

2023-2024 School Year  
**United States Coast Guard Band School Concerts**  
**“The Language of Music”**  
***Information for Teachers, Grades 6-12***

**Overview**

Thank you for attending The U.S. Coast Guard Band School Concert this year, both in-personal 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=B0CyOA08y0>

**Be a Clown – Cole Porter**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-SQ\\_8Y5A7V4](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.

-How does a story's structure (set-up, confrontation and resolution) work to engage the reader and how can this relate to a piece of music?

-How does the choice of adjectives, verbs and adverbs change the meaning of a sentence? How does the choice of tempo, dynamics and harmony change the meaning of a piece of music?

-What is it that makes a piece of music convey emotions and how do they vary based on the emotion being portrayed?

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 that is like written and spoken language?
- Review/discuss some ways composers incorporate musical techniques to tell a story or express an emotion.

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