Digital Badge FAQ

Do Digital Badges replace traditional certificate exams?

No, they simply offer an alternative assessment for a simpler reward. Instead of an exam certificate with results that may be used for high school credit, students receive detailed feedback and a digital badge that they can download that reflects their standing.

What 'type' of student may Digital Badges appeal to?

Digital Badges can appeal to almost any student, but especially the majority of students that do not have the time or commitment to work toward a full certificate exam, or perform in their local music festival. They can be used to introduce students to the idea of assessments without the pressure of live performance.

What is the best way for students to record their performances?

Students can record themselves at home, or with the teacher in their studio, using a smartphone, laptop computer, or anything that captures decent audio and video.

How do the performances get shared with CC for assessment?

It is best to upload each piece separately to a YouTube Channel or cloud sharing service (such as Google or DropBox). Sharing links get copied into the student portal after registering for the Digital Badge using the 'Upload URL' button next to the registration entry.

How many pieces need to be submitted for a Digital Badge?

Students must submit 3 pieces to be assessed for a digital badge. It is best to submit all three sharing links at once, after they are recorded individually.

Are there special considerations for the style of music recorded?

The pieces can be all of the same genre or any mix of different genres (i.e. classical, contemporary styles). You are only bound by the limits of your imagination! There is no streaming of repertoire (classical vs contemporary) for digital badges.

How can we determine the level of difficulty for each of the 10 levels?

We give teachers the full ability to decide which pieces are suitable for any level. You can use our existing syllabus repertoire lists as a guide, or ask another teacher for their opinion. Pieces do not need to be pre-approved and you can mix and match levels slightly. One of the three pieces may be at a slightly higher or lower level - just use your best judgement! We want to encourage students to participate using music that is relevant to them foremost.

Can the CC office assist with helping to determine the level of pieces?

We tend to get overwhelmed with requests for special approval for certificate exam repertoire and we prefer to keep our attention there. We trust teachers to use their own discretion and judgement for leveling of digital badge music.

Can students use repertoire that may not be as 'welcome' on an exam?

Students are encouraged to use their creativity! Ensemble pieces, playing with backing tracks, singing along, music learned by rote without a score are all examples of performances that are more than welcome on a digital badge assessment. Our evaluators simply listen and comment on what is presented.

Can students present an improvisation as one or more of the performances?

Absolutely! It may be a good idea to introduce these as such at the time of recording.