MUSIC IN FILM AND TELEVISION

THE POWERFUL PARTNERSHIP OF MUSIC AND MEDIA
Music can significantly elevate the dramatic experience of films, television, video games, and other media when properly used together. To get this combination of music and visuals just right, a team of professionals including the composer, music supervisor, the producer or director, and the music editor collaborate for the best possible results.

Spark Curiosity!
Discover the impact that music makes on the experience of watching films and television and learn about the decision-making process in selecting this music.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
1. Articulate the considerations that make for the effective use of music in media
2. Through critical analysis, determine the best music for a particular scene
3. Through basic audio editing, arrange music for it to synchronize with important moments in the video

LESSON PLANS
Consider developing lesson plans to meet these learning objectives through the study of music in film and television. Here are some ideas to get you started:

- Select 3-4 short movie trailers that have the music removed. These can be found on YouTube by searching “movie trailer without music.” Watch the movie trailers to get a sense of how they feel with the absence of music.
- For each movie trailer, play several different musical examples of contrasting styles simultaneously – use musical selections that create a range of emotions such as tension, a sense of calm, happiness, nostalgia, etc.
- Discuss with the class how each musical selection changed the experience of watching the movie trailer. Did the music add to the narrative? Did the music “get in the way” or overshadow the video? Was it too “spot on” and give away the story? Or, was it an effective complement to the story? How?
- Using simple DAW and production tools such as Garage Band or Soundtrap, have students arrange their own music to effectively complement the movie trailers. Challenge the students to synchronize important musical moments with specific dramatic moments in the video.

RESOURCES