

Sheet Music and Low Vision

I have a student who has low vision and plays the drums. His vision is deteriorating, and he is starting to have difficulty reading sheet music. Besides enlarging it, does anyone have any suggestions or methods I can teach him that might help?

Kristen

Hi Kristen,

This question was recently on a TVI facebook page and the responses are as follows... I've added additional info to some.

1. Dancing Dots (Limelighter is their low vision device - looks great though pricey)<http://www.dancingdots.com/limelighter/limelightermain.htm>
2. iPad with the MusicZoom app (student uses it with a foot pedal to scroll the music across the screen, but may be able to set it to auto scroll)

http://musiczoomapp.com/Music_Zoom/Home.html

3. For paper enlargement, fold the original page in 1/2, and enlarge each half to 180 percent on 11x17 paper, landscape; then fold it half down the middle, punch with a 3-hole punch, and put it in a binder.

Hello,

You can introduce your student to the services of the Music Section of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS), of the Library of Congress located in Washington, DC. They have an extensive collection of music materials for blind or visually impaired individuals as well as knowledgeable on-site music librarians who can guide users to appropriate materials in a variety of formats, including large print, audio and braille. There are thousands of music scores in large print and many instructional audios for different

instruments. The Music Section loans requested materials to users all over the country at no charge.

Your student with a visual impairment is eligible to use these music services, but he also needs to be a member of the Perkins Library. If he is not already a member of our library, you can complete the application for individual services found at www.perkinslibrary.org or you can give our staff a call at [1-800-852-3133](tel:1-800-852-3133) to get an application.

Once your student is a member of the Perkins Library, you can either contact the Music Department directly or ask our Reference Librarian to help you with ordering specific materials if that is easier for you or him.

The large print drum titles that we see on doing a quick search on the NLS catalog include the titles below, but the NLS Music Librarians may be aware of some other titles to help:

LPM00762

Sing, drum and play : percussion. Book 1 [music (large print)] / James O. Froseth. 1 v. of large print music. "For homogeneous or heterogeneous beginning instrumental music classes"--cover.

LPM00079

Rubank elementary method [music (large print)] : drums / by Paul Yoder.

Principally for snare drum; some studies for bass drum, cymbals, triangle, tom-tom, castanets, tambourine and wood block.

Either you or your student are welcome to contact us for assistance using these services.

Hope this is helpful.

From the Perkins Library