Grade 9-12 Intro to Music Technology - Unit 3 - Adding Digital Audio to the Mix

Unit Focus

In this final unit, students will learn and apply advanced level editing skills to their work in GarageBand. Students will learn how to use an audio interface and record their voice using a live microphone. They will apply all of the knowledge and skills they have learned throughout the trimester to a final project. By the end of this course, students will have a solid foundation in music production, enabling them to confidently explore further studies in music technology or apply their skills creatively in various musical endeavors.

Stage 1: Desired Results - Key Understandings

Standard(s)

National Core Arts Standards
Music Technology: HS Proficient

- Generate melodic, rhythmic, and harmonic ideas for compositions or improvisations using digital tools. (MU:Cr1.1.T.HSI.a)
- Select melodic, rhythmic, and harmonic ideas to develop into a larger work using digital tools and resources. (MU:Cr2.1.T.HSI.a)
- Drawing on feedback from teachers and peers, develop and implement strategies to improve and refine the technical and expressive aspects of draft compositions and improvisations. (MU:Cr3.1.T.HSI.a)
- Share compositions or improvisations that demonstrate a proficient level of musical and technological craftsmanship as well as the use of digital tools and resources in developing and organizing musical ideas. (MU:Cr3.2.T.HSI.a)
- Explain and support an interpretation of the expressive intent of musical selections based on treatment of the elements of music, digital and electronic features, and purpose. (MU:Re8.1.T.HSI.a)

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- Product Creation: Effectively use a medium to communicate important information. (POG.3.2)
- Self-Awareness: Examining current performance critically to identify steps/strategies to persist. (POG.4.1)

Transfer

Students will be able to independently use their learning to...
T1 Create works of art to personally engage in the artistic process and/or communicate meaning
T2 Capture the feeling or emotional response which an artistic piece elicits
T3 Develop and refine techniques and skills through purposeful practice and application to become more fluent
T4 Engage in critique to inform next steps or deepen examination of an artistic work

Meaning

Understanding(s)

Students will understand that...
U1 audio tracks and MIDI tracks are different types of digital files.
U2 there's a variation in the editing of different types of digital files.
U3 the skill of mixing is essential to the success of a composition.
U4 manipulating audio files with effects and plug ins alters the sound of a composition.
U5 all digital sounds are editable within the software program.
U6 the process of evaluating, editing and refining a composition is ongoing and essential to the quality of a finished product.
U7 setting up your equipment properly is essential to quality sound.

Essential Question(s)

Students will keep considering...
Q1 How do I use what I visualize/ imagine and make it come to life?
Q2 How much freedom do I have to be creative and also work within established criteria?
Q3 What am I learning or have I learned from creating this work of art?

Stage 1: Desired Results - Key Understandings		
	Acquisition of Knowledge and Skill	
	Knowledge	**Skill(s)**
	Students will know... **K1** the refinement process leading up to the finished product. **K2** the proper setup of an external microphone. **K3** the function of an audio interface. **K4** independent navigation of the DAW software. **K5** the following vocabulary: pan, reverb, delay, chorus, flanger, phaser, pitch, tremolo, EQ, and compression.	*Students will be skilled at...* **S1** hooking up an audio interface. **S2** refining their composition in order to prepare a quality finished product for an audience. **S3** incorporating advanced level editing techniques into their composition. **S4** setting up and recording using an external microphone. **S5** critiquing work of their peers and providing constructive feedback. **S6** mastering their projects and bouncing the composition to a shareable file, such as wav.