



Lesson: What Does That Look Like?

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Level: Beginning/Intermediate

Resources: Studio One® DAW, Notion notation software, optional MIDI keyboard

NAfME Standards:

3. Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments.
4. Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines.
5. Reading and notating music

Objectives: Students will create a MIDI composition and export to view in notation

Procedure:

1. Discuss the elements of composition and notation.
2. Set the parameters of the composition assignment, such as form, harmony, and length, then create a new song in Studio One and quantize the track to eighth or sixteenth notes, depending on student level.
3. Have students compose or improvise a music example using virtual instruments by entering notes in the “edit” menu, using the QWERTY keyboard, or using a MIDI controller in Studio One.
4. Use the “edit” menu to check and adjust rhythmic placement of notes, and quantize if needed.
5. Export Parts to MIDI File from the “Event” menu.
6. Open Notion and import the saved MIDI file. Highlight the MIDI data and select Convert to Notation under the “Tools” menu.
7. Export the Studio One file as a .wav file and print the Notion file, providing both an audio recording and printed version of the composition.