



**DREAMS FULFILLED  
THROUGH MUSIC**

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Fulfilling Dreams  
One Note at a time

Combining a passionate love for the ACCORDION  
and the desire to bring music to a **whole new**  
**generation** of musical learners!

## A. Identify what we mean by “New Generation of Learners”

1. The Greatest Generation – born 1901-1927.
- 2. The Silent Generation – born 1928-1945.**
3. The Baby Boomer Generation – born 1946-1964.
4. Generation X – born 1965-1980.
5. Millennials – born 1981-1996.
- 6. Generation Z – born 1996-2012.**
- 7. Gen Alpha – born 2013 – 2025.**

## B. Tailoring the approach to meet the needs of these groups

1. **The Silent Generation** – born 1928-1945. (*Pre-INTERNET DAYS*)
2. **Generation Z** – born 1996-2012.
3. **Gen Alpha** – born 2013 – 2025.
4. Appropriate use of technology to aid in teaching

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## C. The Silent Generation

1. What specific interests do these folks have?
2. A few of the LEARNING NEEDS TO BE CONSIDERED?
  - a. Vision
  - b. Arthritis
  - c. Chronic Pain
  - d. Alzheimers - Dementia
3. Encouraging the potential student who is afraid “I can’t because....”
4. Techniques of overcoming these challenges

## D. “Generation Z”

1. DEPENDENT ON THE INTERNET FOR SOCIAL INTERACTION
2. Loss of interest in making their own music for family gatherings
3. Emphasis on music/art in school classrooms decreased except for band at sports events.
4. Emphasis on SPORTS as primary extra-curricular activity.
5. Expectation that “learning to play an instrument” will be instant success – resulting in discouragement/depression
6. Overwhelming exposure to “SOCIAL MEDIA”
7. Loss of concept of/desire to SERVE OTHERS –

## **E. “Gen Alpha” – born 2013 – 2025.**

1. APPROPRIATE USE OF TECHNOLOGY
  - a. **Use of video recording (Smart Phones/I-Pads) in lessons**
  - b. **Use of electronic metronome as an aid in the development of rhythm skills**
  - c. **Use of recorded musical examples to aid in home practice**
  
2. PLAYING THE ACCORDION CAN BE FUN WHILE DEVELOPING IMPORTANT SKILLS THAT SUPPORT ACADEMIC, SOCIAL INTERACTION AND MANY FUNDAMENTAL FINE MOTOR SKILLS IN THE PROCESS OF LEARNING.
  - a. **Listening skills**
  - b. **Concentration**
  - c. **Development of Attention Span**
  - d. **Healthy Discipline**
  - e. **Ideal for learning fundamental musical concepts**
  
3. USE OF CONCEPTS IN COLORSOUNDATION TO DEVELOP INTEREST AND EXCITEMENT FOR THE VERY YOUNG STUDENT.
  - a. **Listening skills**
  - b. **Concentration**
  - c. **Development of Attention Span**
  - d. **Healthy Discipline**
  - e. **Ideal for learning fundamental musical concepts**

## E. “Gen Alpha” – born 2013 – 2025 (continued)

4. **USE MUSICAL EXAMPLES THAT STUDENTS CAN UNDERSTAND - DON'T OVERWHELM WITH COMPLEX IDEAS THAT COMBINE MANY CONCEPTS**
  - a. Introduce ONE MUSICAL IDEA at a time!
  - b. Be certain that each concept is mastered before moving on to the next or combining multiple ideas.
  - c. Don't ASSUME UNDERSTANDING.
  
5. **STUDENTS WITH “SPECIAL NEEDS”**
  - a. Who are they?
  - b. **Every** student has some type of special, unique learning need
    - I. Commonly recognized “*disABILITIES*” = ***DIFFERENT ABILITIES***
    - II. Gifted and Talented students have just as many (or more) special needs as those who are cognitively and/or physically challenged.
    - III. *Unseen DIFFERENT ABILITIES*

## **F. Special Teaching Techniques for ALL GENERATIONS**

1. APPROPRIATE USE OF TECHNOLOGY COMBINED WITH TRADITIONAL APPROACHES
2. THE MOST FAMOUS METHODS
3. TEACHING “SENIORS”
  - a. Challenges and ways to overcome them
  - b. Low vision
  - c. Neuropathy - OUCH!
  - d. Arthritis
  - e. Hearing Impairments
4. TEACHING “YOUNG ADULTS”
  - a. Challenges and ways to overcome them
  - b. Coping with unrealistic expectations
  - c. Introducing the beauty of original accordion music
5. TEACHING “CHILDREN”
  - a. Challenges and ways to overcome them
  - b. Tailor expectations to meet the needs of the student!
  - c. Develop a healthy attention span in a positive manner
  - c. Develop eye-hand coordination from an early age
  - d. Develop social skills through performance for others
6. **KEEP IT SIMPLE - FOR ALL GENERATIONS**
  - a. ONE CONCEPT AT A TIME!
  - b. Be PATIENT!
  - c. Be ENCOURAGING!
  - d. Be a good LISTENER!

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