

❖❖❖ Glossary ❖❖❖

- A cappella**--Sung without instrumental accompaniment
- Accelerando**--(*accel.*)--Get gradually faster
- Accompaniment**--Music that supports the melodic line
- Act**--The major division of an opera. Operas are often divided into 3 acts.
- Antiphonal**--Music sung by two groups who respond in turn to answer each other
- Aria**--Solo song in an opera
- Arrangement**--A new setting of an existing melody
- A tempo**--Resume the music at the previous tempo; often used after a ritard or a fermata
- Barline**--A line through the five lines of the staff that divides music into measures. A double barline denotes the end of the piece or the section.
- Bass clef**--A sign that indicates that the notes presented are in the lower range in pitch
- Beat**--A regularly repeating pulsation in music
- Bordun**--"Open" fifth accompaniment
- Broken bordun**--An open fifth accompaniment in which *Do* and *So* are played consecutively.
- Broken chord**--A triad in which the notes are sounded consecutively instead of simultaneously
- Canon**--Performance of a single melody by 2 or more voices beginning at different times
- Chorus**--An ensemble of many voices
- Coda**--New musical material added to the end of a piece of music
- Common meter**-- $\frac{4}{4}$ time. Four beats in each measure, the quarter note receives 1 beat.
- Concertmaster**--The first violinist of an orchestra. In previous times, the conductor of the orchestra
- Counter-melody**--A melody written to accompany the original melody
- Counterpoint**--Literally "point against point"--a style of musical composition in which two or more independent lines of music interact with each other
- Crescendo**--Get gradually louder
- DC al Fine**--Go back to the beginning and end at "*Fine*."
- Decrescendo**--Get gradually softer
- Dynamics**--Loudness and softness in a piece of music
- Ensemble**--Two or more people performing together; a French word meaning "together"
- Fifth**--The interval of five; the distance between the first and fifth notes of a scale (*Do* and *So*) the second and sixth (*Re* and *La*), third and seventh (*Mi* and *Ti*), etc.
- Finale**--The last musical scene in an opera before the final curtain
- Fine**--The end (Italian)
- Flat**-- \flat --A note that has been lowered by one-half step
- F Major**--The major key that has one flat (\flat) in the key signature.
- Form**--The pattern of repeated sections in a piece of music.
- Forte**--Loud; symbol- *f*
- Fortissimo**--Very loud; symbol- *ff*
- G Major**--The major key that has one sharp (\sharp) in the key signature
- Grand pause**--A complete break in the music for as long as the director wishes; symbol--
- Half note**--A musical tone that sounds for 2 beats in common meter.
- Half rest**--A two-beat period of silence in music

- Half step**--The distance between a note and its closest neighbor, either above or below.
- Harmony**--Performance of 2 or more different lines of music at the same time
- I Chord**--A triad consisting of the notes *Do*, *Mi*, and *So*
- ii chord**--A triad whose root is *Re*; the ii chord is minor in a major key.
- IV chord** -- A chord whose root is *Fa*; the IV chord is major in a major key.
- V chord** -- A chord whose root is *So*; the V chord is major in a major key.
- vi chord** -- A chord whose root is *La*; the vi chord is minor in a major key.
- Improvisation**--The spontaneous creation and performance of music
- Interlude**--A musical piece between the acts of an opera. Also called **intermezzo** and *entr'acte*.
- Interval**--The distance between two musical tones
- Key Signature**--The indicator at the beginning of a line of music that identifies the key the piece is in--indicates how many notes in the scale are sharped (#) or flatted (b)
- Libretto**--The text of the opera; the story
- Major Scale**--A series of eight notes that progress in order (either up or down) from one pitch to the next pitch of the same name, using the sharps or flats, in any, that are indicated in the key signature for the key that corresponds to the pitch name
- Major third**--The distance between *Do* and *Mi*; 4 half steps
- Measure**--The distance between 2 barlines of music.
- Melisma**--Two or more notes for a single syllable of text, indicated by a slur
- Melismatic**--Music that contains melismata (the plural of melisma)
- Melody**--A tune; the predominant line in a musical composition
- Meno mosso**--Slower; literally "less motion"
- Mezzo-forte**--Medium loud. Literally "half-loud"symbol-- *mf*
- Mezzo-piano**--Medium soft. Literally "half-soft"symbol-- *mp*
- Minor scale**--A sequential series of eight notes, beginning and ending on *La*
- Minor third**--The distance between *Mi* and *So*; 3 half steps
- Minuet**--A dance form in triple time popular in the courts of 18th-century Europe.
- Modulation**--A change of keys in the midst of a musical piece
- "Movable" Do**--A sightsinging system that uses solfege syllables to identify the pitches of the scale. It is called "movable" because *Do* "moves" from key to key depending upon which line or space the tonic pitch is found.
- Octave bordun**--A bordun accompaniment that echoes the fifth in a higher octave
- Obbligato**--A counter-melody in a high voice
- Opera**--A play that is sung. Plural of the Italian word "*opus*," meaning "a work."
- Ostinato**--A short and continuously repeating accompaniment pattern
- Overture**--A musical work presented before the first act of an opera. Often the overture contains statements of musical themes from throughout the opera.
- Patsch**--Body percussion sound made by slapping hands on one's thighs
- Pedagogy**--The science of teaching
- Percussion**--Musical instruments played by striking, scraping, or shaking.
- Perfect fourth**--The distance between *Do* and *Fa*; 5 half steps
- Pianissimo**--Very soft; symbol -- *pp*
- Piano**--Soft; symbol-- *p*
- Piu mosso**--Faster; literally "more motion"
- Quarter note**--A musical tone that sounds for a duration of 1 beat in common meter.

- Quarter rest**--A single beat of silence in music
- Recitative**--Dialog in an opera, often sung in free rhythm
- Relative Minor**--A minor key with the same key signature as a specified major key
- Repeat sign**--A sign that tells the performer to repeat the previous measures, or to the beginning of the piece
- Rest**--A period of silence in music
- Retrograde**--Performance of a musical passage in reverse order of what it is written; from right to left instead of left to right.
- Ritardando**--(*ritard, rit.*) Get gradually slower
- Root**--The note upon which the chord is built. In a I Chord, *Do* is the root.
- Rubato**--Varying the tempo of a piece of music as a tool for expressiveness
- Scat**--Jazz singing using nonsense syllables to improvise
- Scene**--A subdivision of an act of an opera. Often the scene changes when there is a change in setting
- Setting**--Where the specific scene in an opera takes place
- Sharp**-- \sharp --A note that has been raised by one-half step
- Simple bordun**--An open fifth accompaniment in which *Do* and *So* are played at the same time
- Singspiel**--A German musical play
- Sixteenth notes**--Notes that receive $\frac{1}{4}$ of one beat in common time; four sixteenth notes fill up one beat of music in common time.
- Slur**--An arc connecting 2 or more notes of different pitches, indicating a melisma
- Staff**--The set of five lines upon which music is written.
- Syllabic**--Music that primarily presents one note of music for every syllable of text
- Tempo**--Speed; how fast or slow a piece of music is
- Theme**--The predominating melodic idea in a musical work or in a section of a work
- third**--The distance between two notes in the scale with one note between them
- Three-four meter**--Time signature in which there are 3 beats in a measure and the quarter note receives one beat.
- Tie**--An arc connecting two or more notes of the same pitch
- Time signature**--The sign that indicates how many beats will be in each measure, and what kind of note will receive one beat.
- Tonic chord**--The I Chord
- Treble clef**--A sign that indicates that the notes presented are in the upper range in pitch
- Triad**--A chord of three notes
- Triplet**--A group of notes resulting from dividing the beat into 3 equal notes
- Variation**--Manipulating a theme in using various techniques, including changing the accompaniment style or embellishing and elaborating the melody
- Waltz time**--Another name for three-four meter
- Whole note**--A musical tone that sounds for 4 beats in common meter.
- Whole rest**--One whole measure's rest
- Whole step**--two half steps



❖❖❖ Index of Poems ❖❖❖

Limerick, 6
Our Street, 205
Shepherd, The, 31

Snowflakes, 6
Spring, 184

❖❖❖ Index of Songs ❖❖❖

Alaska, 82
Arrow and the Song, The, 20
Bicycle Built for Two, 48
Bubble Gum, 102
Camptown Races, 52
Cuckoo Clock, 162
Down in the Valley, 45
Eldorado, 140
Fais Do Do, 104
Feast, The, 67
Foal, The, 123
Go Tell Aunt Rhody, 44
Good Night, Ladies, 168
Harvest, 184
Hermit Crab, The, 94

Hiking, 148
La Raspa, 89
Piping down the Valleys Wild, 30
Loch Lomond, 156
Morning Chimes, The, 110
Off to the Zoo, 172
Oh, Susanna! 143
One Bottle of Pop, 63
Put Your Little Foot, 88,
Scat-a-Woogie, 214
Sidewalks of New York, 166
Tallis Canon, 190,
Underneath the Bamboo Tree, 96
West Texas Tale, 204

❖❖❖ Index of Composers ❖❖❖

Blake, James, 160
Foster, Stephen Collins, 46
DeWitt, Patti, iv
Haydn, Franz Josef, 85
Lawlor, Charles, B. 160

Leininger, Jim, v
Mozart, Wolfgang Amadeus, 212
Tallis, Thomas, 184
Yates, Ronald, iv, 208

❖❖❖ Orff Abbreviations ❖❖❖

AM--Alto metallophone
BM--Bass metallophone
SM--Soprano metallophone
AG--Alto glockenspiel
SG--Soprano glockenspiel
Cym--Cymbals
Whis--Slide whistle
TB--Temple blocks

AX--Alto xylophone
BX--Bass xylophone
SX--Soprano xylophone
Rec--Recorder
FC--Finger cymbals
Rat--Ratchet
VS--Vibraslap
WB--Woodblock



❧ IPA * Chart ❧

Common English Vowels

| IPA Symbol | <i>as in</i> | English Word | IPA Spelling |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| i | <i>as in</i> | meet | (mit) |
| e | <i>as in</i> | ate | (et) |
| a | <i>as in</i> | lock | (lak) |
| o | <i>as in</i> | home | (hom) |
| u | <i>as in</i> | food | (fud) |
| ɪ | <i>as in</i> | sit | (sɪt) |
| ɛ | <i>as in</i> | red | (rɛd) |
| æ | <i>as in</i> | hat | (hæʔ) |
| ə | <i>as in</i> | alone | (əlon) |
| ʌ | <i>as in</i> | cup | (kʌp) |
| ʊ | <i>as in</i> | should | (ʃʊd) |
| ɔ | <i>as in</i> | draw | (drɔ) |

Diphthongs (double vowel sounds)

| | | | |
|----|--------------|-------|----------|
| aɪ | <i>as in</i> | sign | (saɪn) |
| eɪ | <i>as in</i> | play | (pleɪ) |
| ɔɪ | <i>as in</i> | voice | (vɔɪs) |
| aʊ | <i>as in</i> | mouth | (maʊθ) |
| ɪə | <i>as in</i> | hear | (hɪə) |
| ɛə | <i>as in</i> | where | (hwɛə) |
| ɔə | <i>as in</i> | for | (fɔə) |
| ʊə | <i>as in</i> | sure | (ʃʊə) |

Triphthongs (triple vowel sounds)

| | | | |
|-----|--------------|------|----------|
| aɪə | <i>as in</i> | fire | (faɪə) |
| aʊə | <i>as in</i> | hour | (aʊə) |

* The **International Phonetic Alphabet**, developed by the International Phonetic Association
Department of Theoretical and Applied Linguistics, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece.



❖❖❖ General Index ❖❖❖

- A cappella*, 18, 19, 27, 78
 Accompaniment, 29, 61-64, 143, 149
 Alto, 60
 Anacrusis, 26
 Arrangements, 39-42, 47, 101, 184
 Audiation, 22, 86, 93, 101, 152, 162
 Bach, C. P. E., 81
 Bach, Johann Christian, 212
 Bach, Johann Sebastian, 81, 212
 Beethoven, Ludwig van, 81, 213
 Blake, William, 30, 31
 Broken chords, 59, 62-64
 Byrd, William, 183
 Careers in music, 222
 Chords
 I Chord, 43-45, 61, 120, 142, 149, 160, 186, 206-207
 IV Chord, 142-144, 149, 160, 162, 168, 186, 206-207
 V Chord, 61, 84, 94, 109, 120, 142, 149, 160, 186, 206-207
 Composition, 31, 39, 101, 814, 205
 Conducting patterns, ix
 Countermelody, 64
 Darnell, Pat Pine, 205
 Elizabeth I, Queen of England, 182-185
 Flat, 7, 17
 Form, 29, 82, 65, 109, 120, 144, 152, 162, 168, 186
 Foster, Stephen, 46-47, 142, 143
 Gibbons, Orlando, 183
 Handsigns, viii
 Half step, 56-59
 Handel, Georg Frideric, 82
 Harmony, 36, 61, 101
 Haydn, Franz Josef, 81-83, 213
 Improvise, 21, 62, 64, 101, 149, 151, 184, 206-211
 Internet search, 20, 47, 141, 222
 Intervals, 54-55
 IPA, 100, 227
 Jazz, 206-211
 Heard, Josephine Henderson, 20
 Keyboard skills, 22, 33, 43, 45, 59, 61, 143
 Key of C Major, 21
 Key of D minor, 32
 Key of E minor, 32
 Key of F Major, 7
 Key of G Major, 7
Magic Flute, The--Opera, 214-221
 Major scale, 22
 C Major scale, 21
 F Major scale, 7
 G Major scale, 7
 Minor keys, 32
 Minor scale, 33
 Minstrelsy, 47
 Modulation, 53
 Mozart, Wolfgang Amadeus, 81, 212-213
 Obbligato, 149
 Nashe, Thomas, 181
 Opera, 212-221
 Orff accompaniment, 48, 101, 106, 184
 Ostinato, 206, 207
 Overture, 186
 Perfect fourth, 69, 100, 101, 102, 160, 162
 Poe, Edgar Allan, 140-141
 Purcell, Henry, 183
 Recorder, 10, 24, 41, 44, 63
 Relative minor, 32
 Scat, 149, 206-211
 Shakespeare, William, 183, 184
 Sharp, 7, 17
 Slurs, 40-42
 Tallis, Thomas, 183, 184
 Thirds, 88, 92
 Major third, 56-59, 65, 142, 144, 147
 Minor third, 56-59, 67, 92, 150, 152
 Ties, 40-42
 Time Signature, 6
 Triads, 56-59
 Trill, 108
 Variation, 64, 83
 Whole step, 56-59
 Write across the curriculum, 1, 6, 20, 39, 42, 43, 62, 83, 85, 101, 144, 184



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