

2023-2024 School Year
United States Coast Guard Band School Concerts
“The Language of Music”
Information for Teachers, Grades K-5

Overview

Thank you for attending The U.S. Coast Guard Band School Concert this year, both in-person and virtually through our livestream! We are honored to have you join us! This performance features music such as Beethoven’s Egmont Overture and Fucik’s Entry of the Gladiators. Students will learn how elements of music come together with written and spoken language to convey emotions and tell stories. The subject matter of this concert provides rich opportunity for further study, exploration, and experience for students and their teachers. This document aims to provide ideas that you can mold to assist in that exploration before and after the concert.

Educational Objectives

- Gain further appreciation of the *creative process* in music.
- Explore the parts of music (rhythm, melody, harmony, dynamics, articulation etc.) and how they are used to tell stories and express emotion
- *Experience* the connection between music and both written and spoken language
- *Identify* how musical concepts are used convey emotions
- Gain further experience in *focused listening*.
- *Experience, appreciate, and understand* a professional concert band performance of creative and quality compositions.

Program

Just Flyin’! – Julie Giroux

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CMWdr26M79A>

Egmont Overture – Ludwig van Beethoven

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N1JWz8jwWsQ>

Entry of the Gladiators – Julius Fucik

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B0Cy0A08y0>

Be a Clown – Cole Porter

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-SQ_8Y5A7V4

In addition to the pieces listed above, the program will also include pieces which feature our Percussion section, our Soprano soloist, our Jazz group, and a special full Band piece that your students are sure to recognize!

****The Hyperlinks will take you to recordings of the various pieces****

Pre-Concert Activities

To enhance your students' benefit from the concert, you can introduce the following basic concepts or activities, which you can adapt as needed to challenge your students accordingly.

-When your students are happy, do they talk slow or fast? What about when they are sad? If a piece of music sounds happy, would it be slow or fast? What about when the piece sounds sad?

-Without using any words, how can we express what we are feeling? (ex. crying, yelling, laughing, whimpering)

-How does a story's structure (beginning, middle, end) work to engage the reader and how can this relate to a piece of music?

Additionally, students will benefit from having familiarity with the following musical terms that will be used throughout the program:

- Dynamics: "Variations in loudness or softness of notes and phrases."
- Tempo: "The speed at which a piece of music is played"
- Articulation: "How short, long, separate, or connected notes are to one another."

Audience Etiquette

What is the best way to teach concert etiquette? Please follow [THIS LINK](#) to see an audience etiquette idea, discussion points for teachers, orchestra etiquette worksheet, all prepared by the Louisville Orchestra.

General Post-concert Suggestions

- Explore with students the concept of "The Language of Music". How does music tell stories that convey emotions similar to written and spoken language?
- Review/discuss some ways composers incorporate musical techniques to tell a story or express and emotion.

-Teacher information prepared by the Education Division of the United States Coast Guard Band