



The Global Masterclass: Utilizing the Internet2 to Enhance Instruction

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What you need:

- A computer with 2 Firewire ports and running Windows XP, Unix, or Mac OS X
- Two analog/digital converters
- A sound mixer
- Some very good microphones
- A digital video or webcam
- Internet2
- The Digital Video Transport System (DVTS) software available for free from WIDE Projects at <http://www.sfc.wide.ad.jp/DVTS/>.

Optional Equipment

- High quality speakers
- A HD Plasma TV

For the Discussion component

- A chatroom program such as Skype, MS Messenger, AIM, or AddOnChat to imbed a chat room into your website (<http://www.addonchat.com/signup.html>).

Survey

Subjects view using the internet and using it for learning favorable, yet dislike the idea of replacing traditional modes of learning with internet learning. Furthermore, they enjoyed to experience as an audience member, and would like to participate as a singer, BUT view participating from an off-site location negatively. The major objection to this type of learning environment is lack of physical contact between teacher and student.

Benefits to Internet2 Masterclasses

- Excellent for working on diction and musicality
- Easy to establish a one-on-one rapport between singer and teacher
- Allows for instruction without both parties being in the same location – excellent for keeping up on lessons when traveling provided there is access to comparable equipment
- Can bring instruction to areas not otherwise served due to travel issues
- “Inexpensive” way to bring in outside teachers

Challenges to Internet2 Masterclasses

- Getting people to participate – both Institutions and Students/ Audience and Participants
- Keeping the AUDIENCE engaged both on-site and off-site
- Funding for equipment
- Excellent quality sound equipment, especially microphones
- Due to the lack of “real live” feedback, making any appreciable change to vocal technique is limited

Unfortunately, due to the difficulty associated with coordinating such an experience, we were not able to implement a multicast-chat session to involve others outside of the participating institutions. Furthermore, subjects indicated that they would not favor such an experience, keeping in mind that the subjects are very “tech” friendly. Implementation of a multicast-chat session may need to be delayed until further acceptance of the current experience exists.

Web Resources

<http://apps.internet2.edu/dvts>
WIDE Project - <http://www.sfc.wide.ad.jp/DVTS/>
<http://www.internet2.edu/arts/>

We are always looking for people to collaborate with, so if you are interested, send me an email!

