



## Tips for Aspiring Collaborative Pianists

A selected list, compiled by [Peabody LAUNCHPad](#), Aug. 2018

### SKILL BUILDING

#### *Sight-Reading*

[Improve your Sight-Reading](#) by Dr. Chris Foley  
[Improving your Sight Reading](#) by Bill Plake  
[Sight Reading Resources](#) by Belmont University  
[Practice Sight Reading](#) Sight-reading exercises

#### *General Resources*

##### Online:

[The Collaborative Piano Blog](#) by Dr. Chris Foley  
[Good Company Blog](#) by Billie Whittaker

##### Print:

[The Complete Collaborator](#) by Martin Katz  
[The Art of Accompanying](#) by Robert Spillman

### CAREER BUILDING

#### *Professionalism*

[Professional Skills](#) by Dr. Chris Foley  
[Collaborative Piano Handbook](#) via the University of North Texas (see "Professionalism," p. 2)

#### *Setting Fees*

Take into account: Difficulty, rehearsal time, travel, prevailing rates, your other commitments  
[Recital Fee Question](#) by Dr. Chris Foley  
[Accompanist Fees and Policies](#) by Eileen Huang  
[Handling Requests to Perform for Free](#) by Gerald Klickstein

#### *Creating Opportunities*

##### Tips:

- Network with other collaborative pianists
- Contact employers: churches, schools, private studios, plus opera, dance and theater groups
- Diversify your skills and repertoire

[NATS Membership for Collaborative Pianists](#)  
[Getting Work as a Student](#) by Chris Foley  
[Summer Opportunities](#) by Billie Whittaker  
[Baltimore Vocal Accompanists Facebook Group](#)  
[The Unashamed Accompanist](#) by Gerald Moore

### LITERATURE RESOURCES

#### *Vocal literature*

##### Online:

[Ideas on Learning a Song or Aria](#)  
[Wolftrap Audition Aria Frequency List](#)  
[Top 10 Song Cycles](#)

##### Print:

[G. Schirmer Opera Anthologies](#)  
[24 Italian Songs and Arias](#)  
[Hal Leonard Song Anthologies](#)  
[Hal Leonard Musical Theatre Anthologies](#)

#### *Instrumental literature*

##### Online:

[ABRSM Repertoire Lists](#)  
(rep for exams and recitals; all instruments)  
[The Core Repertoire: Sonatas for Violin](#)

##### Print:

[Concertos for Violin and Viola](#)  
[Brass Bibliography](#)  
[Solo Wind Instrument Bibliography](#)

### WORKING WITH LARGER GROUPS

#### *Playing for choir or opera rehearsals*

[Vocal Open-Score Reading](#) by Billie Whittaker  
[Opera Guidelines - A Few Tips](#) by Kevin Class

#### *Playing in a pit or orchestra*

[Be a Musical Theatre Pianist](#) by Peter Hilliard  
[Be an Orchestral Pianist](#) by Suzy S.  
[Sound Advice](#) Protecting your hearing in the pit

#### *Playing for dance classes*

[Accompanying Ballet Classes](#) by Yee Sik Wong  
[The Art of the Dance Accompanist](#) by Eric Burgett  
[A Course in Dance Accompanying](#) by Neil Dunn  
[Music at the Royal Academy of Dance](#)  
(etiquette and repertoire of RAD classes)