



## **Lesson: Meter Matters!**

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Resources: Notion Notation Software, PS49 MIDI keyboard

NAfME Standards:

2. Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
4. Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines.
5. Reading and notating music.
7. Evaluating music and music performances.
8. Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.
9. Understanding music in relation to history and culture.

Objectives: Students will learn to compose music that connects meter in music to meter in poetry and text.

Procedure:

1. Discuss the use of meter in text using appropriate examples, such as a hymnal with an index by meter and/or poetic meter:  
<http://www.poetryfoundation.org/learning/glossary-terms?category=rhythm-and-meter>
2. Have students select a set of lyrics and identify the meter of the text.
3. Create a new score in Notion and select the instruments for the composition. Add a title to the song that matches the selected text and compose a short melody that matches the meter of the text.
4. Once the melody is complete, add the text using the lyric tool. Use example lyric sheets to demonstrate the proper method for spacing syllables.
5. Have students print their song for the class and then perform using the playback in Notion. This can be done by either singing or reading the text in rhythm over the playback.
6. Expand upon this lesson by adding multiple verses of lyrics; two, three, or four-part harmony; or more complicated meters.