Composition Technology 101

"What you need to know to enter your student in the next composition competition"

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1. Notation
    - Programs
        - Finale – extremely powerful notation software, Garriton Personal Orchestra
            - Free version "Finale Notepad"
        - Sibelius – very powerful notation software
        - MuseScore.org – open source free music notation software
        - NotateMe app – notation software for your mobile devices
    - Ideas for students – Rhythmic and melodic dictation, Weekly composition assignments, begin notating their favorites together, Group class or theory computer time.
2. Recording
    - Digital piano – easiest option to insert USB flash drive or SD card.
    - Programs
        - Finale – exporting mp3 from Finale, not human playback
        - Zoom H2N – mic that does the recording for you, produces music file to upload.
        - GarageBand – free on Apple computers, tutorials available.
        - SoundCloud – free audio sharing social sound platform, app available
        - Audacity – free open source audio recording and editing software
    - Cloud Storage – Dropbox, Box.com, Google Drive or OneDrive
3. Resources
    - Books
        - Piano Teacher's Guide to Creative Composition, by Carol Klose
        - Creative Composition Toolbox series (Levels 1 to 5), by Wynn-Anne Rossi
        - Pattern Play series by Forest Kinney
    - Web resources
        - 4dpianoteaching.com
        - Jennifer Fink at pianimation.com
        - Susan Paradis's Composing Worksheets at susanparadis.com
        - Wendy Stevens at ComposeCreate.com
        - Joy Morin at Colorinmypiano.com