



Invitation: Accessible Music Publishing Round Table

Thursday 14 July, 1000-1200 UTC (1100-1300 UK)

Invitation

The DAISY Consortium invites music publishers and music-setters/engravers to take part in our upcoming online Round Table on Accessible Music Publishing (materials adapted for print-disabled musicians) to help to explore and understand various sector requirements, through presentations and discussions between:

- mainstream music publishers
- braille producers
- music braille users
- music setters/engravers
- music notation software producers.

Background

Many book publishers are already engaged in the highly efficient 'born accessible' workflow, using standards such as ePub to enable rapid access to printed books for people with print disabilities (blind, low-vision or otherwise print-disabled).

Music publishers face a slightly different problem, as it can be hard for them to know how best to fulfil customer requests for alternative/accessible formats of music scores for education, professional use, or for leisure activities.

The DAISY Consortium has been working on improving access to music scores for print-disabled musicians, particularly braille readers. Through this Round Table we hope to find a model for accessible music publishing which proves efficient for publishers, music setters and braille production houses alike. In particular we have devised music-setting (engraving) guidance which we'd like to discuss with you.

Publishing accessible music scores would increase the efficiency of (1) music publishers fulfilling customer enquiries and (2) third-party production agencies creating hard-copy resources in for example, braille and modified stave notation; thus enabling blind and low-vision musicians to receive their scores in a much more timely manner.

Please register by Wednesday 13 June

Please register for your place by emailing us at musicbraille@daisy.org, to receive joining instructions for the zoom call.

More details overleaf.

Workshop purpose

- To open a dialog between those involved in music publishing and accessible format production
- To discuss sector needs for well-structured MusicXML files for effective and efficient conversion into accessible formats, particularly music braille and modified stave notation.
- To discuss publisher working practices to explore whether their needs and practices would accommodate the creation of structured MusicXML files as part of their music-setting processes.
- To establish a trial with a few publishers to create accessibility-friendly MusicXML scores for print-disabled patrons, ready for conversion into accessible formats.

Presenters/Panellists

- Sarah Morley Wilkins - Project Manager of the **DAISY Music Braille Project** - introducing the concept of 'born accessible' materials, and describing our strategic activities to improve access to music scores for blind musician; our hopes for engaging in dialog with music publishers, and the importance of well-structured source files for accessible format creation.
- James Risdon from **ABRSM** - representing a music publisher, and an end-user, explaining both the publisher perspective in handling accessible format requests and workflow requirements, and the frustrations of an end-user trying to get scores.
- Melanie Wren - from **RNIB** - describing their experience as a production house serving blind and low-vision musicians, and how well-structured MusicXML source files would help when converting scores.
- Haipeng Hu - Technical Consultant of the **DAISY Music Braille Project** - explaining how well-structured files can be created by following our engraving/music-setting guidelines, and how we'd like to trial the guidelines with one or two publishers as part of their workflow.
- Peter Jonas - from **MuseScore notation software** - talking about their advances in MusicXML output and score setting for accessibility.
- Derek Benton - a freelance **MuseScore engraver** - explaining why it's important (and easy) to create well-structured scores, and how he does it following the DAISY music-setting guidelines.
- **Q&A** with all presenters and participants.

More about the DAISY Consortium

At DAISY we work closely with technology companies and standards agencies to ensure that the reading and publishing technology of tomorrow provide an accessible future for all.

- Home page: <https://daisy.org/>
- DAISY Music Braille Project: <https://daisy.org/activities/projects/music-braille/>