



BERKLEE COLLEGE OF MUSIC LAUNCHES "BERKLEE SHARES" – A GROUND-BREAKING MUSIC EDUCATION PROJECT FREE UNDER CREATIVE COMMONS LICENSES

The world-renowned music college encourages people to share music lessons via file-sharing networks

Boston, Massachusetts USA – November 10, 2003 – Berklee College of Music, the world's largest independent music college and the premier institution for the study of contemporary music, announces the launch of Berklee Shares. The groundbreaking new program provides free music lessons under Creative Commons licenses and encourages musicians to share and distribute the lessons online. The Berklee Shares lessons consist of a growing catalog of MP3s, QuickTime movies, and PDF files derived from curriculum developed at the college by its world-renowned faculty. The lessons are available for download today at <http://www.berkleeshares.com/>, affiliate partner sites, and peer-to-peer networks, including Limewire.

"Berklee Shares was born out of Berklee College of Music's commitment to furthering music education through innovative means," said Dave Kusek, Associate Vice President. "Offering free education on the Internet and through file sharing networks underscores the college's core beliefs that these channels are an effective way to openly distribute meaningful educational content to a global audience, as well as serve as a powerful promotional platform for artists to market, distribute, and sell their music."

The Berklee Shares program launches with over 80 music lessons spanning instrument performance, music production and technology, songwriting and arranging, music business and careers, music education and improvisation. The number of lessons offered will expand over time.

"Berklee College of Music will prove to many the innovation and education that can be supported through a more balanced system of rights," said Lawrence Lessig, chairman of Creative Commons and professor of law at Stanford University. "We are honored to help Berklee College spread educational content broadly."

About Berklee College of Music

Berklee College of Music was founded on the revolutionary principle that the best way to prepare students for careers in music is through the study and practice of contemporary music. For over half a century, the college has evolved constantly to reflect the state of the art of music and the music business. With over a dozen performance and nonperformance majors, a diverse and talented student body



<http://creativecommons.org>

Press Release

representing 70 plus countries, and a music industry "who's who" of alumni, Berklee is the world's premier learning lab for the music of today and tomorrow.

<<http://www.berklee.edu/>>

About Berkleemusic

Berkleemusic.com is Berklee's online music school, delivering online access to world-renowned music faculty, educational concepts, and time-tested curriculum previously available only to on-campus students. Berkleemusic.com expands music-education opportunities beyond the campus experience using the newest methods, media, and technology. Berkleemusic.com is the first online music school seamlessly combining education and career development to give musicians, educators and music industry professionals a one-stop destination for all their learning, career, and networking needs.

<<http://www.berkleemusic.com/>>

About Creative Commons

A nonprofit corporation, Creative Commons promotes the creative re-use of intellectual works – whether owned or public domain. It is sustained by the generous support of The Center for the Public Domain, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and the Hewlett Foundation. Creative Commons is based at Stanford Law School, where it shares staff, space, and inspiration with the school's Center for Internet and Society.

For general information, visit <<http://creativecommons.org>>.

Contact

Karen DeMarco
MPRm Public Relations/Berklee
323-933-3393 (tel)
kdemarco@mprm.com

Glenn Otis Brown
Executive Director, Creative Commons
1.650.723.7572 (tel)
glenn@creativecommons.org