



CLIBURN IN THE CLASSROOM

WHAT'S THE SCORE?

A Fantasy Football-style Playoff at the Piano

CLASS ACTIVITY:

School Anthem

Grade Level(s): 4-6

Subject Areas: Music

OBJECTIVE

Students will strengthen fluency of notation, discover elements of writing effective pop songs, collaborate in an ensemble, have an outlet for creative expression, and foster a sense of community and school pride by writing a new school anthem.

SPACE AND EQUIPMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Students will need school-issued Chromebooks or iPads with internet access. They will also need access to classroom instruments, as well as staff paper and a pencil. Finale, Sibelius, or other notation software can be utilized by the teacher for experimentation with various instrumentations/sounds and for ease of transcription of the final anthem; alternatively, Garage Band may be used by students with limited notation fluency.

MUSIC TO EXPLORE

Culturally responsive teaching - create a class Padlet or Google Jam Board and find out what the students are listening to. Let their responses inform your music selections for this activity.

ACTIVITY

1. Allow students time at the beginning of class to respond to the class Padlet/Google Jam Board. Find out what their favorite songs are, and what they are listening to now.
2. From their responses, select a few pop songs with appropriate lyrics to play for the class. Deconstruct the pop songs using elements such as verse, chorus, bridge, hook, beat, bass, lyrics, etc.
3. By comparing and contrasting elements of the pop songs, create a template for the creation of their own song(s) to be used as a school anthem. Allow students time to write their original tunes using notation software and/or Garage Band. This may be done individually, or as a group, with each student assigned a particular element of the song to create.
4. Pitch the new anthem to school administration to be played at a pep rally or school sporting event.