

**Music Career Research Project
Inquiry Guidance Sheet**

Overall Expectation: (B4)

Connections Beyond the Classroom: assess opportunities and requirements for continued engagement in music.

Specific Expectation: (B4.1)

Assess their interests, skills and knowledge in relation to a variety of careers in the arts and culture industry.

Identify, and assess the requirement for, jobs or careers that utilize skills and knowledge acquired through the study of music (***AMU4E Specific**).

Learning Objectives:

I will be able to identify and describe various careers within music.

I will be able to reflect on a chosen career and communicate if the career suits my lifestyle/aspirations.

Success Criteria:

I know I've got it when I can examine various aspects of careers such as salary, required education, lifestyle influences, etc.

I know I've got it when I can identify the positive and negative aspects of my chosen career in relation to my life and my personal aspirations.

Just as other fields such as business, health care and law have various careers within them; music too has numerous careers connected to its field. We invite you to choose a career in (or related to) the field of music and explore the career to learn more about it. The sheet below is a research guide designed to help guide you in your research questions and provide you a place to insert your findings. Complete the sheet using full sentences.

Bandology has an interview series called “What’s Your Forte” where students can watch accomplished professionals explaining their career, answering various questions and providing insight to people looking into the career itself.

Careers that *What’s Your Forte* explores:

- High School Music Teacher ([Click Here](#))
- Composer ([Click Here](#))
- Sound Engineer ([Click Here](#))
- Conductor ([Click Here](#))

Use the Government of Canada’s Website for reliable information as well: [Click Here](#)

List of careers in music to choose from

* Feel free to choose a career that is not on this list BUT check with your teacher first.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">● High school music teacher● Elementary school music teacher● Post secondary music professor● Private music teacher● Music camp manager/director● Accompanist● Composer (be specific about what type of composer)● Music critic● Sound engineer● Acoustician● DJ● Conductor● Adjudicator● Lyricist	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Performer (be specific)● Military musician● Agent● Tour manager● Instrument sales representative● Instrument technician● Music equipment designer/manufacturer● Music librarian● Music therapist● Physiotherapist for musicians● Radio host● Music software developer● Music retailer● Music copywriter● Music attorney● Audiologist
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Name: _____

Date:

Chosen Career: _____

1. In a short paragraph (3-6 sentences), give a general description of the career (roles, duties, what it contributes to society, etc.).

2. What is the approximate salary one can expect if going into this career? Is there room for salary growth based on years of experience?

3. What education/experiences are required and/or recommended for this career?

4. Combine the 21st century skills (communication, critical thinking, creativity and collaboration) with the career chosen and demonstrate how the profession may require these skills.

5. Predict 2-3 ways you can see the career changing as we move into the future.

6. Reflect on your findings and predictions and articulate why you believe this profession is or is not one that is suitable to your desires, goals, preferred lifestyle and overall life.

Music Career Research Project

Criteria	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1	
Knowledge/ Understanding of Key information & Description	Student has identified key information and has defined the career with a high degree of effectiveness	Student has identified key information and has defined the career with considerable effectiveness	Student has identified key information and has defined the career with some effectiveness	Student presented little to no key information and has defined the career with limited effectiveness	/4
Application of 21 Century Skills	Student has examined how all four 21st century skills are applicable in their chosen career with a high degree of effectiveness	Student has examined how three of the four 21st century skills are applicable in their chosen career with considerable effectiveness	Student has examined how two of the four 21st century skills are applicable in their chosen career with some effectiveness	Student has examined how one of the four 21st century skills are applicable in their chosen career with limited effectiveness	/4
Thinking of Career Predictions	Student has predicted 3+ ways the career may change in the future with reasoning to back their arguments up with a high degree of effectiveness	Student has predicted 3 ways the career may change in the future with reasoning to back their arguments up with considerable effectiveness	Student has predicted 2 ways the career may change in the future with reasoning to back their arguments up with some effectiveness	Student has predicted 1 way the career may change in the future with reasoning to back their arguments up with limited effectiveness	/4
Communication and Reflection	Student has reflected on their findings and has given 2+ reasons as to whether or not the career is a perceivable career choice for them with a high degree of effectiveness	Student has reflected on their findings and has given 2 reasons as to whether or not the career is a perceivable career choice for them with considerable effectiveness	Student has reflected on their findings and has given 2 reasons as to whether or not the career is a perceivable career choice for them with some effectiveness	Student has reflected on their findings and has given 1 reason as to whether or not the career is a perceivable career choice for them with limited effectiveness	/4



Careers in Music

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How do other Professions Interact with Music?

- Do we see lawsuits between musicians/bands?
- How does sports interact with music?
- Is there a business side to music?
- Can a physicist study how music functions?
- Can you teach French using music?



Composition/Songwriting

Composers write music that often times other musicians perform.
This career can be found in all genres of music!

Can you think of professions included in this field?



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Can you think of professions included in this field?

Professions include:

- Film composer
- Arranger
- Ghost writer
- Concert band/orchestral composer



Instrument Handling

This field focuses on creating and caring for the instruments that performers play on.

Can you think of professions included in this field?

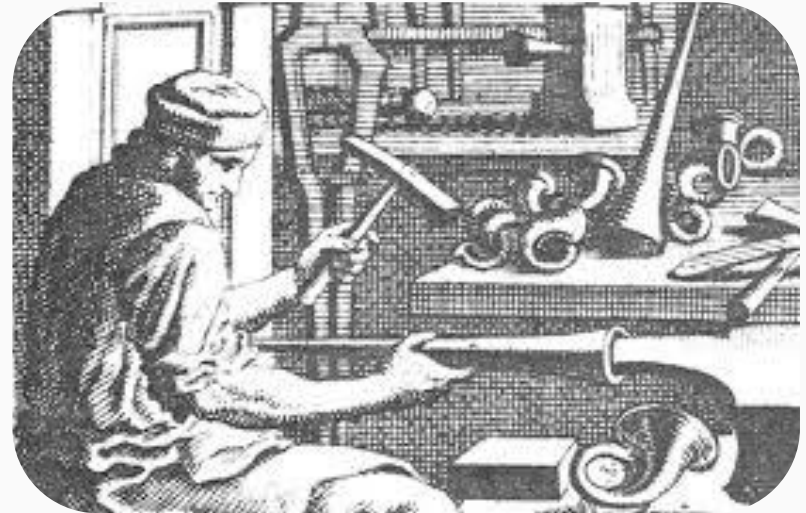


Instrument Handling

This field focuses on creating and caring for the instruments that performers play on.

Professions include:

- Piano movers
- Instrument technician
- Instrument designer



Arts Administration/Law

Professions in arts administration and law connects musicians with job opportunities and/or helps protect musicians from legal issues (such as copyright law).

Can you think of professions included in this field?



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Professions include:

- Copyright lawyer
- Agent
- Arts marketer



Production

This field focuses on any “behind the scenes” work that goes into music making. This may include balancing sound levels in pre-recorded/live performances, having a working knowledge on Digital Audio Workstations (DAWS), creating/finding the perfect sounds to insert in movies, etc.

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Professions include:

- Sound engineer
- Sound designer for theatre or film



Education

This field focuses on passing knowledge onto people interested in music. Educators can be found outside of traditional schools and teach people about music history, theory, playing technique, aural skills, music and culture, etc.

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Professions include:

- High school music teacher
- Adjudicator
- Music education coordinator



Performance

This field focuses on perfecting their instrument(s) of choice and performing in live and recorded settings.

Can you think of professions included in this field?



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Professions include:

- Orchestral musician
- Touring musician
- Backup singer
- Studio musician



Instrument
handling

Education

Arts
Administration/Law

Performance

Production

Composition

- Instrument maker
- Ghost writer
- Organist
- Professor of musicology

- Choral composer
- Music attorney
- Private instructor
- Accompanist

- Piano Tuner
- Acoustician
- Tour manager
- Conductor

How does your career affect your life?

All careers in life have significant impacts on the way your life is shaped.

What are some impacts that a job can have on your life?



How does your career affect your life?

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What are some impacts that a job can have on your life?

- Where you live (urban, rural, suburban, traveling)
- How often you're able to travel for leisure
- How much time you're able to spend with family, friends, pets and personal hobbies
- What you can afford
- How long you need to be in school for

Keep in Mind ... 21st Century Skills

How are the 21st century skills utilized in the career?

Communication → One's ability to clearly communicate orally and in written formats.

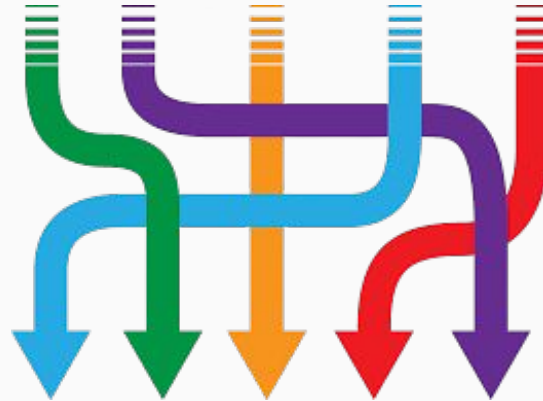
Collaboration → One's ability to work with others to form strong teams.

Creativity → One's ability to think in a unique manner or “outside the box”.

Critical Thinking → One's ability to problem solve and think about various aspects before coming to a conclusion.

Keep in Mind ...

- Note that the music industry allows for easy movement from one profession to another. Music educators (for example) can be performers, composers, conductors and more!



- However, choosing a specific path (such as a sound engineer) and going to school specifically for that career (such as obtaining a sound design certificate) will enhance your likelihood to excel in your career.

Research Project

Steps:

1. Select a career related to music
2. Research using credible sources
3. Using the inquiry guide, answer the 6 questions found in the handout

This lesson plan on Music Careers was developed by
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www.bandology.ca