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Student co-develops head bangin' music maker

Posted May 20th 2007 10:45PM by [Darren Murph](#)

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Nah, it's not quite a throwback to the 80s, but Zane Van Dusen has co-developed "a computer interface that tracks the movement of a user's head to allow them to produce electronic sounds and compose [music](#) on a virtual keyboard in both solo and ensemble settings." The Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute senior worked with a team of musicians and programming gurus to create a device that would enable those with extremely [limited mobility](#) to still express their creativity through music, and aside the from therapeutic benefits, it also holds promise for expanding into a venue for verbal communication. Essentially, the user can line him or herself up with a camera, and as the head bobs, the software determines the new X and Y coordinates and "uses the information to play a note or trigger a sound." While it might not be quite as totally radical as the [Guitar Zeros](#), it sure sounds more exciting than the [Bacterial Orchestra](#).

[Thanks, Amber]

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