



Music Virtual Learning

Symphonic Orchestra

May 15, 2020



Symphonic Orchestra

Lesson: May 15, 2020

Objective/Learning Target:

Students will learn about improvisation and try it out.

Warm-Up





Let's Practice!

Step 5

Quit While You're Ahead!

Play a fun song!

Stop! Reflect on your progress!

Take a break before you get frustrated!

Play a song from last year!

Lesson



Check this video out

Improvisation

- ★ Performance without planning or preparation adding variations to a melody or using new melodies, rhythms, and/or harmonies. (Making up music on the spot)
- ★ Focused on creativity and self expression
- ★ Use the knowledge you already have.
- ★ Great opportunity to communicate and respond to others through music.
- ★ Styles that include improvisation are:
Jazz, Bluegrass, Rock, Pop, Fiddle



Let's learn some
improvisation from
Christian Howes



Christian Howes

- ★ Violinist, educator, and composer
- ★ Well known Jazz violinist
- ★ Started violin at the age of 5
- ★ Attended Ohio State University and studied philosophy.
- ★ Has released four albums: *Heartfelt*, *Out of the Blue*, *Southern Exposure*, and *American Spirit*.
- ★ Founded the Creative Strings Workshop and Festival to help musicians study improvisation, composition, and styles outside of classical music.



Watch this introduction video before going to the next slide:



D Major Play-Along

Beginner



Medium



Advanced



Try it on your own

After practicing with Mr. Howes
play-along...



D Major Backing Track



- ★ Add your own rhythms
- ★ Variety of bowing styles (Slurs, spiccato, staccato, double stops)
- ★ Keep it simple & don't worry about making mistakes!
- ★ Experiment and get creative using D Major!

Feeling Inspired?

Also try this Blues & Jazz play-along

Beginner



Medium



Advanced



Review



Watch Expert Improvisation Musicians

Gypsy Jazz



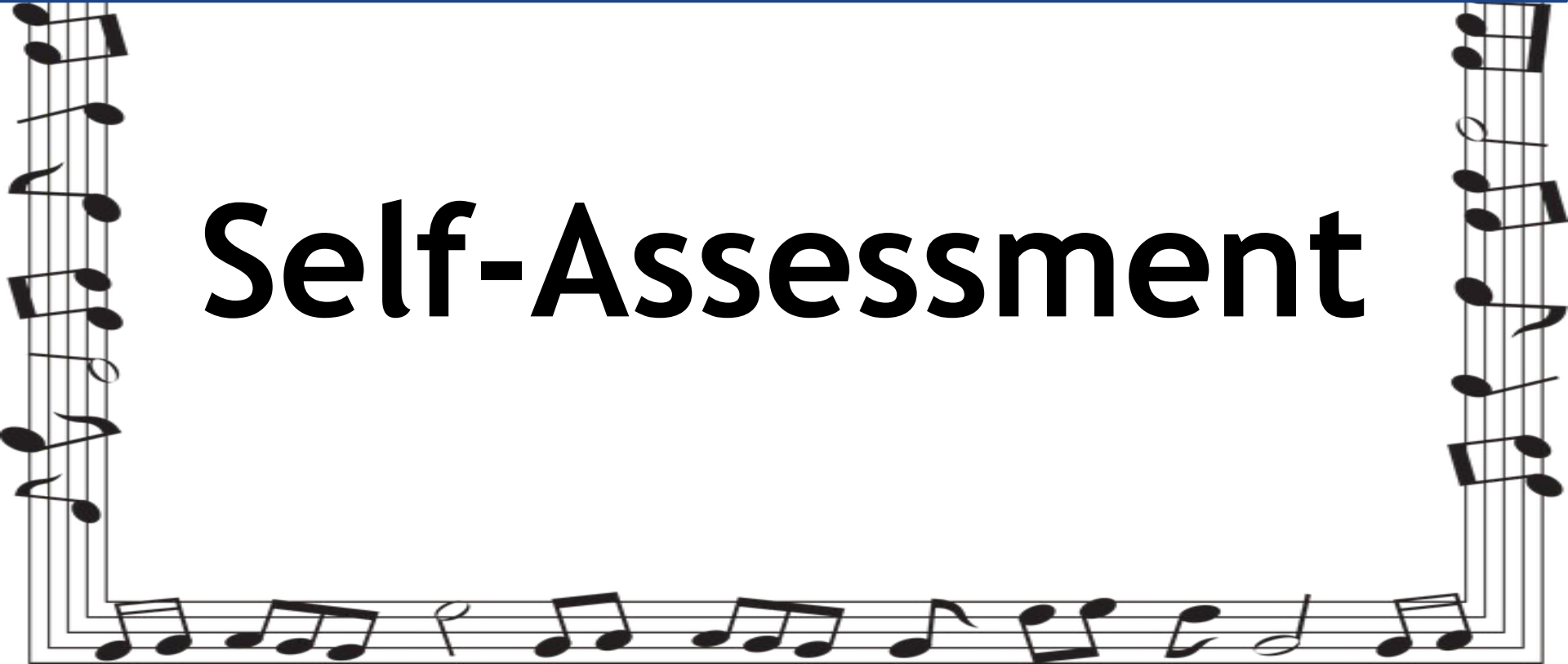
Bluegrass



Jazz



Self-Assessment



Ask yourself:

- ★ How did it feel to try improvisation?
- ★ What is one thing you learned about improvisation?
- ★ Are you looking forward to trying more?

Additional Materials



★ Check out Christian Howe's whole playlist on YouTube

○ <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL6By1KZHRO2KHi59cupsiiPXU7tbyOZTw>

★ [Christian Howe's Official Website](#)

★ [Information on Improvisation](#)