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)