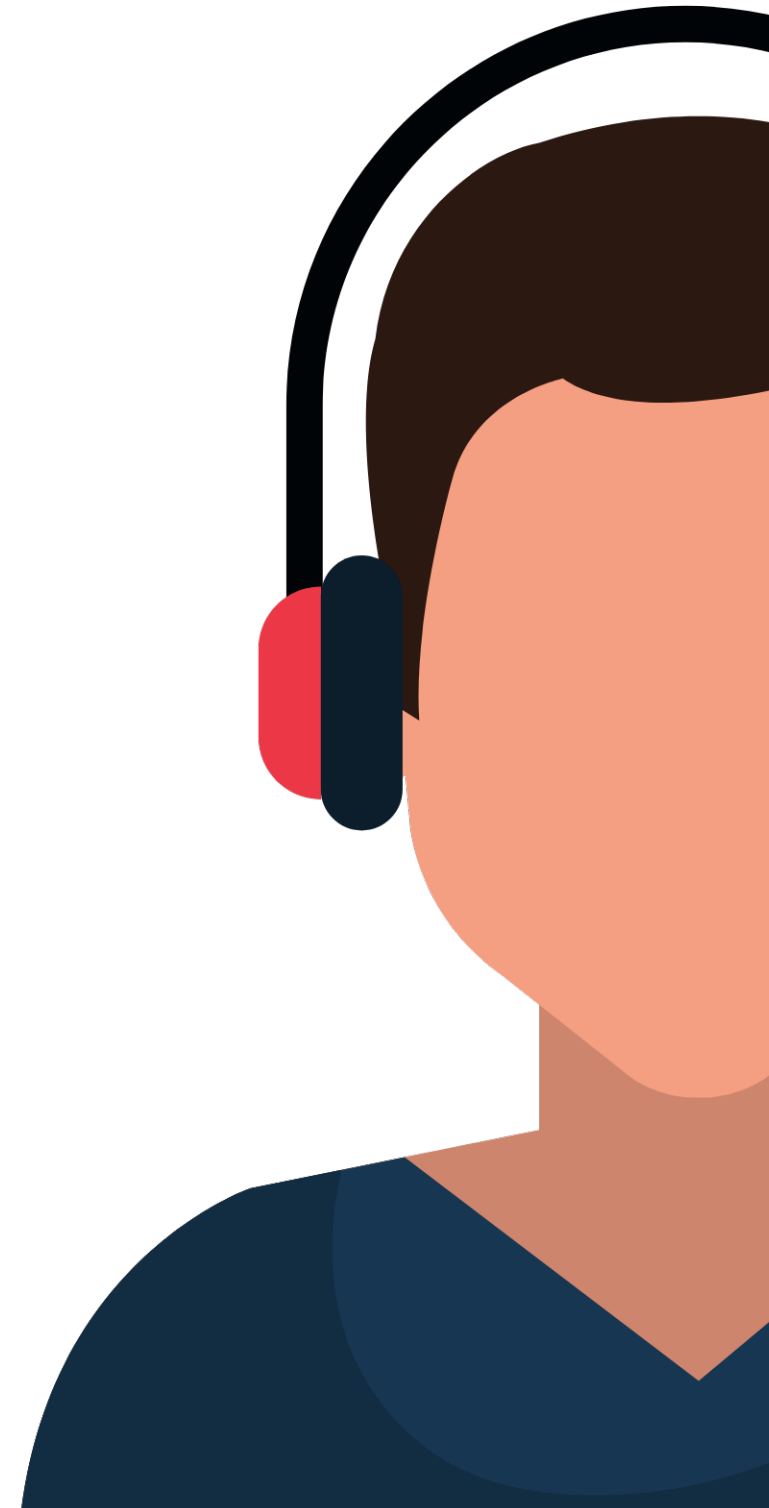
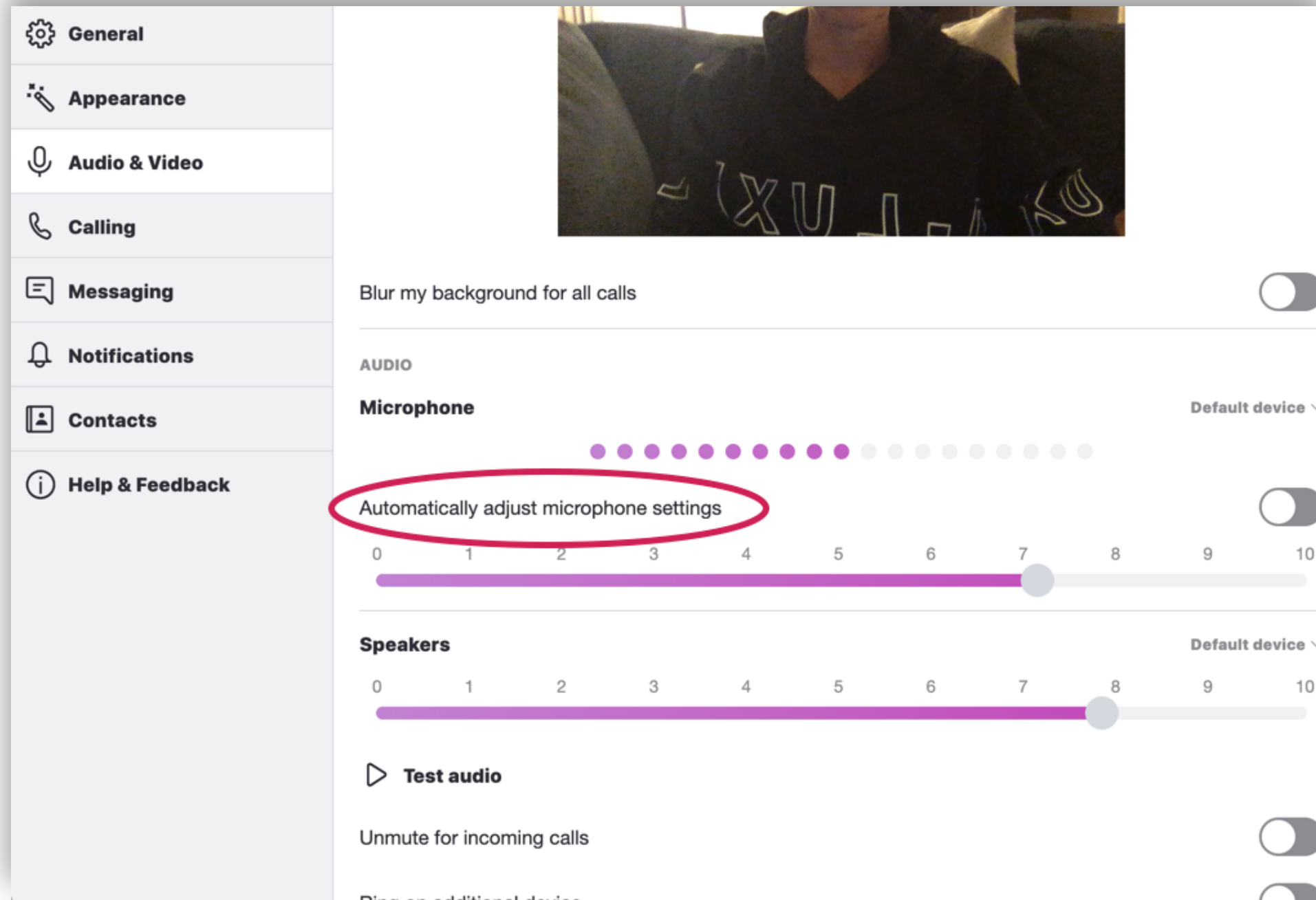
- gallery view vs speaker view
- share screen (ie. sheet music)
- share computer audio only
- switch cameras



audio settings in Skype



1. turn off Automatically adjust microphone settings





physical setup: teacher

the room

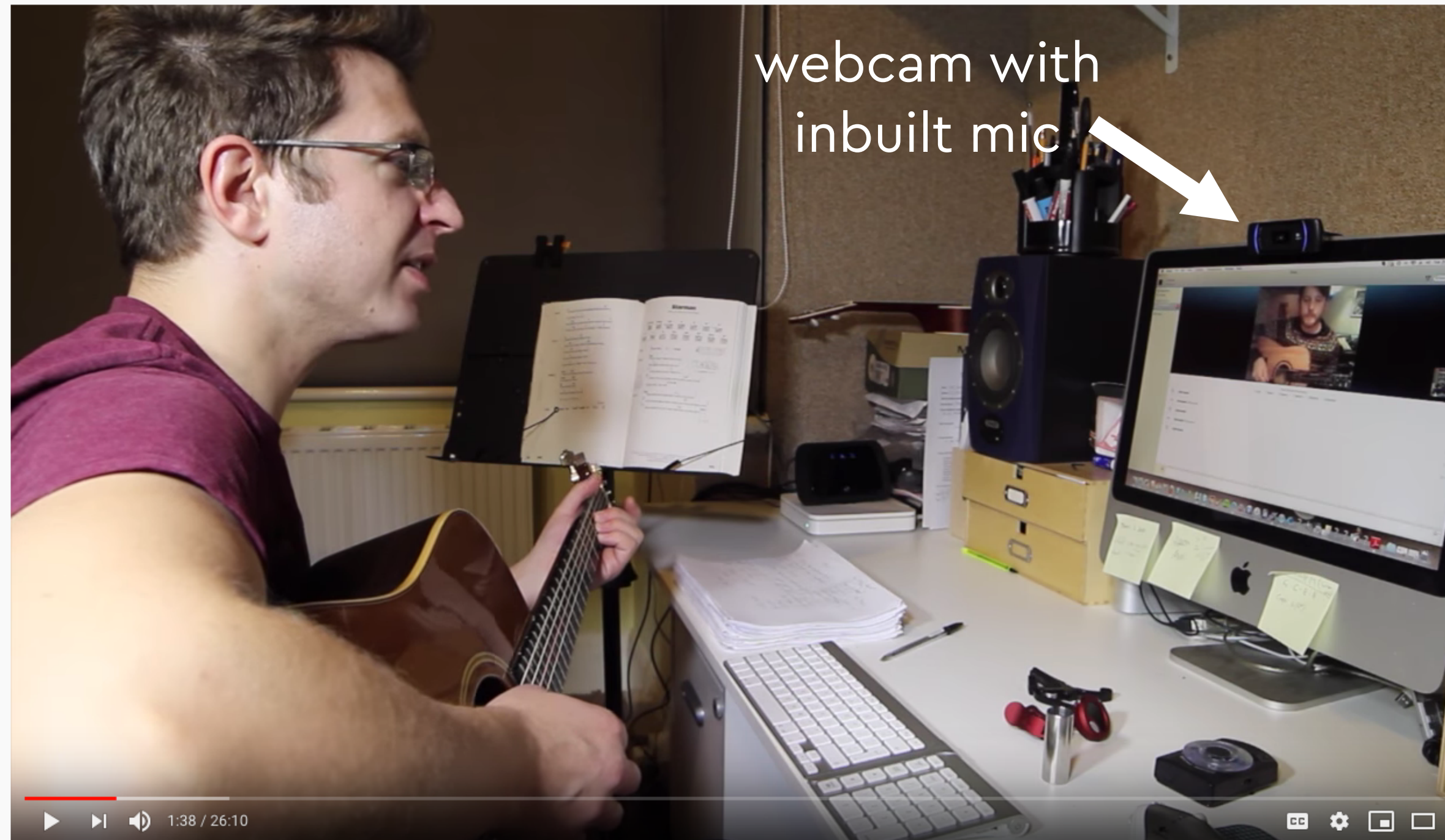
- proximity to router
- quiet space
- lighting: window/s & lights
- check your background
(put the washing away 😊)





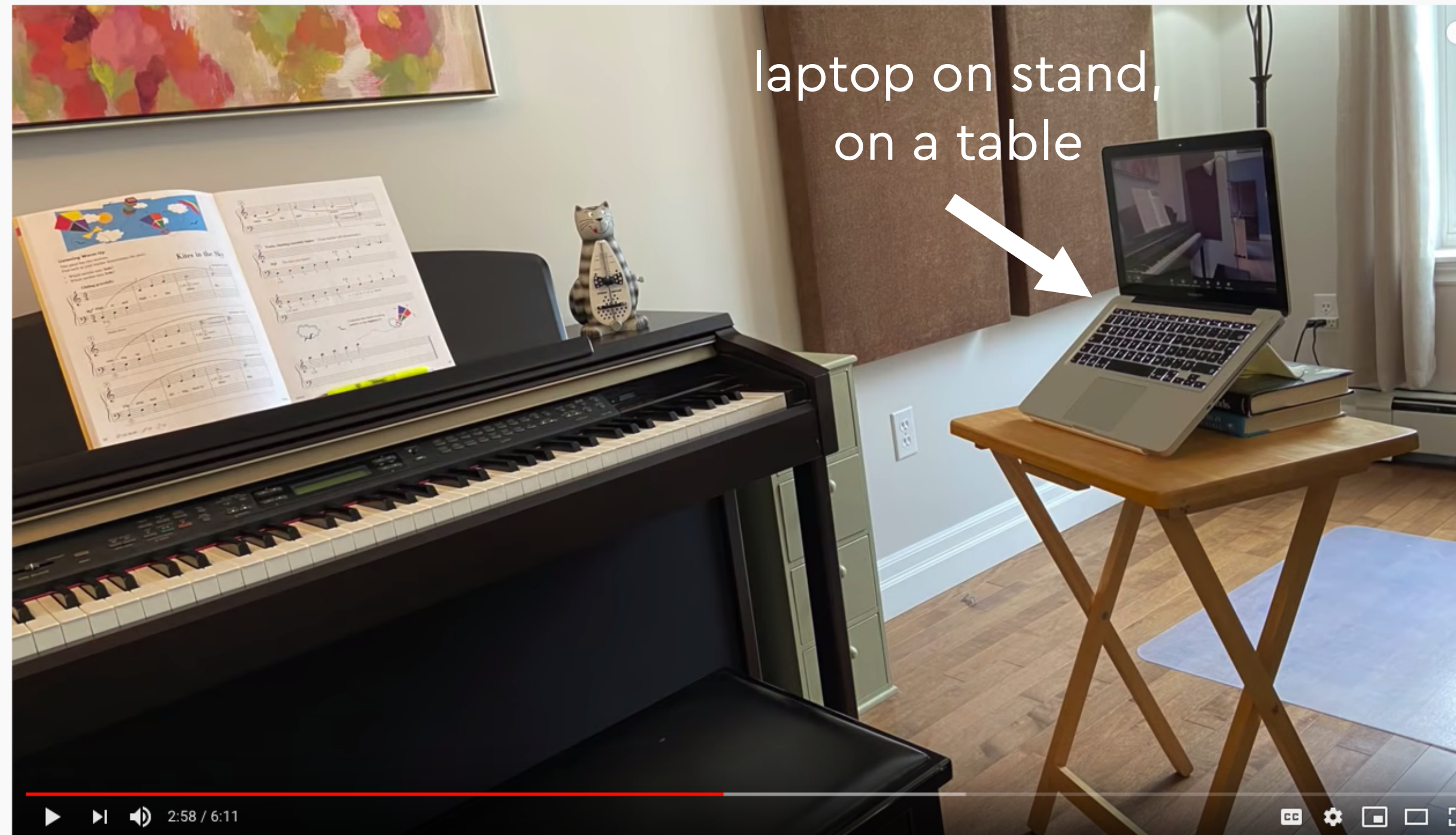
simple setup

guitar



Sample Online Guitar Lesson Via Skype - Cliff Smith Guitar Lessons

piano



laptop on stand,
on a table

NOVA SCOTIA
Get set up for online music lessons with Zoom

sax



Get ready for online music lessons with ZOOM



more advanced setup

cello

● mic

● webcam

● audio interface

photos courtesy of Genevieve Newton



digital piano

- mic
- digital keyboard
- webcam
- headphones
- mixer

photos courtesy of George Zhao



piano 1

- laptop (camera 1)
- tripod for camera 2
- headphones

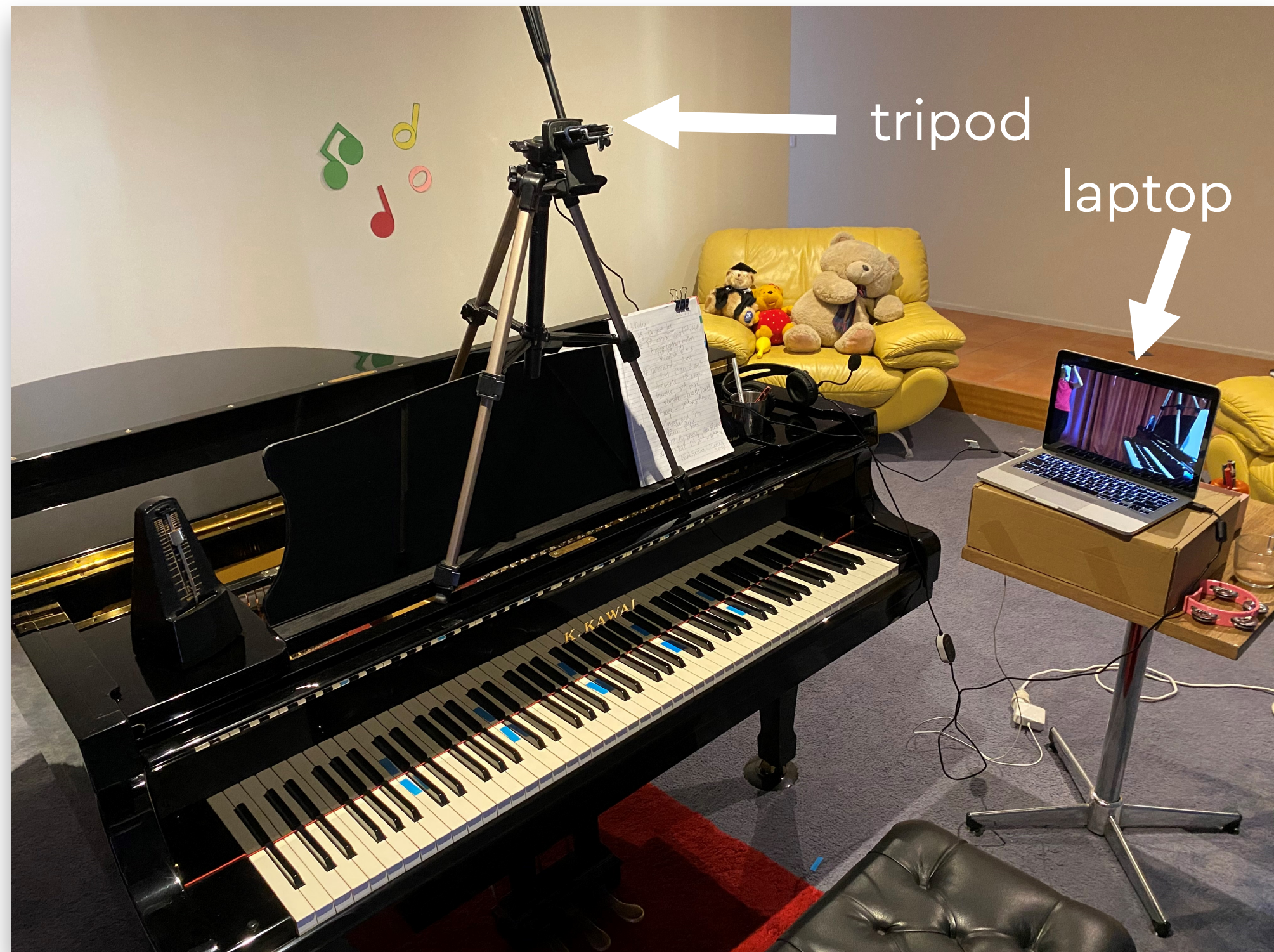


photo courtesy of Yani Lam

piano 1



view from camera 2

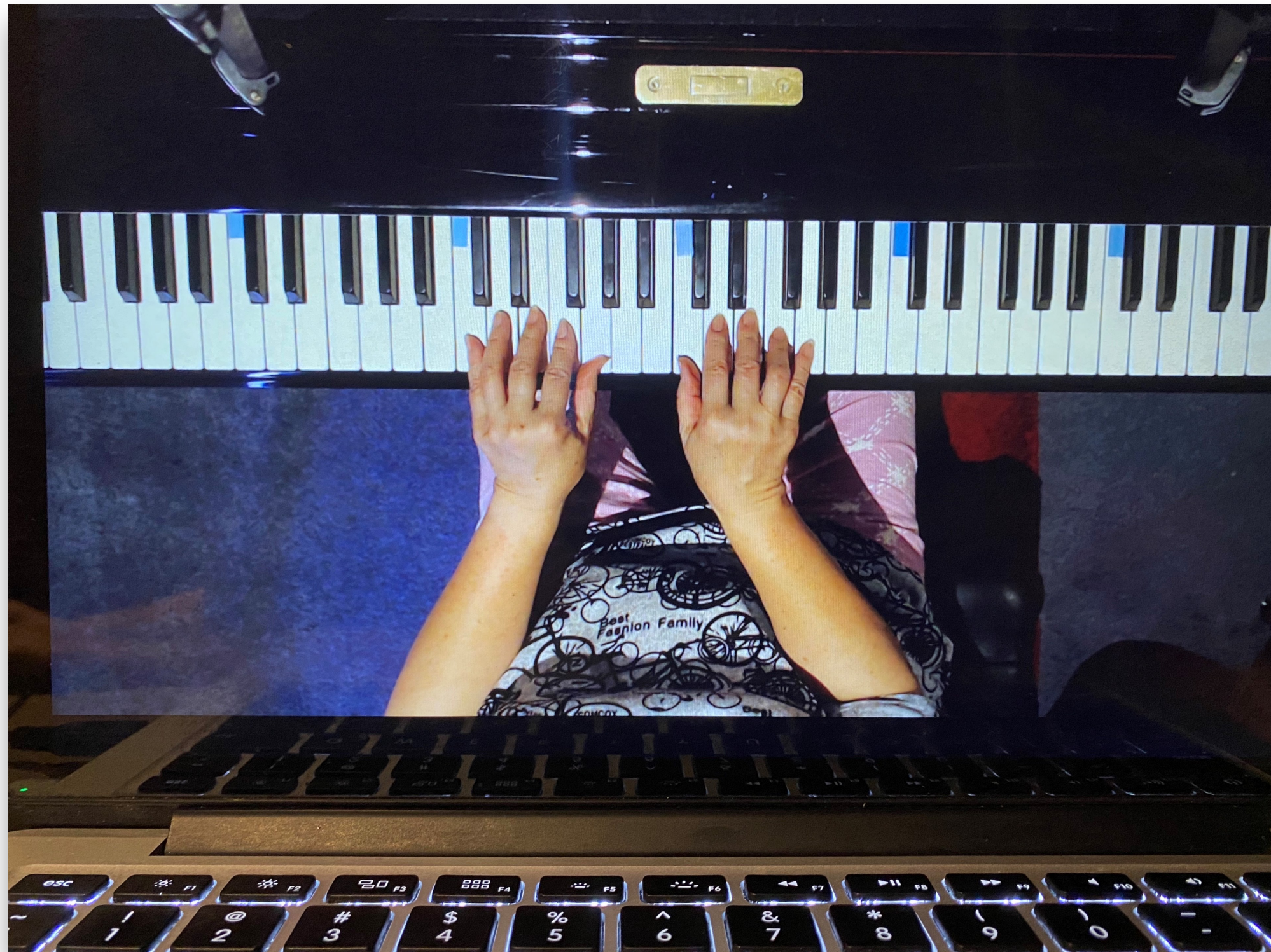


photo courtesy of Yani Lam

piano 1

● view from camera 1

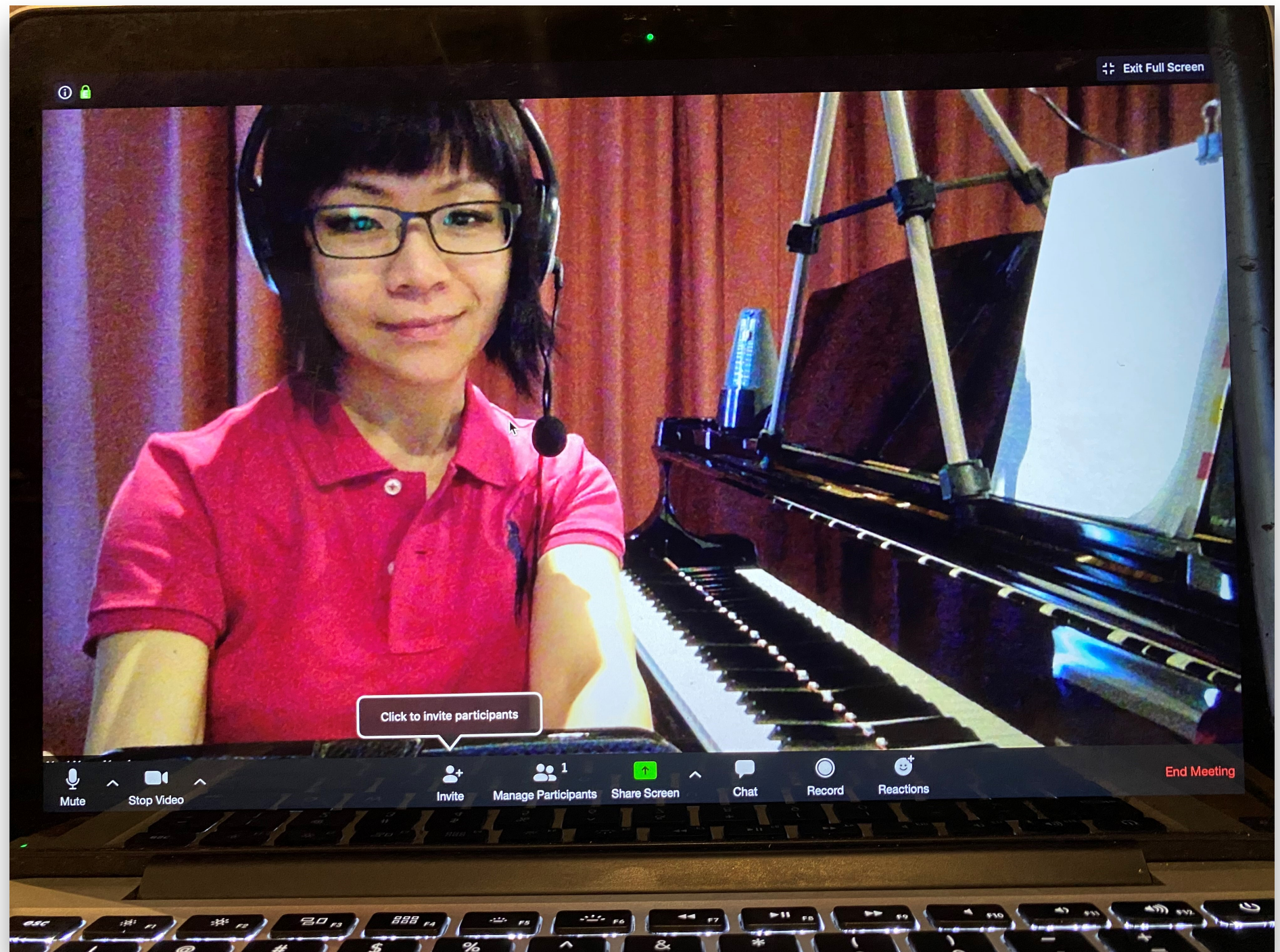
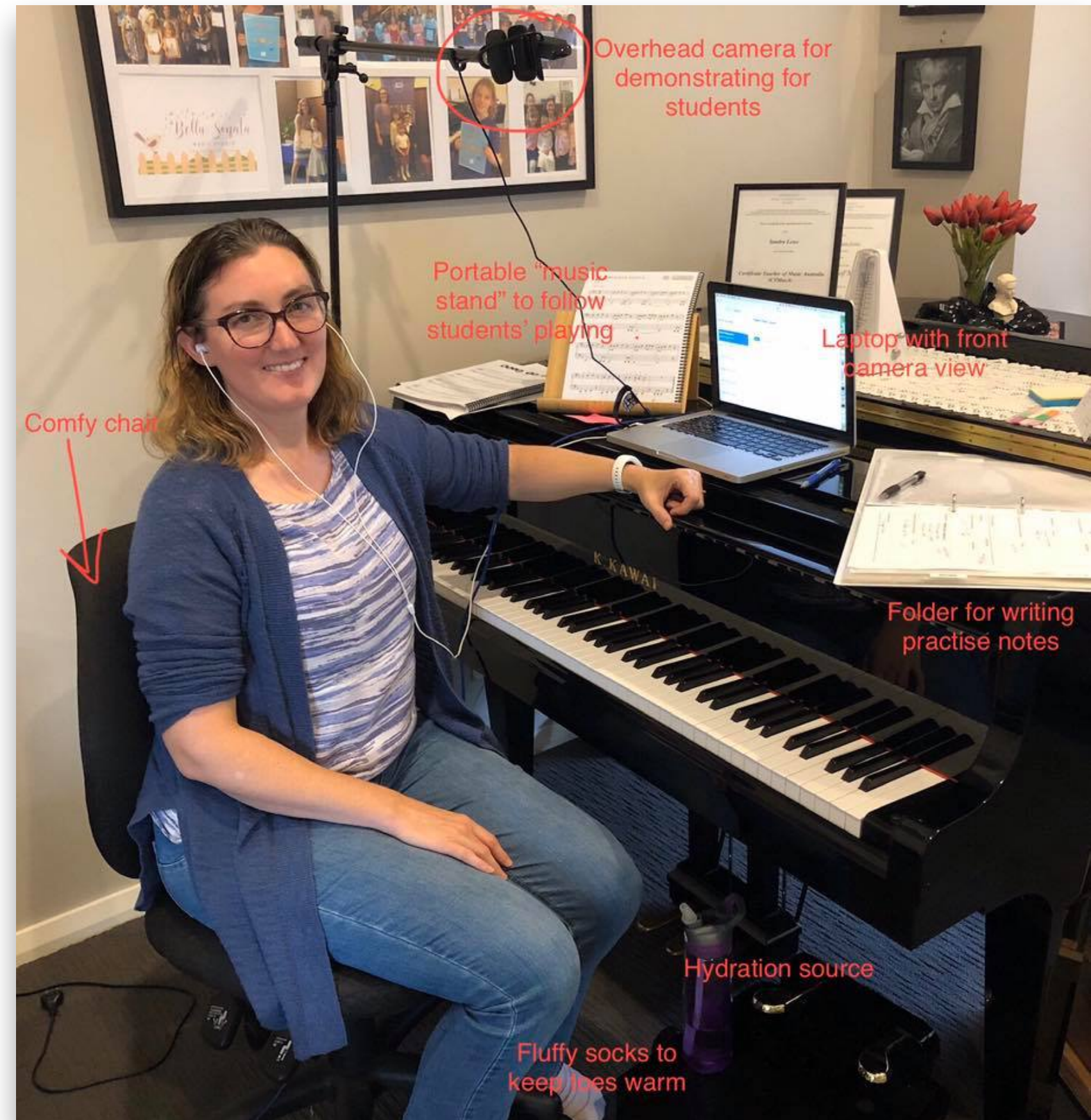


photo courtesy of Yani Lam

piano 2

- laptop on piano
- overhead camera
- earbud headphones

photo courtesy of Sandi Lowe, bellasonata.com



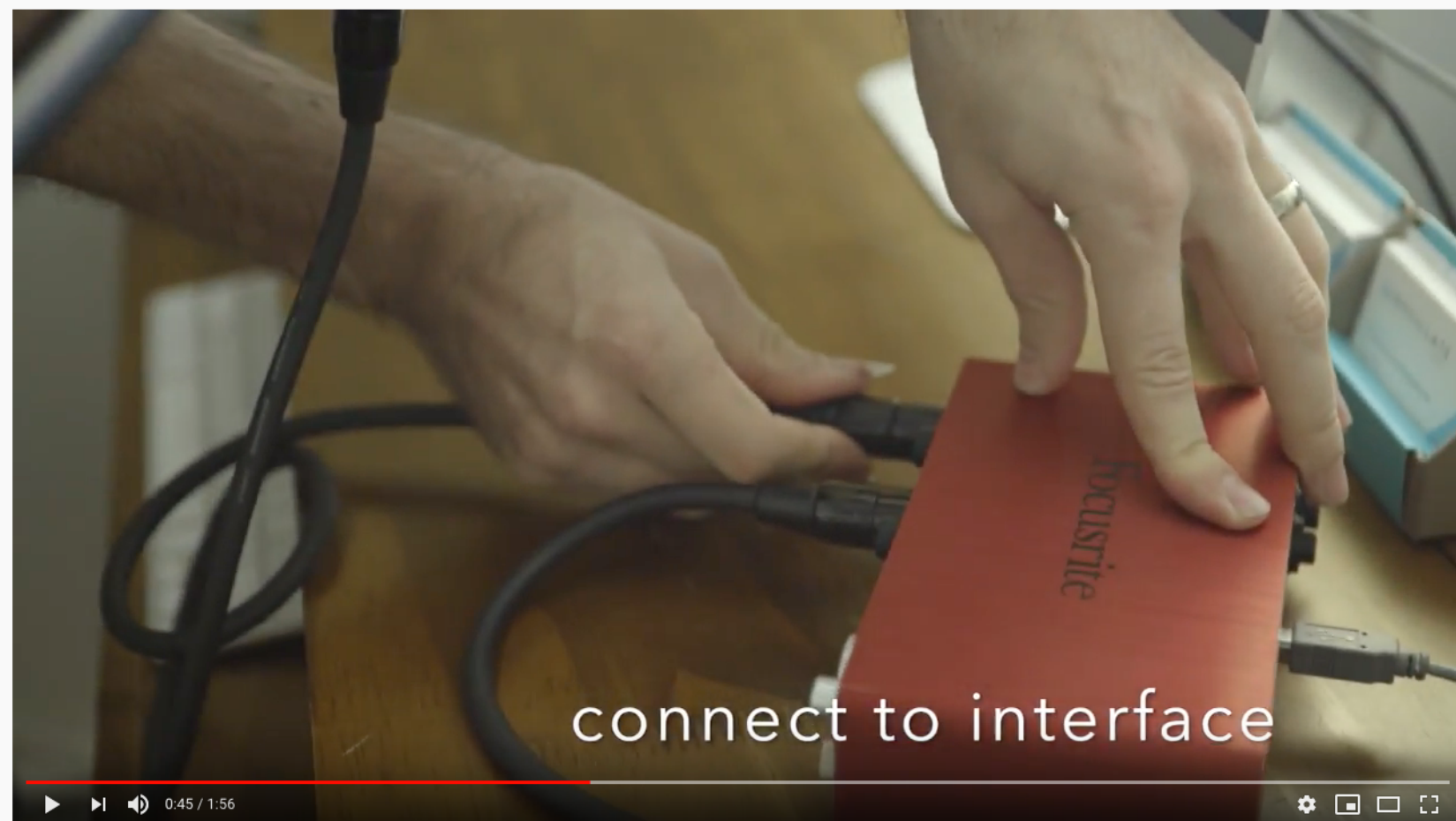
electric instruments



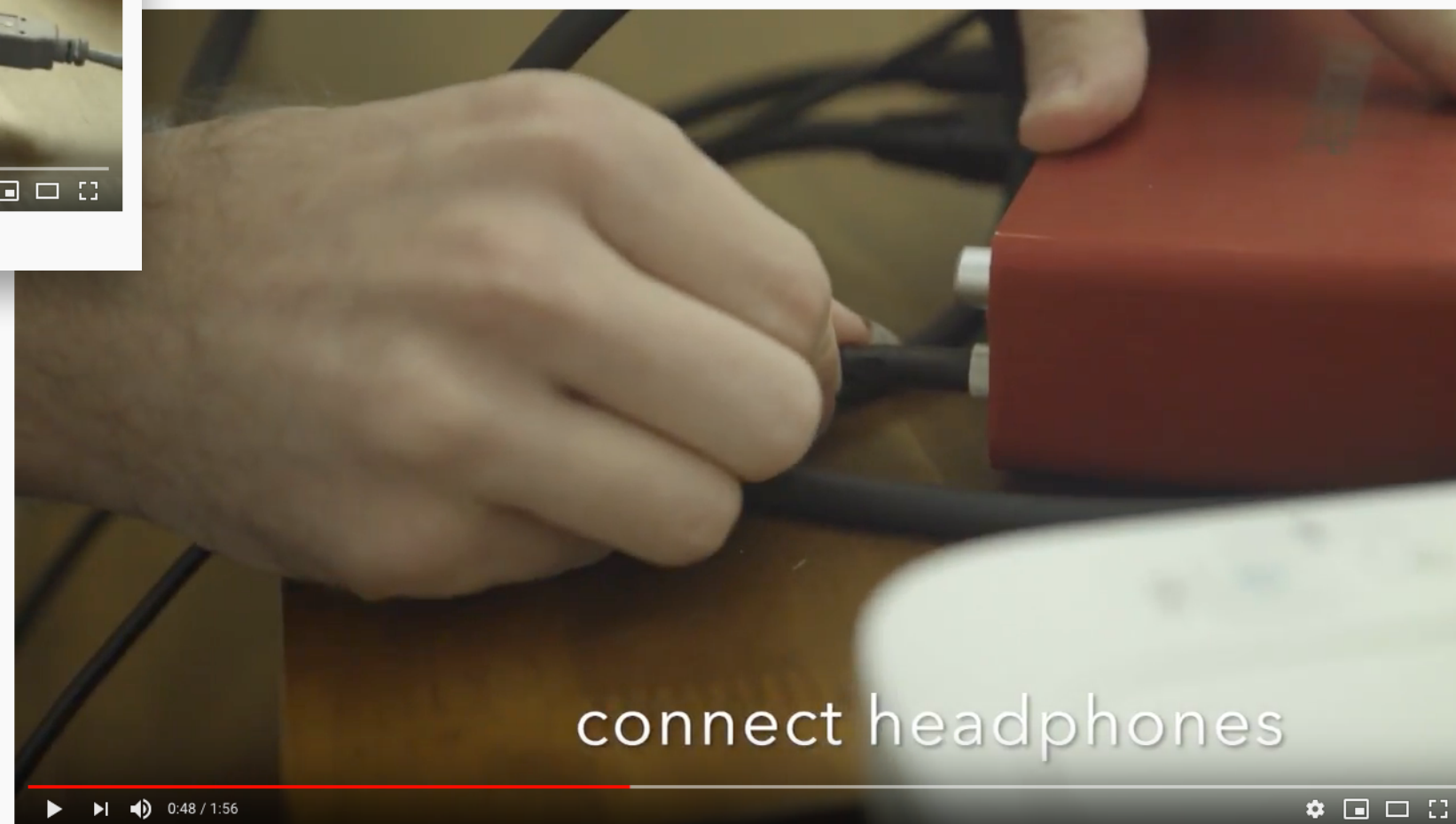
How to set up for an online guitar lesson



How to set up for an online guitar lesson



How to set up for an online guitar lesson



How to set up for an online guitar lesson

electric guitars

- audio interface: vocal mic, amp, headphones
- select audio interface as input
(Zoom/Skype: single input for mic/instrument)
- select audio interface as output
(your sound & student come through headphones)



drum kit

● laptop at one side

● overhead camera



Drum Lessons

drum kit

- log in "two teachers"
- one: laptop camera
- other: iPad camera



How To Setup for Online Drums Lessons (Skype or Zoom)



level up: the options

mics

- USB mics
- XLR mic (& audio interface)
- popular brands: Blue, Audio Technica, Shure, Rode



webcams

- Popular: Logitech
- Logitech c920 or c922



audio interface

- how many inputs?
- popular: Focusrite Scarlett 2i2





physical setup: student

considerations: student

- mostly same as teacher
- room, internet, sound
- positioning of device (camera)



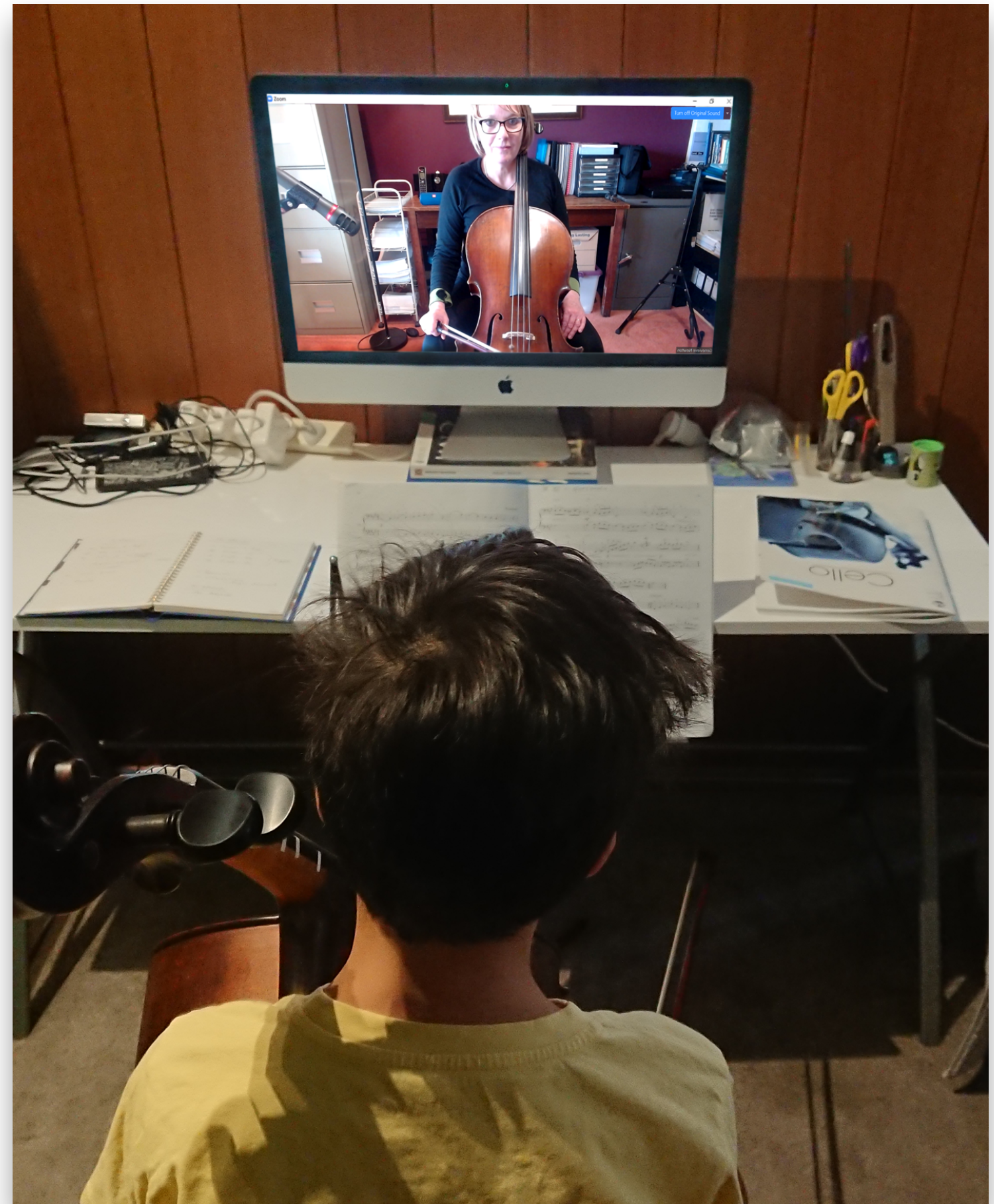
common issues

- student: trouble hearing teacher
(output: speaker or headphones)
- teacher: trouble hearing student
(input: mic)



student 1

- Zoom on iMac
- Monitor raised up on books to improve line of sight over music stand



student 2

● laptop & inbuilt camera

● USB mic (Snowball)



student 3

- iPad with Zoom
- can't access advanced audio settings on iPad



student 4

● phone on stand



student 5

● laptop to one side



photo: musiclessonsanywhere.net

student 6

● laptop in front

● student facing window to reduce glare in camera





tips for success

tips

- just have a go!
- practice with a friend
- leave everything setup if possible
- check & test setup each day
- try on different devices (student view)



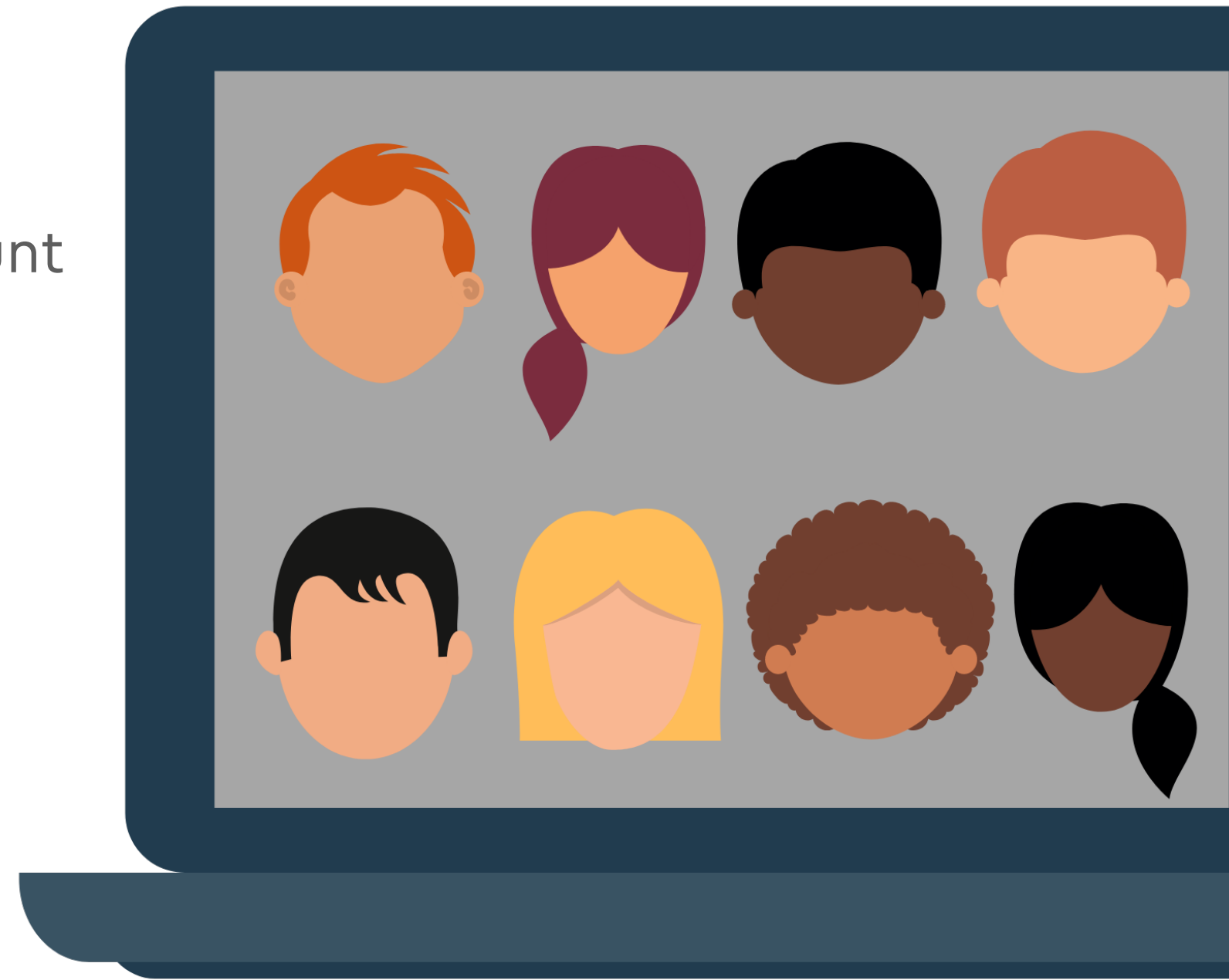


make it better

- use ethernet cable if possible
- kick your family off Netflix & Playstation
- turn off updates/synching of files
- notifications off (all devices)
- plug laptop into charger

things to tell the students

- download Skype/Zoom & setup account
- practice setup ahead of lesson
- supplies to have on hand: note paper, pencil, music, metronome





troubleshooting

- make sure audio/video turned on
- make sure correct camera/mic selected
- make sure another app is not already using mic/camera
- INTERNET



students with limitations



issues

- no device
- shared devices with family members
- parent/carer smartphones only
- little or no internet access
- young students need adult present

possible solutions

- consider asynchronous options
- record teaching videos: drills, rhythms, warm-ups, pieces
- student sends video of their playing – discuss in short online meeting
- teacher record spoken/musical feedback
- ear-training, theory, note reading, rhythm, improvisation





making teaching videos

- best QUICK options: Screencastify, Loom, Flipgrid
- other options: WeVideo, iMovie, Screenflow, Final Cut Pro
- use laptop – better workflow

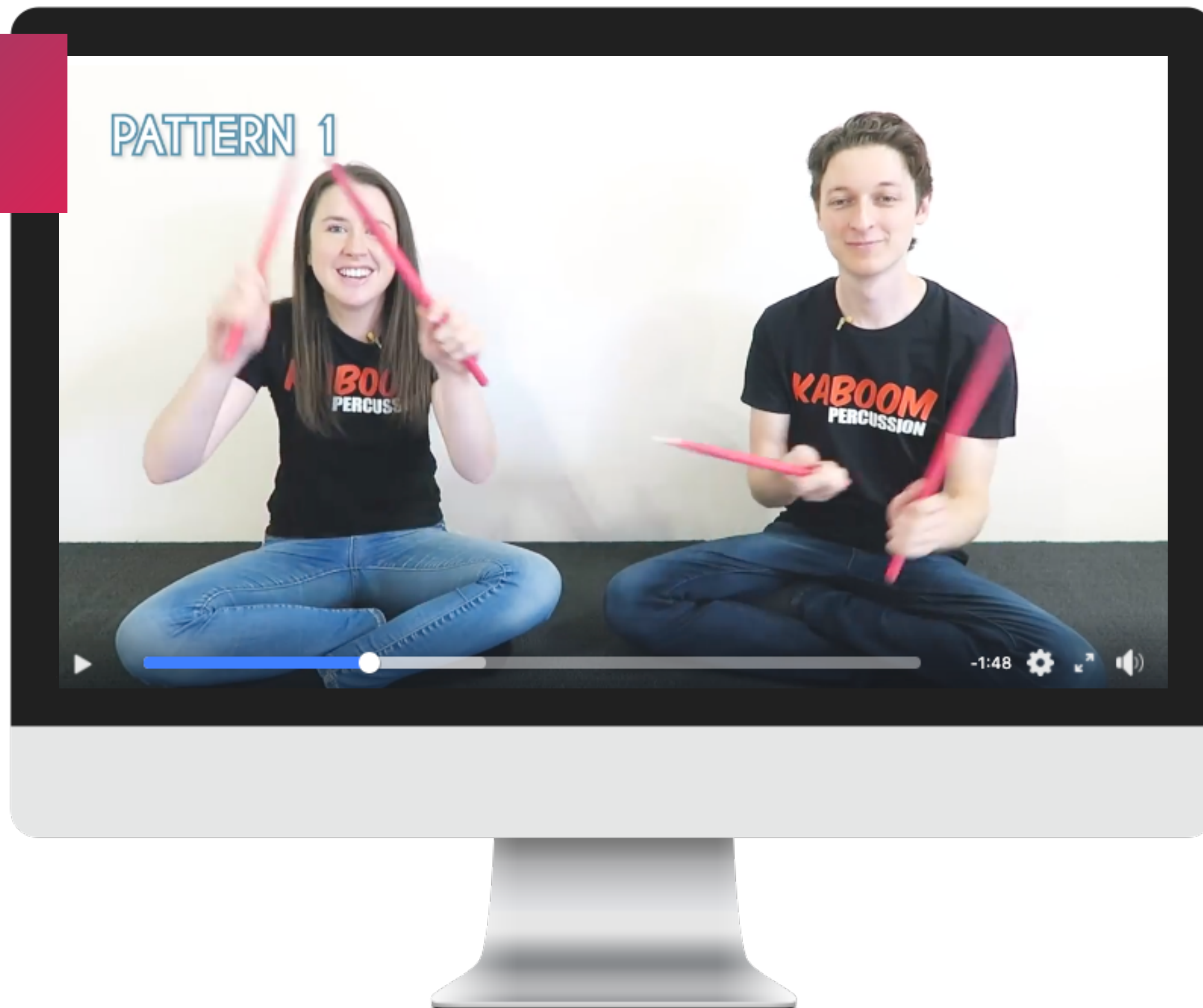
face-to-camera



▶ ⏮ 🔊 1:08 / 5:59

CC ⚙️ 📺 📱 🗑️

face-to-camera




screen share

1 THIS ONE Create awesome teaching resources TMEA copy.key


100% Zoom Add Slide Play Keynote Live Table Graph Text Shape Media Comment Collaborate

HOW TO PLAY

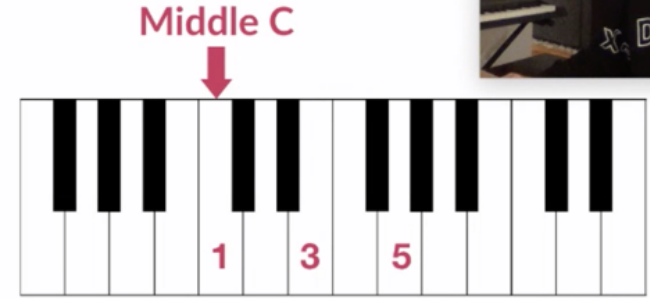
C MAJOR TRIAD



Left Hand

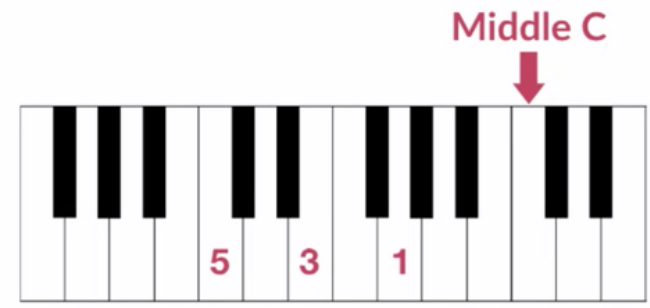


Right Hand



Middle C

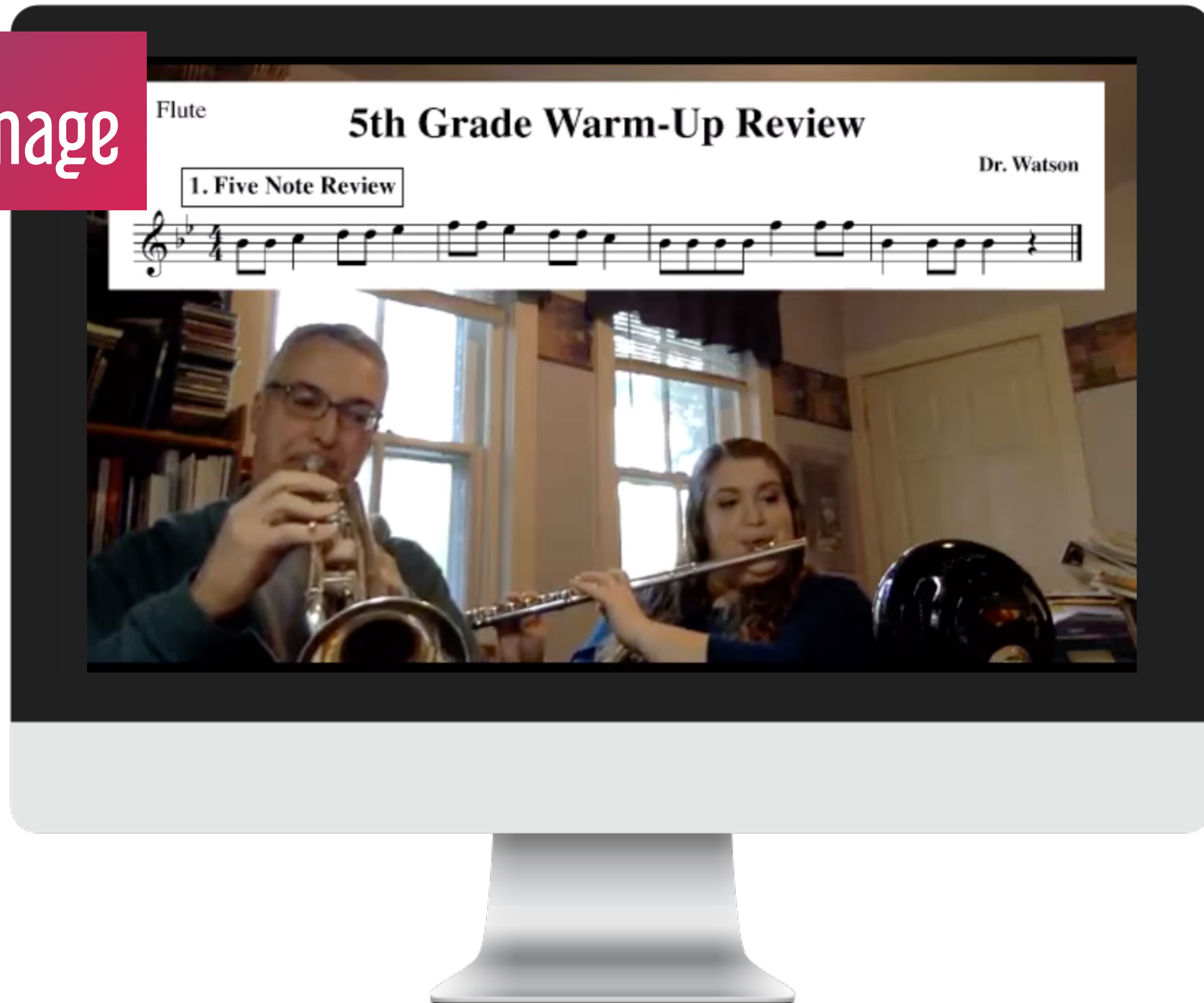
C major triad - right hand



Middle C

C major triad - left hand

face-to-camera & image





final thoughts



what's next?

- give it a go
- done is better than perfect
- keep it simple



more help?

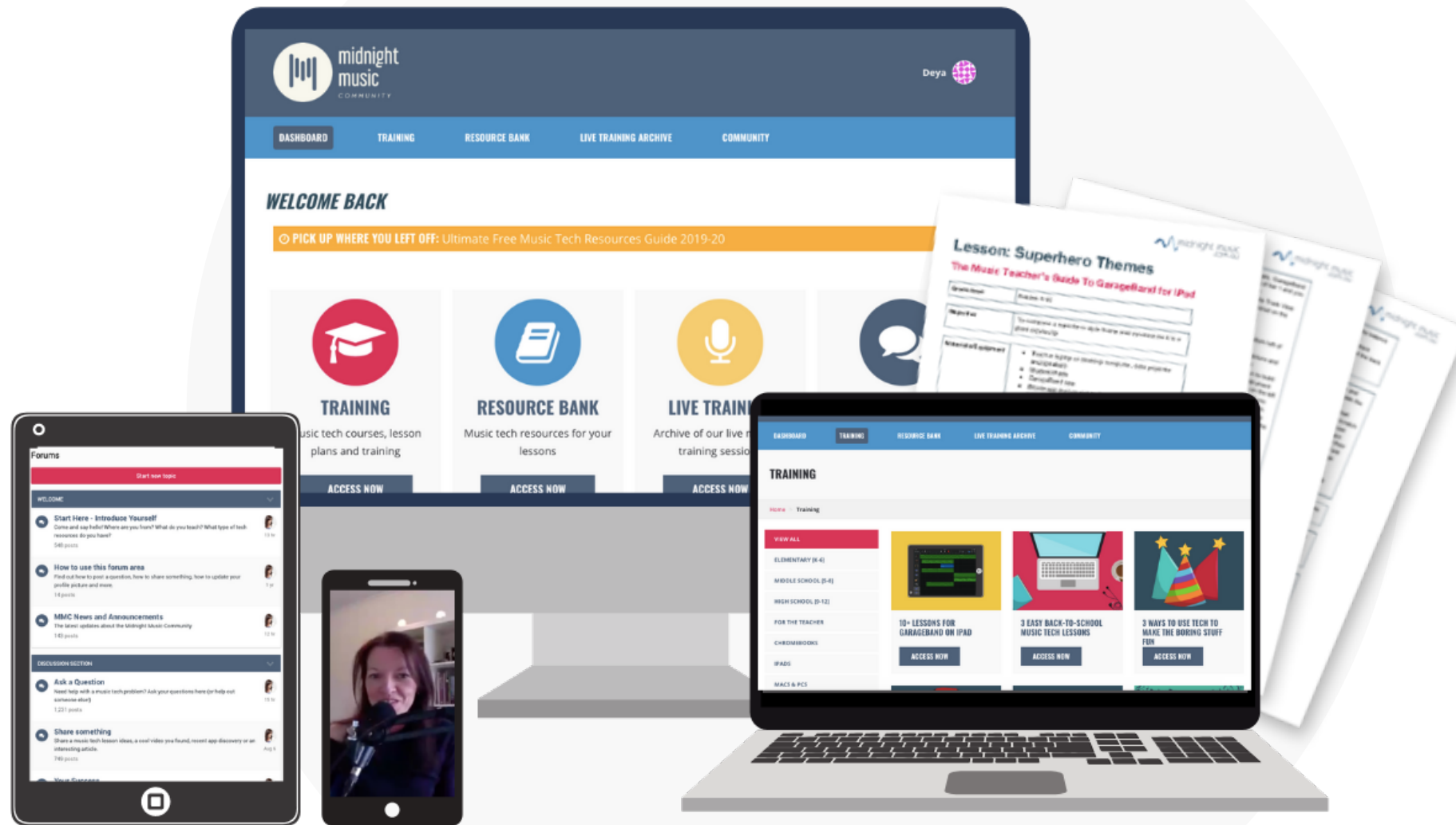
- FB Group: Music Educators Creating Online Learning
- FB Group: E-Learning In Music Education
- Midnight Music Facebook Page
- Midnight Music Community
- VMTA (or your state MTA)

the most important things

- keep students making music
- just try your best
- connection & music is important
- look after yourself!



more help?



- midnight music community
- online PD (with certificates!)
- community forum

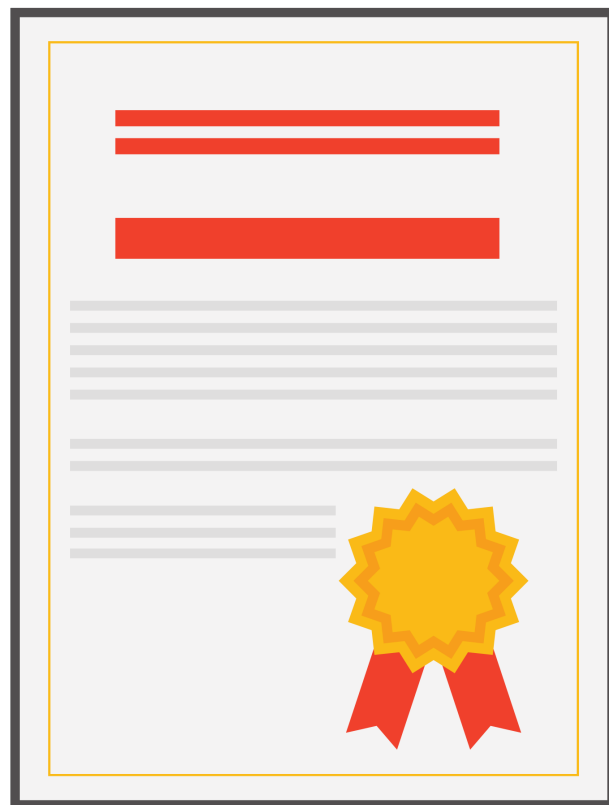




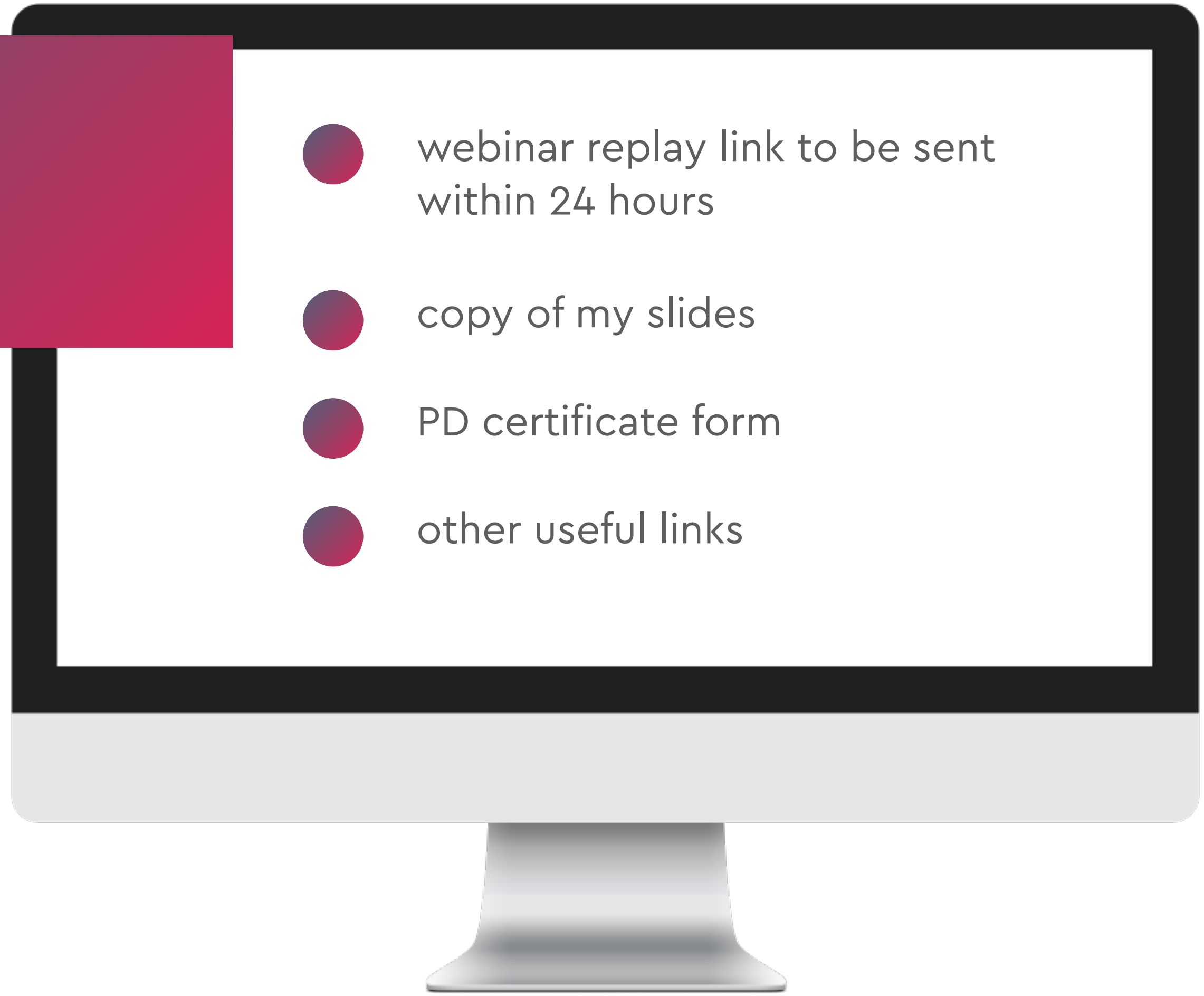
Victorian Music Teachers' Association

- join the VMTA: vmta.org.au
- COVID19 support for teachers
- teacher directory

thank you!



- webinar replay link to be sent within 24 hours
- copy of my slides
- PD certificate form
- other useful links





question & answer time

what would you like to know?



midnight music