

Hello fellow CI Music Hour participants!

Music Hour Recap: 6/10/21

This past Thursday we welcomed tubist, Mark Tillinger. Mark rekindled his love for the tuba ten years ago after putting it down for a successful 28-year business career. Since then, he has continued to share his love for the instrument through a public solo recital and performances in a variety of top amateur and professional brass ensembles.

Mark explained to the group that the tuba was invented in 1835, making it the newest instrument in the history of the concert orchestra. The tuba is also the lowest pitched brass instrument in the concert band setting, and its range can be compared to that of the upright bass.

The tuba is pitched in four different keys (or groups of pitches), which vary depending on the physical size of the tuba. The largest tuba, made of 18 feet of tubing, is pitched in Bb, meaning its lowest note is a Bb0 (29 hertz). The second largest tuba, made of 16 feet of tubing, is pitched in C, meaning its lowest note is a C1 (32 hertz). The next sized tuba is made of 13 feet of tubing and is pitched in Eb, meaning its lowest note is an Eb1 (39 hertz). The smallest tuba is made of 12 feet of tubing and is pitched in F, meaning its lowest note is an F1 (39 hertz).

Mark played the C tuba for all of his musical presentations, which he explained is the most commonly used tuba for orchestral music. Due to its low register, the tuba usually sets the pulse or beat in instrumental ensembles. Mark demonstrated this to the group by playing a few measures of a simple bass line, typical for the tuba. Other musical examples that he shared with us included an etude by Marco Bordogni, the tuba solo from Richard Wagner's opera, "Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg," an Irish folk song, "The Swan" from Camille Saint-Saëns' "Carnival of the Animals," and finally, "Amazing Grace" in a duet with Chrysa on the flute!

Many participants shared that the tuba was easier to hear with their cochlear implants because of the instrument's lower range. Mark also explained to the group that part of what creates the tuba's melodious and warm sound is the shape of the instrument, which gradually increases in diameter from the mouthpiece all the way to the bell.

Next Music Hour: 6/24/21

We will **NOT** be meeting for the CI Music Hour this week, since we will be following a bi-weekly meeting schedule for the summer. This means that **our next meeting will occur on June 24th at 2pm PST**. On that day we will have another "Share & Tell" music hour. Everyone who would like to, will have the chance to introduce themselves, share why they are a part of the group, and share any music they have been listening to, playing, or engaging with! We will continue with anyone who did not have the opportunity to share their stories during our last "share and tell" hour.

See you all next week!

Julianne & Chrysa

