Notation Programs
Side by Side

Floyd Richmond
New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA)
TI:ME Northeast Regional
Thursday, December 1, 2016

frichmond@valleyforge.edu
floydrichmond.com/nyssma2016/

A Side by Side Comparison
of Notation Programs

- ❖ Finale

- ❖ Sibelius

- ❖ Notion

- ❖ Note flight

- ❖ MuseScore

- ❖ flat.io

History

- Finale (late 1980s)

- Sibelius (mid 1990s)

- MuseScore (early 2000)

- Note Flight (mid 2000s)

- Notion (late 2000s)

- flat.io (2010s)

Common Features

- ❖ Set-up Assistant

- ❖ Templates

- ❖ Different Musical Fonts

- ❖ House Styles

- ❖ Score Layout

- ❖ Pro-Level Output

- ❖ Used by Publishers

Common Features

- Note Entry

  - Point and Click

  - Type Into Score

- MIDI Input

  - Step-time

  - Real-time

- Scanning

File Formats Supported

- Native

- XML (http://www.musicxml.com/music-in-musicxml/)

- MIDI

Unique Features of Finale

- Smart Music

- Free Version - Note Pad

- Intermediate Versions

- Smart Instruments (and other virtual instruments)

- They (own and freely share) XML technology

- Comes with "lite" scanning software

Unique Features of Sibelius

- ProTools Notation

- Built-In Virtual Instruments

- Score Distribution System - Sibelius Showcase

- iPad Reader

- Web Plug-In (Scortch)

- Comes with "lite" scanning software.

Unique Features of Note Flight

- Cloud Based
- Pros
  - Runs in any browser
  - No installation required
  - Always updated
  - Available with classroom option
- Cons - Requires Web Connection
- iPad Version
- Approachable by Students
- Outstanding Free Trial

Unique Features of Notion

- Outstanding Virtual Instruments

- iPad Version (no internet required)

- SBO 2016 Most Innovative Teaching Tool

Unique Features of MuseScore

- ❖ Free!

- ❖ Open Source

Unique Features of flat.io

- Like Google Docs

- Collaborative Composition Projects Possible

Notation Programs Side by Side

Floyd Richmond
New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA)
TI:ME Northeast Regional
Thursday, December 1, 2016

frichmond@valleyforge.edu
floydrichmond.com/nyssma2016/