

Festivals and Holidays

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Edition

A musical for Primary Grades about celebrations around the world.

Script by
Stuart Murray
Music by
Craig Cassile

Themes & Variations

Includes
12 original songs
with visits to
11 countries in a
Game Show format.

Festivals and Holidays

Script by Stuart Murray

Music by Craig Cassils

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Themes & Variations

Box 25109 Deer Park PO, Red Deer Alberta T4R 2M2
Email: tvinfo@telus.net Web Site: www.musicplay.ca

Toll Free Phone or Fax: 1-888-562-4647

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Festivals and Holidays

Introduction: This musical is designed to be simple to stage and perform. Each of the songs can be performed by any combination of voices, from the whole choir to smaller groups or classes, providing options for as much participation as desired. There is also flexibility in the show if one or two celebrations and countries need to be omitted.

Cast: Host 1 and Host 2 (girl and boy)
Miss White (or Mr. White) - the wheel spinner
Kimmy and Jimmy (two children)
Choir
Individual classes or small groups (optional)

Props: A large, brightly decorated cardboard game wheel which can actually spin. Its face could be decorated with musical notes and symbols which are nothing more than decoration. The wheel is really just to give the illusion of a wheel of chance, but does not govern what comes next in the show.

11 large cards on which are the names of the different celebrations around the world.

Teleporter - A large arch, much like a security scanner at the airport, for the travelers to simply walk through and be teleported.

For the song *Oshogatsu*, singers could hold brightly decorated Japanese fans.

In *Carnival*, the lead conga line dancer could carry a brightly colored poster on a stick. The poster could have the celebration name "Carnival!"

Singers could hold up a paper lantern on a stick as they dance in a circle during the song *The Festival Of Lanterns*.

In *Alleluia*, a choir member could hold and wave a large palm branch or close facsimile.

In *Oktobefest*, each dancer could wear an Alpine hat. (inexpensive ones at Dollar Stores)

For *St. Lucy Day*, a few singers could hold up small flower pots with little green shoots in them.

In both *Happy Diwali* and *Hanukkah Festival of Lights*, singers could have flashlights to point out to the audience using some simple choreography.

In *December 6 is a Holiday*, the choir conductor or a singer could hold up a large pair of wooden shoes to show the audience at the start of the song.

In *Christmas in Greece is a Joyful Time*, some singers play triangles at the appropriate time during the song.

For *Christmas in a Country Way*, singers can put on cowboy hats.

Sound Effects: Use sound effects for the wheel when it spins, and for entering and exiting the Teleporter. Sound effects could be the same each time, or changed for variety. Sound effects are available on the CD (25-26) or can be created by students using percussion and Orff instruments.

1. They're Celebrating Next Door

Joyful ♩ = 108

Craig Cassils

mf

The piano introduction consists of two staves. The right hand plays a rhythmic melody with eighth notes and chords, while the left hand provides a steady bass line with quarter notes and chords.

5 *mf* All voices unison

All a-round the world there's a sound of cel-e-bra-tion, From here where we live to ev-'ry oth-er na-tion. We

The vocal line is a unison melody of eighth notes. The piano accompaniment continues with a similar rhythmic pattern in both hands.

9

all have our rea-sons, it's fun to ex-plore. I won-der how they're cel-e-brat-ing next door!

The vocal line continues with the unison melody. The piano accompaniment features some chordal textures and rests in the right hand.

14

Cel - e - brate ev - 'ry - one. Cel - e - brate and have some fun.

The vocal line concludes with the unison melody. The piano accompaniment features a more active right hand with eighth-note chords.

3. Carnival

Latin Upbeat ♩ = 140

Craig Cassils

mf

The piano introduction consists of two staves. The right hand features a rhythmic melody with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the left hand provides a steady bass line with quarter notes.

6 *mf* All voices

We're cel-e-brat-ing Car - ni - val! — We're cel-e-brat-ing Car - ni - val!

The first vocal line begins at measure 6. It features a melody with eighth notes and rests, set against the piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "We're cel-e-brat-ing Car - ni - val! — We're cel-e-brat-ing Car - ni - val!"

10 *Part 1* *Part 2* *Part 1*

— We're cel-e-brat-ing all day, — all day, — all night, —

The second vocal line starts at measure 10. It is divided into three parts: Part 1, Part 2, and Part 1. The lyrics are: "— We're cel-e-brat-ing all day, — all day, — all night, —"

14 *Part 2* *All voices*

all night. — We're cel-e-brat-ing Car - ni - val! —

The third vocal line begins at measure 14. It includes the lyrics: "all night. — We're cel-e-brat-ing Car - ni - val! —"

4. The Festival of Lanterns

Gently ♩ = 96

Craig Cassils

mp

5 *mp*

1., 3. Write your name and a wish that you car - ry in your heart.
2. Loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo.

9

Hang it on your lan - tern; the pa - rade is going to start. The
Loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo. Loo

13

Fes - ti - val of Lan - terns is a spec - ta - cle to see. In a
loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo loo. Loo loo