

Beginning Flute Syndrome: The Cause and the Cure

Presented by Rebecca Hovan

Thursday, December 16, 2010, 2:30 p.m.

The Midwest Clinic

Chicago, IL

1. Root Causes
 - a. Embouchure formation
 - i. Too tight
 - ii. Too loose
 - iii. Teardrop
 - iv. Shape and size of lips
 - b. Direction of airstream
 - i. Too high
 - ii. Too low
 - iii. Factors that affect air direction
 - 1) Jaw placement
 - 2) Bottom lip placement
 - c. Focusing the airstream
 - i. Size of aperture
 - ii. Speed of airstream
 - d. Placement and position of headjoint
 - i. Too high
 - ii. Too low
 - iii. Rolling in/out
 - e. Leaks/poor quality instrument
2. The Cure
 - a. Tools
 - i. Mirror
 - ii. Pneumo Pro Wind Director
 - iii. Coffee stirrer (flat, not round)
 - b. Pre-headjoint exercises
 - i. Using the Pneumo Pro
 - 1) Careful placement

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(The Cure, cont'd)

- 2) Embouchure formation
- 3) Spinning the wheels
 - a. Direction of air
 - b. Focusing the air
 - i. Using the coffee stirrer
- c. Working on the headjoint
 - i. Careful placement
 - ii. Mimic Pneumo Pro process
 - iii. Alternating from Pneumo Pro to headjoint
- d. Transferring to the flute
 - i. Using the Pneumo Pro in the flute body
 - ii. Lining up the headjoint
 - iii. Posture
 - iv. Alternate between Pneumo Pro and headjoint in flute body
- e. Correction of problems in older players
 - i. Pinpoint the root causes
 - ii. Additional causes
 - 1) Poor flute/body position
 - 2) Braces

Resources: Pneumo Pro Wind Director—www.blockiflute.com

Galway Spirit Flutes and Avanti Flutes, www.connselmer.com

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