

Soundbeam System

Music Generated By Physical Movement

What Is A Soundbeam?

This is a new way for producing music. This tool may assist with linking students through music in a universal design format. By generating invisible ultra-sonic beams, it allows the users' movements to be converted to sound. The movements can be on a large scale (e.g., dancing, walking across a room, or involving an entire class), or limited to a single part of the body such as the head, hands or fingers. The speed, angle and size of the movements will all affect the pitch and tone of sounds produced. By using an adapted switch box, up to eight individual switches can also be used in conjunction with the Soundbeam to trigger sound effects, single notes, musical scales or full scale musical compositions. This tool can be used for a student with severe multiple disabilities in a variety of ways:

- participation during band
- participation during music
- participation during choir
- participation during dance
- participation during drama
- reinforce physio or occupational skills of movement

What Is The Cost?

It depends. There are different versions (PC and stand-alone), and users can deploy between one and four beams and also between one and eight switches. You also need amplification and a MIDI sound module or keyboard. The most commonly purchased package by UK special schools comprises the stand-alone unit with 2 beams, switchbox, 4 switches, MIDI module and speakers, and this retails at about CAN \$5500. A more pared down kit (software version with one beam) would be about CAN \$2,100.00.

For more information contact: Tim Swingler at tim@soundbeam.co.uk

For web site information refer to:

<http://www.circleofsound.co.uk/timespan/tsp8.html>

For demonstration/information video clips, go to:

- <http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=HjkRIoHvc8U>
- <http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=FtSt3Rnncrs>
- http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=DIHJ_3nAr3c
- <http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=SniNFyy5C9o>