

HIGH SCHOOL & MIDDLE SCHOOL WORKSHOPS, ENSEMBLES AND RESIDENCIES

These workshops, ensembles and master classes will develop students' skills in performing and reading rhythm accurately, appreciating rhythm as an essential part of improvisation and melody, and using rhythm creatively in improvisation and composition.

Each program is one to one-and-a-half hours. We can present single programs at your school, or combine them into half-day, one day, or longer residencies as suggested below.

All of these programs target specific high school proficiency standards (APHS) and advanced standards (AAHS). For a full schedule of how each program meets these standards, see **School Programs and Vermont Standards** or **School Programs and California Standards**. If you are from another state, we will craft a similar schedule for you upon request.

Percussion and Song Ensembles

Hands-on performance experience for groups up to 40. No prior music experience necessary.

Brazilian percussion ensemble

Afrocuban percussion and song ensemble

Ghanaian percussion and song ensemble

Each of these ensembles introduces students to exciting, energetic group playing. Basic instrumental techniques are covered, but the focus is on making music together. Styles include various types of samba (Brazil); rumba, bembé, makuta and comparsa (Cuba); kinka, gahu and agbekor (Ghana).

Workshops

Workshops combine theory and hands-on performance for students ready for more detailed musical exploration.

Concepts of Rhythm: Suspension and Shape in World Music

The concept of rhythmic suspension is a systematic approach to the often mysterious world of syncopation. The concept of shape underlies many styles of world music and provides a key to understanding those styles. Together, these concepts provide powerful tools that quickly lead to greater rhythmic understanding, accuracy and creativity.

Concepts of Rhythm: Polyrhythm in World Music

An approach to polyrhythm, one of the world's most enjoyable and exciting rhythmic concepts. Beginning, intermediate or advanced as appropriate.

Rhythmic Improvisation on Melodic Instruments

Using rhythmic concepts to open up creativity in melodic improvisation (jazz, rock, blues).

Master Classes

Hands-on performance instruction for more advanced students.

Brazilian samba percussion

Afrocuban percussion

Ghanaian percussion

Introducing one or more of these vibrant traditions.

Salsa percussion

Introducing the Latin rhythm section of conga, timbales, bongó, claves, guiro, and campana.

Jazz, Latin, or rock drumset

For drumset players specifically.

Jazz Improvisation and Accompaniment

Working with your jazz ensemble on understanding swing, the rhythms of jazz melodies, and using those rhythms as bases for improvisation and accompaniment.

Assembly

For large groups or the whole school.

Music of Africa and the Caribbean

An introduction to instruments, styles and the social history of African music and the many styles that have stemmed from it.

PROGRAMMING

We can come to your school and give any one of the above programs, but you'll get more bang for your buck by combining events. Here are some suggestions:

Half-Day Residency

Ensemble + Workshop

We suggest combining any two of the above one-hour ensembles or workshops, each stretched to 1½ hours. For instance, *Brazilian samba ensemble + Concepts of Rhythm: Polyrhythm*; or *Afrocuban ensemble + Rhythmic Improvisation in Melody*.

Ensemble + Master class

Another approach is combining an ensemble, focused on group playing, with more advanced technical instruction on the instruments of that ensemble.

One-Day Residency

Morning	School Assembly
	Ensemble 1
	Workshop 2
Afternoon	Ensemble 2
	Workshop 2
	Jazz Ensemble

Three-Day Residency

We suggest a school assembly the first day, plus two different percussion/song ensembles, a workshop and master class, and work with your jazz ensemble. Day 2 continues both percussion/song ensembles, and includes a different workshop and master class. On Day 3 there is a third workshop or master class, and the ensembles meet one more time, after which they perform for the school.

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
Morning	School Assembly Ensemble 1 Workshop 1	Jazz Ensemble Ensemble 1 Workshop 2	Jazz Ensemble Ensemble 1 Workshop 3 or Master class
Afternoon	Ensemble 2 Master class	Ensemble 2 Master class	Ensemble 2 School performance

Five-Day Residency

A five-day (one week) residency may be structured like the three-day residency, but with time for additional ensemble rehearsals, workshops, master classes, individual lessons, and visits to linked classrooms (history, social studies, literature, art).