

Donna & Andy's "Top of the Class" Membership

Donna Rhodenizer and Andy Duinker (Donna & Andy) have, like all amazing educators and musicians, adapted for the times in which we live. They have created perhaps one of the most versatile and user-friendly ways in which parents, teachers and students can share their music and amazing stories.

Like many educators, I have used and loved the music that Donna & Andy have created for years, having stumbled upon a first edition copy of "I Need a Home for My Dinosaur," while substituting at the beginning of my career. The love affair started there and has never diminished. The music provided through their various CDs is always written with such attention to detail, both for enjoyment and for teaching exceptional musicianship. For both families and schools, Donna & Andy have provided hours and hours of musical joy.

Regardless of how children experience their education, be it through traditional schooling, home schooling or by a hybrid of both, a Donna & Andy "Top of the Class" membership would be an essential school supply, both at home and at school. For choral conductors who may have to take their choirs virtual for a period of time, this membership offers the perfect opportunity to do so with minimal disruption to the accessibility of materials from which to engage and inspire your young voices.

We know that equity of access to technology is also an issue for some students in rural areas. The printables and activity suggestions in this membership can be copied to help address that issue, along with the audio streaming and downloading capabilities. Donna & Andy really have harnessed the best of both the online and the face-to-face world.

As a parent and educator, I am pleased that Donna & Andy have made this jump to offer solutions to access quality children's music through their "Top of the Class" membership. Parents can access the membership to keep their children singing and learning at home and can complement the work of their teachers at school. It is a win-win situation.

Kudos to Donna & Andy on creating yet another gem for the music education world, offering our kids and their families access to such high quality and engaging music, especially for children.

Donalda Westcott
CMEA President

