

Olympic Harmony!

presented by the
Equinox Chamber Players

Project Description: The Equinox Chamber Players will expose students to classical music from around the world through our *Olympic Harmony!* 2008-2009 music education program. *Olympic Harmony!* encourages cultural awareness and exchange, and explores the diversity of cultures through the universal languages of sport and music. The residencies will include an introduction to classical music, demonstrate parallels between music and sport and celebrate cultural diversity through music, and includes performances, discussions, interactive audience participation, a Power Point presentation commissioned composer (day 3)

Residency Goals:

- expose audiences to classical music, to instruments and to live performance
- raise awareness and understanding of diverse cultures by presenting music from around the globe, with 2008 Olympics as a focal point.
- broaden audience listening skills by teaching basic elements of music to enhance their understanding and enjoyment of music
- demonstrate the inner workings of the musical team, drawing parallels between music and sports concerning training, discipline, teamwork and necessary respect
- prioritize performer interaction with audience to promote music, diversity awareness and cooperation.

Outreach Activities in Three day progression (3 visits per school)

Fundamentals (Visit #1)

- Opening tune: (overture) *Umoja (Unity)*
- Introduction of *Olympic Harmony* Project
- Fundamentals of Music: *Rhythm* - Students learn about rhythm and apply rhythmic patterns (led by musicians) with musical accompaniment by ensemble
- Musicians demonstrate instruments. For many, this serves as a first time introduction to classical/international music and to the instruments. Musicians demonstrate through use of international repertoire of the 5 continents. Students learn to identify the different sounds and then hear us put them together. Musicians draw parallels between sports and music in their analogies.
- Fundamentals of Music: *Melody* - Students learn about melody and sing, accompanied by musicians
- Fundamentals of Music: *Harmony* - Students learn about harmony and sing along as led by a musician with accompaniment of musicians

Teamwork (Visit #2)

- Opening tune: South African National Anthem
- Introduce the "Olympic Spirit" which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play - a spirit which is useful for music, sports, every day living,
- Brief overview of Day one
- Perform examples of how we engage in team work and what happens when we don't.
- Explain direct parallels between music and sport - the importance of the discipline of practicing individually and as a team; how timing and rhythm are important in both music and sports. The demonstrations are performed with use of various international repertoire of the 5 continents. (Rowing-monophonic movement/ homophonic mvt - Relay race - passing the phrase - Solo Vs. team - Gymnastics - technique, synchronization -etc.) Students share their understanding of our team work and how it relates to sports
- Perform international suite. End with Kwela and group participation.

Global Unity (Visit #3)

- Open with Anthem
- Introduce composer Beth Denisch - Beth will discuss composition, her cultural and musical inspiration behind the five movements, each relating to a different continent.
- Demonstrate how diversity of culture is represented through sound and various styles of music by performing her music.
- The ensemble performs excerpts of her new Olympic work, help students choose the country from which the movement was inspired.
- Beth leads the group in excerpts gives visual examples via a Power Point presentation used to "set up" each movements with graphics of the corresponding movement theme.
- End with closer tune - song of spirit

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