

Chicago Jazz Philharmonic Touring Group Performance Partners

African Explosion: Traditional West African Music and Dance

Ka Bonya is a Malinke term from West Africa meaning, "To Respect". This program promotes the understanding and appreciation of ancient cultural music and dance of the African Diaspora. Performances include at least two musicians and two dancers.

Amadeus: Classical Genius meets the 21st Century

In Amadeus! the lives and music of classical composers are presented in a modern day presentation that reveals the significance and importance of their work. Students will learn the elements of music and the use of standard notation devices. They will also discover the importance of written versus oral traditions. Students will be able to compare and contrast circumstances where absolutes are necessary to those in which they are not.

Carnival Brasil! Discovering Brazil's Music and Folklore

Chicago Samba is a musical ensemble, based in Chicago, that plays authentic Brazilian dance music. The group has been together for over 27 years and plays a variety of styles of the most popular artistic expression in Brazil. Under the direction of Mo Marchini, a native of Brazil, who has been playing in the Chicago area for over 25 years, Chicago Samba offers workshops to schools, organizations and businesses throughout the United States and the world.

DanceWorks Chicago

Vibrant and innovative, DanceWorks Chicago is proud to share a diverse repertory featuring who is new and what is next in contemporary dance as well as showcase exciting work from established choreographers. Under the inspired leadership of Artistic Director Julie Nakagawa and CEO Andreas Böttcher, an exceptional family of six hand-picked dancers brings integrity, passion, and excellence to performances. DWC is dedicated to creating an environment conducive to nurturing experiences of significance for everyone from artist to audience.

Diaspora: From Lali to Rap: The African Musical Influences in the Americas

Using basic themes of communication, leadership and community, Diaspora! will lead students on a journey from the coasts of Africa to the in-lands of America. Students will learn about the aesthetics of

work and the principles of survival as they are presented in the American slavery experience. Methods of communication and story telling are explored through the oral traditions of “signifying”, “pattin’ juba” and “urban street jive”, traits which are present in the rituals of African tribal life and modern day rap.

Fifth House Ensemble

Fifth House Ensemble taps the collaborative spirit of chamber music to create engaging performances and interactive educational programs, forging meaningful partnerships with unexpected venues, artists of other disciplines, educational institutions, and audiences of every type.

Hand Bell Choir: Agape Ringers/Quadrille

An inspirational expression of music in the skill of "Hand Bell" ringing. The Agape Ringers have served as workshop educators at numerous handbell events across the country, and have toured Europe and the United States. They have been featured on WTTW's "Artbeat Chicago" and have performed with many professional musical organizations and artists based in the Chicago area.

The History of Gospel Music

Led by gospel singer Aaron Eddy, this musical presentation will "edutain" students on the history of Gospel Music and how it has encouraged African Americans since the 1800's. A genre that presents messages of hope, gospel music currently influences and encourages all racial and ethnic groups worldwide. Students will learn elements only found in gospel music and how these elements invoke emotion, responses and reactions. Students will be invited to participate at various times throughout the presentation.

Island Music in America

Island Music in America focuses on the history and culture of music from the Caribbean and its effect on American music. Led by vibraphonist Justin Thomas, students will be exposed to learning, listening, and playing instruments such as Steel Drums (Trinidad & Tobago), Vibraphone (West Africa, Caribbean, America) and accompanied by instruments of America (Bass, Drums). Students will also learn about the family of instruments, the parts of the instruments, the differences between Calypso and Latin music, and various artists who specialize in playing this genre.

It Don't Mean A Thing If It Ain't Got That Swing

In this entertaining yet informative presentation, students will experience United States history through the eyes of Jazz. Students will learn the connection between music and time and see the thread of creativity that permeates our society.

JASC Tsukasa Taiko

One of the leading Taiko (Japanese drumming) programs in the Midwest. Head Sensei (Instructor) Hide Yoshihashi founded the group in 1996 and in 2004, moved its location to the Japanese American Service Committee of Chicago (JASC), where it now bases its activities. Tsukasa Taiko's mission is to preserve and pass on the traditional concepts of Taiko as a cultural legacy and to utilize these concepts in expanding and evolving the Taiko form.

Legacy: Our Wealth of Music

An oral presentation in the great storyteller tradition in which Chicago veteran entertainer, Maggie Brown sings and narrates the history and evolution of African American music. This dynamic musical performance educates students and teachers alike. Maggie engages her audience with a narrative lesson in African American music history. She also uses songs to demonstrate the various genres which have been created, from African chants to contemporary urban music.

Mr. Barker and the Zoopremes

Mr. Barker), a twenty-five year educator with Chicago Public Schools and a master storyteller, has written a children's book entitled, Mr. Barker & the Zoopremes in the Imaginary Zoo (go to www.zoopremes.com). It's a fun and educational story about crazy-colored zoo animals that form a band called the Zoopremes. Through lifelike sound effects, original music and plenty of fun interaction with the audience, Mr. Barker instantly brings his book to life! Students will sing, dance, march and fly right along with Mr. Barker as he teaches them to use their imaginations and bring the stories to life! And, for extra fun, the leader of the Zoopremes Band, puppet, Jimmi-The-Chimp leads a fun sing-along with the audience!

Siete Mares

From Jalisco, Mexico to Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic; from Miami to New York City, students will aurally taste the rich cuisine of Latin music. They will hear culture in the languages, see culture in visual art and experience culture in the emotional essence of rhythm. By the end of their experience, students will be able to associate the cultural connections of Latin music with geography, history, language and art.

TAP IS MUSIC... Jus'LisTeN

In this program, veteran Chicago tap dancer, choreographer and entertainer Tré Dumas and members of his professional tap ensemble Jus'LisTeN will introduce students to the art of tap dance. Through video

clips of pioneers past and present, live performance and interactive discussion, the history of this uniquely American art form will be explored. Students will view pieces to several different genres of music and also learn of the art form's unique link to jazz. They'll also learn the difference between choreography and improvisation. The performance will culminate with several audience members having a chance to come up and learn a short combination and the entire audience being led through a fun "call and response" style rhythmic exercise.

The Voicestruments: Throat to Note

In the days of American Idol and Glee, everyone wants to learn how to sing. Even if you don't have the access or the money for professional training, vocalists from the A Cappella group Voicestruments will take you on a musical journey from "Throat to Note." This presentation will teach students simple tools to take their singing skills to the next level. Students will learn proper vocal technique such as posture, breathing and listening. Voicestruments will demonstrate these techniques through acapella performances of various music genres. So whether you sing in a church choir, with a group of friends, or with your favorite television sing-a-longs, this presentation will enable you to use proper technique as you find your own unique voice!