



# CLIBURN IN THE CLASSROOM

## WHAT'S THE SCORE?

A Fantasy Football-style Playoff at the Piano

### CLASS ACTIVITY: Musical Athletes Class Bulletin Board Grade Level(s): 1-5 Subject Areas: Music, Social Studies

#### OBJECTIVE

Students will bridge connections between subjects by exploring the intersection of music and sports, and will understand the commonalities between the two (discipline, practice, teamwork, etc.)

#### SPACE AND EQUIPMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Teacher will need a Smart Board or projector and screen to show class a video. Students will need internet access to do research, as well as printer access. Sports magazines or newspapers can also be used to cut out bulletin board photos.

#### MUSIC TO EXPLORE

MORRICONE *Gabriel's Oboe*

MARTINU *Concerto for Oboe and Small Orchestra, H. 353 (III. Poco allegro)*

D'INDY *Fantasy on French Folk Tunes for orchestra and solo oboe, op. 31*

#### ACTIVITY

Prepare for this activity by creating a bulletin board of the orchestra with blank seats in each section. Suggested music above can be played during the independent working portion of this project.

1. Show the class this Super Bowl Ad featuring football player and oboist Chester Pitts: <https://youtu.be/rPSqV6RnBrA>.
2. Divide the students into instrument families (woodwinds, brass, strings, piano). Allow students time to research other famous athletes who have studied the instruments in their assigned families. Some examples include saxophonist Jason Kelce, center for the Philadelphia Eagles; trumpeter Tyre Phillips, starting right guard of the Baltimore Ravens; and violinist Vanessa-Mae, who competed in the Winter Olympics. Students print or cut out pictures of the athletes and "seat" them in the appropriate sections on the bulletin board.
3. Have students write a short bio for each athlete, including their instrument, teachers, and length of study. These bios can be glued to colored construction paper for better visuals.
4. To bridge connections between subjects, follow up with a class discussion on what it takes to be a professional athlete – focus, hard work, practice, mentorship, teamwork, etc. These "buzzwords" and others can also be included on the bulletin board in a word cloud to further underline the parallels between music and sports.

#### REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. How do athletes prepare for a big game/musicians prepare for a big concert?
2. Do you think the skills they learned in music helped them prepare to become an athlete?
3. What physical activities help musicians perform?