

Podcasting 101

NC Music Educators Conference
November 7-9, 2009



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What is a Podcast?



Researchers at the Center for Journalism and Communication Research at the University of Texas at Austin in the USA are proposing a four-part definition of a podcast: A podcast is a digital audio or video file that is episodic; downloadable; programme-driven, mainly with a host and/or theme; and convenient, usually via an automated feed with computer software.

What tools do I need?

- **GarageBand™** on a Mac



- **Audacity** for PC (free)



- **MixCraft** for PC from Soundtree.com \$49.95



Podcasting Ideas

- A Radio Show
- Interview of faculty, staff or students
- Comedy skits
- Composer “interviews”
- Fashion tips for 5th graders
- “Welcome to Our School” for new students
- How to play the recorder
- Substitute plans
- Tutorials - “How To”
- Reader’s Theater
- Chapter books for younger students
- “How to Survive 5th Grade”

Podcasting Tutorial
<http://www.apple.com>



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Audacity is an audio editor and recorder that can be used to record an audio file. It can be used on both a PC or a Mac. Available at <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/about/>
When you are done recording your audio program (podcast), you need to save it as an MP3 file.

Audacity saves it in a format that can only be read by that program, Audacity. This is fine, while you are creating it. But, to share with others, you need a standard format like an MP3. (as an MP3 it can be uploaded to any mp3 player (like an ipod), saved on your computer and shared that way, uploaded to a school website or saved on a cd to be used on a computer.

LAME is the Open Source Software that you need to make the mp3 file. LAME is a "plug-in" for Audacity that allows you to export audio files in mp3 format. You can download this software from <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/help/faq?s=install&item=lame-mp3>



Acoustica Mixcraft 4.0 Academic Version - Multitrack Recording Software for Windows is an affordable multi-track audio and MIDI recording studio that enables you to compose original music, record your band, create a podcast, or remix a song. Use it as a multi-track recorder or as a music loop remix program.

Connecting Audacity to LAME

1. Plug in the microphone - Open the Audacity software - Make a short test recording
2. Then go to File and **export** as MP3
3. Audacity will now lead you through installing LAME - ([dll file](#))
4. Export your audio file as an MP3. It is in a format which will open in Windows Media Player or Quicktime.
5. **Save to the desktop and try!**

IMPORTANT RESOURCES

http://movies.atomiclearning.com/highed/audacity_pc For the PC

SUGGESTION: make a very short audio clip and then go through the process of exporting it in the mp3 format (which involves the use of LAME). Once this process is complete then begin the process of making a useable one for your classroom and of course you can involve students and family members too! But do the test first. It will be much easier to troubleshoot.

Remember this project requires a microphone and speakers.

Posting Your Podcast to the Internet



iWeb

(with FTP or MobileMe account)

iTunes

Where to Get Help

Soundtree.com

www.how-to-podcast-tutorial.com

radio.about.com/od/podcastin1/a/aa030805a.htm

http://reviews.cnet.com/4520-11293_7-6246557-1.html

<http://computer.howstuffworks.com/how-to-podcast.htm>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-hrBbczS9Io>

Credits

Maureen Brisson - *Lesley University Technology in Education Faculty*

Joshua and Maguire - *Mrs. Hicks' 5th Grade*

Apple Computer - <http://apple.com>

Educational Applications of Podcasting in the Music Classroom
by Kathleen Kerstetter

Music Educators Journal - <http://mej.sagepub.com>

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This presentation can be downloaded from:
<http://1VHC.net/education>

