

Kansas City Young Audiences

Teacher Program Guide

Music Around the World

Artist: Tri-Percussion

Inside this guide:

Performance Description
Educational
Artist Bio
Vocabulary
List of Resources
Post-Performance Activities

Contact KCYA for more information on this and other programs.

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Performance Description

Music Around the World exposes students to different musical styles and instruments from four areas of the world. These include: 1) Gahu drumming from Ghana, West Africa 2) Brazilian Samba performed parade style 3) Calypso steel drumming from the Caribbean Islands 4) Xylophone ragtime music from the *silent-movie* era in the United States.

Tri-Percussion, led by percussionist Mark Lowry, brings this highly energetic performance to students grade 3-6. Tri-Percussion's objective is to help students develop

an appreciation of diverse cultures through the enjoyment of music.

Highly energetic and interactive, the program utilizes a large, colorful map as Tri-Percussion takes students on a world tour. Exploring the peoples of these different societies aids in improving geography skills as the students identify the continents on which these diverse cultures exist.

Students will also have the opportunity to explore the many different musical instruments used by musicians around the world.



Educational Objectives and Standards

Students will:

- Be introduced to four different musical styles from around the world
- Explore musical instruments from various cultures

Geography Standards:

- Knows the approximate location of continents, mountain ranges, and bodies of water

Music Standards

- Identify by genre and style music from various historical periods and cultures

Special Points of Interest:

Research has shown that during an electroencephalogram (EEG), music can change brain waves and make the brain more receptive to learning

Special REQUIREMENTS:

Two microphones with stands; PA system; three chairs

Artist Bio: Tri-Percussion

Percussionist **Mark Lowry** is timpanist for the Kansas City Chamber Orchestra and is a frequent percussionist with the Kansas City Symphony. In 1993, he helped create NewEar, Kansas City's only professional, contemporary chamber music group.

Raymond De Marchi is a founding member of the Kansas City Percussion Quartet. He is Director of Percussion at William Jewell College.

John Currey, the music director and an arranger for Marimba Yajalon, has over ten years experience as an in-school presenter and clinician. He has toured extensively throughout the US, Mexico, and Western Europe.



Mark Lowry

Vocabulary

Barrel drums: a set of wooden slatted drums from West Africa

Continent: one of the seven large land masses of the earth (Asia, Africa, Europe, North America, South America, Australia, Antarctica)

Dynamics: volume of music; loudness or softness

Interplay: talking back and forth between instruments

Percussion: a musical instrument played by being hit or shaken

Rhythm: patterns of sound and silence

Timbre: sound color, or type of sound

Xylophone: a musical instrument with wooden bars of different lengths struck to give different notes

Post-Performance Activities

1. Locate and identify on a map the seven continents. Also locate the four oceans. How many continents were visited in the program? Discuss the cultures and people who inhabit the different continents
2. Discuss the music heard today. What sound had the most appeal? Why does the music stay with you after the performance? Is it familiar or remind you of another type of music? Does the sound elicit emotions?
3. Draw a detailed illustration of one of the instruments seen today. Caption the drawing with information about what material the instrument is made of and how it is played



List of Resources

BOOKS

Sound Designs: A Handbook of Musical Instrument Building
Ten Speed Press; (January 1980)
ISBN: 0898150116

The Music of Africa
by J. H. Kwabena. Nketia
W.W. Norton & Company;
(December 1974)
ISBN: 0393092496

Drum Gahu!: A Systematic Method for an African Percussion Piece
by David. Locke
White Cliffs Media Co; (October 1987)
ISBN: 0941677028