Lesson: Crescendo/Decrescendo

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Resources: Studio One DAW

NAfME Standards:

4. Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines.

6. Listening to, analyzing, and describing music.

7. Evaluating music and music performances.

Objectives: Students will learn to create dynamics in recorded audio with automation tools.

Procedure:

1. Discuss the principles of dynamics in music using appropriate listening examples and vocabulary.

2. Open Studio One and create a new song. Drag in an audio example. Notice how most music is compressed and there is very little dynamic contrast in the waveforms.

3. Select "Show Automation" or hit "A" on the computer keyboard. The automation curve will appear. Select "Display" and "Volume". The volume line appears on the track and each click creates a point, so use these to draw in dynamics.

4. Create a crescendo, decrescendo, and Forte-Piano using the automation curve.

5. Listen to student examples in class and discuss the musical impact of using dynamics in the audio examples.

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