



TEACHER RESOURCES
Summer 2025 (Vol. 2, No. 4)

Share: The Composer Behind the Soundtrack

For Group Piano Classes:

Group Composer Research Challenge:

- Assign each group a famous movie composer (e.g., John Williams, Hans Zimmer, Alan Silvestri, or Danny Elfman). Have them dive into research on the composer's career, notable soundtracks, and personal insights into the music-making process.
- Each group creates a fun, creative presentation—poster, slideshow, or even a mini performance—to share their discoveries about the composer. Ask students to focus on sharing their findings in an engaging, “storytelling” manner.
- After the presentations, invite students to reflect on these questions:
 - “What was the most surprising thing you learned about this composer?”
 - “How do you think the composer’s style influences the movies they work on?”

For Individual Lessons:

Soundtrack Creation and Performance:

- Encourage students to experiment with creating music for movie scenes.
- Assign students a scene from a movie or ask them to create a new one. They will then compose a soundtrack that aligns with the emotional tone and action of the scene.
- Once students have composed their music, have them perform their composition or share a recording with the class. Encourage them to explain the choices they made for the music and how it fits the scene.
- Afterward, ask the class:
 - “How did your music match the action or emotion in the scene?”
 - “What parts of your composition were most challenging to create?”
 - “What instruments or sounds did you use to convey a particular mood or character?”
 - “How did your perspective on film music change during this project?”

To further spark creativity, enjoy the winning student compositions from the 2025 Piano Inspires Kids Composition Contest on the *Piano Inspires Kids* [YouTube](#) channel.