

Build Newsletter 13-04-16 Composing with Recorders

Theme



April 15, 2013 Composing on Recorders

2013 Contest/Workshops

Sing into Spring Contest
Enter to win your choice of a K-5 School Musicplay Digital Package OR a return airline ticket to Orlando to attend Artie and Denise's Summer Symposium.

Lots of great prizes available! Weekly winners will be announced on the Musicplay Facebook Page www.facebook.com/musicplaycurriculum and in this newsletter. One entry per teacher please - enter at www.musicplay.ca

Week 1 Winner - Carol Ferguson, Campbellford, Ontario
- Carol has won a class set of 30 Recorder 2 student books! *This collection of recorder songs is for your second year students. It includes 24 songs for 2 part soprano with an optional alto recorder part - transposed so they can use soprano fingerings. Visit this link for information on packages.*
<http://shop.musicplaytext.ihoststores.com/productinfo.aspx?productid=P4>

Week 2 Winner - Kristin Hull, Spring Hill, TN
- Kristin wins Smart Rhythms Vol. 1-2 *Smart Rhythms Vol. 1 and 2 are an amazing set of interactive activities to teach, practice and assess rhythm reading. There are multiple levels of rhythms included in one collection, with many different activities to use with your students - Bingo, 4 in a Row, Ostinato, Crash game, and many many more! You don't need a Smartboard to use these collections! Any computer/projector will work.*
<http://shop.musicplaytext.ihoststores.com/productinfo.aspx?productid=SMB>

Toronto - K-5 Rhythm Fun Workshop
In this workshop, Denise will take teachers through strategies to get children singing, reading rhythm and creating with rhythm. Create and perform rhythm compositions using body percussion, found sounds, drums, rhythm instruments, and Boomwhackers - even if you're not a music specialist!

Date: Tuesday, April 30th, 2013 9:30 – 3:00
Location: Jubilee United Church, 40 Underhill Drive, Toronto
Pizza Lunch Included!
Register online at www.musicplay.ca

When Students have Finished Recorder Resource Student book OR Learn and Play Recorder App:

What do you do after students have mastered the basics on recorder? When they've completed the yellow recorder book or they've learned all the songs in the Learn and Play Recorder App. I received this question as an email last week, and thought I'd share my reply.

Duet books - this is a great way for students to begin ensemble playing Favorite Folk Songs Spirituals for Recorder - these have CD accompaniment AND piano accompaniment. In performance, it's usually preferable to use the piano. **Learn to play Trios:** Recorder Trios - this has 20 folk songs arranged for soprano, alto and tenor recorders. Tenor has the same notes and fingerings as soprano, and we've included transposed alto in the collection. These are not accompanied - the ensembles sound

Themes & Variations

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Workshops

April 19, 2013
University of Calgary Music Educators Conference
Sessions include:
1. Listening Fun
2. Dollarama Diva - Manipulatives that work!
3. Recorder Apps and Digital Resources
register at www.ucalgary.ca/operetta/overture

April 20, 2013
BC Kodaly Association, Victoria, BC
Sessions include:
1. Listening Fun
2. Dollarama Diva - Manipulatives that work!
3. Recorder Apps and Digital Resources
Visist www.bcksc.ca

April 30th - Toronto Musicplay K-5
Rhythm Fun! Registration is now available at www.musicplay.ca

May 1st, 2013
Napanee - Musicplay K-3
Helpful hints for teaching your own music!

May 3rd, 2013
Miramichi, New Brunswick, PD Day

August 3, 2013
"Playshop" with Susie and Phil

August 7th 2013
Canberra, Australia
Joint Orff/Kodaly Workshop for upper elementary
Listening Fun with scarves, tennis balls
Explore Cultures through songs and games
- this workshop is geared for teachers of upper elementary aged students

August 10th 2013
Cairns, Australia
- A fun day where you'll Sing, Dance and Musicplay!

August 14 2013
Melbourne Kodaly Association
Listening Fun

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
great without any accompaniment. (I've played them all in my recorder group!) These include easy, medium and challenge pieces. **SATB**

- our SATB collection includes both transposed alto and bass, so if you don't have time to teach the students the new clef and fingerings, they can still play the ensembles. I've got a nice video of a group in Alberta where the teacher played bass and students played the other parts.
- You can find all the above collections at:
<http://shop.musicplaytext.ihoststores.com/category.aspx?categoryid=72&startpage=0>

(This is the Canadian site - for the US site, go to www.musicplay.ca, select US, then select recorder and teacher resources) **Compose your own pieces** - in the Recorder Kit 1, there is a great template for getting kids to compose their own pieces. **Compose your own pieces** - in the Recorder Kit 1, there is a great template for getting kids to compose their own pieces. The key to success in this activity is limiting the rhythms and notes that the students can use, at least in their first attempt. I let them use ta, ti-ti too-oo (half note) and rest for rhythms. For notes, I let them use BAG E. (with your students being more advanced you might want to give them a few more, but try this first) 1. Have the students write their rhythm pattern on the heart-beats, and bring you the rhythm to check their work. Encourage them to end their rhythm with a ta or a rest, so there is a final point. Ending with a ti-ti leaves it sounding unfinished. They should be able to clap their rhythm for you, or you could have them think-pair-share with a partner and clap their rhythm for a partner, and then listen to the rhythm their partner writes. 2. Using the notes BAG E, have them decide what notes to play on each beat. They have to end on E or on G. Encourage them to start on E G or B. A can work, but not as well. They should write the letters under the heart-beats using letter names. 3. Have them play their composition for you, or think-pair-share with a partner. If they like it, have them notate it on the staff below. If there is something that they don't like, they should change it and play it again before notating. 4. If they end on G, accompany the compositions with G and D on a metallophone or xylophone. If they end on E, accompany the composition with E and B. 5. Scan and project the compositions (or use your elmo to project) so that everyone in the class can try them out. If this project works well, allow the students to choose more notes for project #2. Share your students compositions on the Musicplay facebook page!
www.facebook.com/musicplaycurriculum

Recorder Composition By: _____

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Artie and Denise 4th Annual Summer Symposium

Join Artie Almeida and Denise Gagne in Orlando for three days of sensational elementary music clinics! Network with colleagues from across the United States and Canada, and start the new school year with a multitude of great lesson ideas!

Early Bird Registration - \$200 After June 1st - \$215

For more information:

Email Artie at musicja@mac.com

Visit www.music.cah.ucf.edu

Bring the family and have a Disney vacation! Updates and information on the Summer Symposium can be found on Facebook - www.facebook.com/musicplaycurriculum

NEW APPS!!!



Vocal Warm-ups for Singers or Choir

We are thrilled to announce that our second app is in the iTunes store! This app is based on the warmups book, "Strictly Warmups" by Kerry Heisler. The warm-ups in this collection are organized into five sets. Each set includes a physical warm-up, breath awareness,

Explore Cultures

- this workshop is geared for teachers of upper elementary aged students

August 17-18 2013

Melbourne Australia Orff Early Childhood Division. Sessions will be chosen from the following:

- Developing the child's singing voice
- Let's Keep the Beat!
- Listening Activities for Early Childhood
- Music and Literacy
- Instrument Fun for PreK
- Lesson Planning for Early Childhood

August 21, 2013 - Calgary Back to School Workshop!

Elementary Choral Reading workshop is being offered by the Alberta Choral Federation. Other Great Sessions:

- Linda Miller - Smart Rhythms and materials for Smartboard or computer/projector
- Kerry Heisler - Choral Warmups
- Denise Gagne - Fun back to school activities

August 22, 2013 - Edmonton Back to School Workshop!

Elementary Choral Reading workshop is being offered by the Alberta Choral Federation. Other Great Sessions:

- Linda Miller - Smart Rhythms and materials for Smartboard or computer/projector
- Kerry Heisler - Choral Warmups
- Denise Gagne - Fun back to school activities

August 23, 2013 - Toronto Back to School Workshop

Denise Gagne - Fun back to school activities

- Choral reading session featuring reproducible choral materials
- Heather Morris, from Folk Song to Pop Song

Musicplay Grant

Apply now to receive funding to assist with the purchase of K-6 music curriculum!

Overview

At Themes & Variations we are committed to providing quality affordable materials for teaching K-6 music classes. Our Musicplay K-5 curriculum with digital resources is just \$1625, however we realize that funds may not be available for it in high needs schools. We believe that all children have the right to a musical education, and Themes & Variations is providing funding to assist schools in acquiring the Musicplay K-6 curriculum for their students. Funding to provide 25-100% of the cost of the Musicplay curriculum will be awarded to successful applicants.

Guidelines

Schools may apply at any time for funding. The application may be completed by a principal, music teacher or classroom teacher who teaches his/her own music classes.

Schools will be notified within 30 days of applying. Fill in the application.

E-mail to tvmusic@telusplanet.net or fax the application to 1-888-562-4647.

Reporting Requirements: Schools receiving grants must complete a brief questionnaire 6 months after receiving their curriculum.

Grants have been awarded to more than 30 schools! (We will post a list online!)

Applications are available at www.musicplay.ca

Free Materials

Are you using any of our materials (Themes & Variations publications) in your Holiday Concert, an

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then five minutes of a variety of mid-range warm-ups. A vocal model with a male and female vocalist to accompany the singers for the first exercises, then you or your group continue until the end of the exercise. This is a great collection of warmups useful for elementary, middle school or high school choirs, or for solo singers. This app is available for ipad, iphone and android.

<https://itunes.apple.com/ca/app/vocal-warm-ups-for-singers/id597200553?mt=8&ls=1>

assembly, or in your classes? If you are performing any of Themes & Variations songs, send us a video of your concert, and we'll give you a \$25 credit for materials! We LOVE to see your performances of our songs. (We must be able to post excerpts on YouTube)



If you haven't tried it yet, our recorder app **Learn and Play Recorder** has everything that you need for your beginning recorder classes. Use the app to teach in class, and give your students the link to download at home and practice!

<https://itunes.apple.com/ca/app/learn-and-play-recorder/id543660617?mt=8>

Are you Doing Workshops?- I'm happy to send out Resource Booklets and/or sample materials to anyone who's doing workshops for teachers using any Themes & Variations publication. If you are doing a workshop, let me know if I can help you in any way.

If you live in one of these states, I'd love to come and do a workshop and finish my bucket list! Arizona, Delaware, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, Vermont, West Virginia
I'll be close to Vermont in May 2013!



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