

From the Editorial Committee

A Time for Rejuvenation and Reconnections

As we all return to some degree of normalcy in our lives and teaching, how we now move forward will no doubt include new insights we have gleaned during this unprecedented time. The two articles in this issue focus on research topics that came so clearly into focus over the last year with the



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necessity for remote learning at the forefront throughout the pandemic. Both the value of Facebook groups and integrating video modeling into piano lessons provide new teaching ideas for those who teach younger students but can definitely be applied to all teaching levels and ages as well.

"A Review of the Impact of Piano Teachers' Facebook Groups Showing Pedagogical Trends in Teaching Note Read-

ing" reminds us of the pedagogical value that a community of private teachers who share their ideas and experiences through connecting with each other can offer. Their effectiveness is examined through conversations that identify strategies and resources piano teachers currently use to teach note reading to young children, the strengths and weakness found in using specific resources, and the most effective way teachers favored in teaching note reading skills. These online teaching communities show one of the many benefits of using social media.

Taking remote teaching one step further, the article on "Teaching with New Tech Tools: An Evaluation of Integrating Video Modeling into Piano Lessons for Mid- to Late-Elementary Learners," had students watch and analyze recorded performances with the ultimate goal of improving their motor skills. Based on the researcher's study, students learned to imitate, modify and improve not only their motor skills but performance skills as well. It is likely that effective use of video modeling as a practice tool will foster independent learners.

Speaking of connections, we are pleased to announce that beginning with this issue, the *e-Journal* is now publishing abstracts of doctoral-level dissertations/theses/papers. Submissions go through a review process and are accepted throughout the year. Visit Current Research under the Stay Informed section on the MTNA website.

I would like to offer a very special thank you to former committee members Michelle Conda, John Ellis and Catherine Kautsky for their dedication and unique insights to the *e-Journal* and for their support in some of the recent changes we have made. A warm welcome to new editorial committee members, Carla Davis Cash, Diana Dumliavwalla and Gayle Kowalchuk. As always, we are blessed with the devotion MTNA has in creating an organization that allows us to continue to grow as musicians, teachers and researchers. They rock!!

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