

# KCACTF Region 1 Jan. 2021: Your Online Music Tech Checklist!



## ALL ONLINE MUSIC TECH WORKS BETTER IF YOU:

1. Connect to your router with an **Ethernet cable**. Get an adapter if your computer doesn't have Ethernet connection.
2. **Upgrade your router** to as new and fast as possible.
3. Use **wired** headphones/buds for best sound and connection.
4. Use a **standard mic and audio interface** like Scarlett or PreSonus rather than relying on the computer mic. USB mic is okay too.
5. Unless you're audio-only, pay attention to your **visuals!** Reduce visual clutter and upgrade your lighting! Light front, side, and behind you.
6. **Try more than one option, more than once.** You will have to make several attempts. Get a tech buddy to test with. (Like, me!)

## CHOOSE YOUR SPEED!

**LOTS OF SOUND LAG: Zoom.** Call and response only.

**LESS SOUND LAG -- Cleanfeed.** works well with backphrased songs and call and response. Harmonize and have a group singing together with some lag.

**NEARLY NO LAG/REALTIME --** high tech skill required, some tech adjustments.

**SoundJack, Sonobus, Jamulus, JamKazam, JackTrip**

## WHAT EDEN DOES:

**For private lessons, I use:**

ZOOM, CLEANFEED audio and JITSI MEET video. Both are free.

**For ensemble rehearsals, I use:**

CLEANFEED or SONOBUS audio and ZOOM video breakout rooms (keeping Zoom audio for breakouts). Both programs have free and paid versions.

**For pro rehearsals or jamming online, I use:**

SOUNDJACK audio and JITSI MEET video. SoundJack is free, requires a download by both ends. JITSI MEET is free.

**For online recording projects, I use: SOUNDTRAP** (it's free)

[www.cleanfeed.net](http://www.cleanfeed.net), [www.jitsi.org](http://www.jitsi.org), [www.sonobus.net](http://www.sonobus.net), [www.soundjack.eu](http://www.soundjack.eu), [www.soundtrap.com](http://www.soundtrap.com)

Eden can help you navigate and prep your online music tech!  
[www.edencasteel.com](http://www.edencasteel.com)



# Low-tech activities for tech-weary performers

Too tired to tech? Try some of these creative alternatives to traditional live performing.



1. Perform live, highest quality **audio only**. Blacken out the video. Include lyrics if you want, but celebrate the sound.
2. Yes, **do the virtual choir thing**. But not alone. Get help!
3. **Pinterest** your songs and career. Get yourself on LinkedIn. They're search engines that are more powerful than Google.
4. **Join professional organizations** to protect your work: ASCAP, BMI, Creative Commons. Take their workshops. Make everything legal!
5. Create "\_\_\_\_\_ and friends" events. Create new collaborations, with or without music -- activities including writing, interviews, talks.
6. Teach people to do what you do musically, as a master class.
7. Teach people to do **something else**. (Opera singer Denyce Graves has a cooking show on YouTube!)
8. Join up with friends and do an **online benefit concert** for a good cause, like a local venue in danger of closing. There are more than a few of those.  
#saveourstages
9. Ask your fans to **make videos or covers** of your songs or sing in your style.
10. Auction off your **writing/teaching/singing skills** to a bidder for charity.
11. Release instrumentals of your songs and **have others do the singing** instead.
12. **Ask for instrumentals** from your friends and cover their work and promote.
13. Instead of singing, **recite your favorite poem**. Interview or be interviewed.  
Spill secrets.
14. Host a livestream of your pre-recorded gigs and comment on them,  
**director's-cut style**: "Oh, what a great high note! Hey, remember that time when. . ."
15. **Charge admission for whatever you want**. Don't automatically think "free" or "please donate whatever you want to my Venmo" because it's online.
16. **Live Learning Set** -- people will pay you to learn a song they like and sing it for them. You kinda did that live, didn't you? ;) You can do it online or in a recording, too. This is a fancy way of asking for song requests.