

# The Musician's Way Newsletter

November 2009

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## Inaugural Issue

### Dear Fellow Musician,

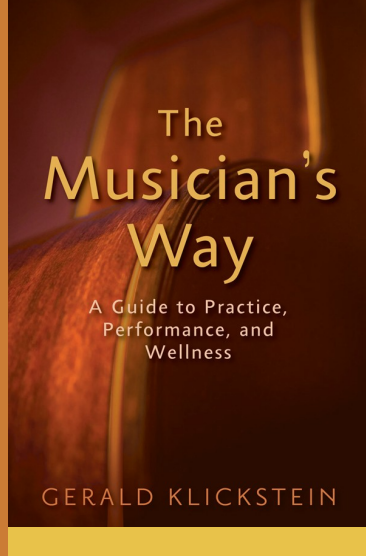
Welcome to *The Musician's Way* Newsletter, dispatched quarterly and designed to keep you informed about topics related to *The Musician's Way* book and its free companion website.

For additional news and updates, I invite you to visit the [News and Events](#) page at [MusiciansWay.com](#).

### Gerald Klickstein

Author, *The Musician's Way*

Founder & Owner,  
[MusiciansWay.com](#)



“Confident performance isn’t an elusive feat but involves knowledge and skills that any musician can learn.”

—*The Musician's Way*, p. 133

## Sitting Tall



“To perform at a high level, you have to attain a kind of unity with your instrument.”

—*The Musician's Way*, p. 257

Chapter 13 of *The Musician's Way* delves into ways in which musicians can achieve balance when sitting and standing.

Here, cellist Kendall Ramseur demonstrates that tall musicians who are obliged to sit on ordinary chairs can employ the likes of a phone book to raise a seat to an optimal height.

Phone books, forward-sloping cushions, and similar aids provide musicians with free or low-cost alternatives to purchasing costly chairs, and they can help performers play effortlessly. For more information, check out the [Wellness](#) page at [MusiciansWay.com](#).

## From The Musician's Way Blog

The [Musician's Way Blog](#) is receiving thousands of visits per month, and the number is steadily climbing. Posts include:

- [“Getting started.”](#) Six habits that help us launch and complete creative projects.
- [“Hear today. Hear tomorrow.”](#) A summary of the issues surrounding music making and hearing conservation.
- [“Practicing performance.”](#) Three ways to practice performing and become masterful on stage.
- [“Self-recording in practice.”](#) The importance of self-recording along with recommended models of digital recorders.
- [“Music education and entrepreneurship.”](#) Can music schools better prepare students to thrive in the new arts economy?

## Oxford Releases Library Edition of *The Musician's Way*

In addition to the fine-quality paperback edition of *The Musician's Way* pictured above, Oxford University Press has published an unjacketed hardback edition crafted for libraries and book collectors. The edition is designed to last for centuries and represents the highest standards in bookmaking. From New Haven to New Zealand, libraries across the globe have been adding *The Musician's Way* library edition to their collections.

To preview the edition, follow this link to [BarnesandNoble.com](#), and then click on the hardcover link (note that the actual cover is not shown).

If your library doesn't yet own *The Musician's Way*, consider emailing a purchase request to your library staff and include the ISBN of the library edition:

9780195343120.

## Special Pricing at BN.com

For a limited time, [BarnesandNoble.com](#) is selling *The Musician's Way* in paperback for only \$17.96 (US) - that's a 28% discount off of the \$24.95 list price.

As a bonus, BN members receive free 3-day shipping; non-members receive the same free shipping with a minimum purchase of \$25.

The book is also available at a discount from [Amazon](#) and other booksellers worldwide.

## Communicating from the Stage



Percussionist and researcher Michael Schutz studies music cognition.

On this [webpage](#), he presents two short videos of a marimbist playing the same pitches but with contrasting physical gestures and shows how differently audiences perceive the sounds, even when the audio tracks are reversed—a powerful lesson for performers everywhere.

For more information about stage deportment and stage presence, check out the [Performance](#) page at [MusiciansWay.com](#) as well as Chapter 9 of *The Musician's Way*.

## Online Music Scores

Did you know that you can view Schubert's manuscripts online as well as the complete works of Mozart in urtext edition? And for free? Check out [“Free online music scores”](#) on The Musician's Way Blog.

What's an urtext? Take a look at this article, [“The 4 types of music editions.”](#)

## The Peak-Performance Myth

An excerpt from *The Musician's Way* is now available on the [Oxford University Press Blog](#). The piece argues that thorough preparation and artistic music making should be the goal of every musician and that aiming for peak performance can lead musicians to self-defeating, perfectionist mindsets.

What do you think? Contribute a comment to the OUP blog.

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