Improving the Quality of Organ Music Broadcast over Zoom
Harold Stuart, CAGO

The best way to broadcast music over Zoom or other videoconferencing systems is to play a recording. To play a recording:

1. Open your recording in a media player.
2. Go to your meeting window in Zoom and choose “Share Screen”.
3. Check the “Optimize Screen Share for Video Clip” and “Share computer sound” buttons from the bottom of the screen.
4. Double-click on your recording, which should be visible in the share screen window.
5. Start your recording.

If you want to do live presentations, there are some tools that can improve the quality of the sound. Go to your Zoom preferences and choose “Audio”. Here you will see several options that you should adjust.

1. Turn off the “Automatically adjust microphone volume” option. This will keep the music dynamics from getting distorted.
2. Turn the “Suppress background noise” option to low. This will keep soft music from cutting out during the broadcast.
3. Finally, scroll down and choose “Advanced” from the bottom of the screen. On the window that follows, turn on the “Show in-meeting option to “Enable Original Sound” checkbox. Also, check the disable echo cancellation and high-fidelity music mode options.
4. When it’s time to perform music over Zoom, choose the Turn on original sound option from your meeting screen. Please note that this must be done from the computer that is connected to the external microphone.

You should always use an external microphone when broadcasting music over Zoom. Your computer’s built-in microphone is not designed for music and music won’t sound very good if you use it. Many external audio recorders can also be used as external microphones, so check your existing equipment to see if you already have what you need.