

CLIBURN IN THE CLASSROOM

TEXAN LIKE ME! A musical tour of the Lone Star State

CLASS ACTIVITY: Ticket to Ride Grade Level(s): 3-5

Subject Areas: Music, Geography, Social Studies

OBJECTIVE

Students research arts organizations around the state of Texas and create a bulletin board of the state with photos of each major organization. Then they plan a trip summarizing what concerts and programs they would see at each venue. Their train trip to present their findings include rhythm tickets to reinforce music literacy TEKS.

SPACE AND EQUIPMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Students will need internet and printer access. A Promethean or other smart board/projector is also needed to play music and videos. For the teacher: to prepare for this activity, create a bulletin board with a blank outline of the state of Texas, with the major cities (Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, San Antonio, Austin) identified, and train tracks linking them. Create rhythm flash cards with patterns learned in class according to grade level; these will be used as train tickets and to power the train. Lastly, be sure there is enough space in the music room for students to move around in a line.

Note: This activity will need to be done over the course of two or more class periods.

MUSIC TO EXPLORE

Repertoire that is currently being presented by area arts organizations. This will change based on when the lesson is presented. Let the students discover what is programmed for the season and play examples in class.

ACTIVITY

- 1. Hand out to the class a list of performing arts organizations in Texas' major cities; some suggestions are listed on the next page, but students could also make their own recommendations for which additional cities to visit and organizations to present. Allow students some time to visit the websites of these organizations and discover the repertoire being performed this season.
- 2. Have students create a YouTube playlist from their findings, and print photos of the arts organizations to attach to the appropriate city on the class bulletin board.
- 3. Then take a train trip. The teacher is the conductor, and the students are the train. Have the students form a line to travel around the room. Their boarding passes are the rhythm flash cards students must successfully demonstrate the rhythms shown using tee-tee-ta-ta in order to board the train. This can be done together as a class; students then chant the rhythm over and over to power the train engine.
- 4. At various intervals, stop and sit. The conductor announces the stops by city, arts organization, and program. Play pieces from the students' YouTube playlist. Remind and reinforce good audience etiquette during the performances.

BONUS

Invite your school administration to travel with your class!



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TEXAS PERFORMING ARTS ORGANIZATIONS

DALLAS

Dallas Symphony Orchestra: https://www.dallassymphony.org/
The Dallas Opera: https://dallasopera.org/

Dallas Black Dance Theater: https://dbdt.com/

Dallas Chamber Music Society: https://dallaschambermusic.org

Ballet Folklorico: https://www.anmbf.org/

FORT WORTH

Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra: https://fwsymphony.org/

The Cliburn: https://cliburn.org/

Chamber Music Society of Fort Worth: https://www.cmsfw.org

Fort Worth Opera: https://www.fwopera.org/
Jubilee Theater: https://www.fwopera.org/
Texas Ballet Theater: https://texasballettheater.org/

HOUSTON

Houston Symphony: https://houstonsymphony.org/ Houston Ballet: https://houstonsymphony.org/

Houston Grand Opera: https://www.houstongrandopera.org

Chamber Music Houston: https://chambermusichouston.org

Da Camera: https://www.dacamera.com/

SAN ANTONIO

San Antonio Philharmonic Orchestra: https://saphil.org/

San Antonio Chamber Music Society: https://www.sacms.org

San Antonio Opera: https://www.operasa.org

Ballet San Antonio: https://balletsanantonio.org

Musical Bridges Around the World: https://musicalbridges.org/

AUSTIN

Austin Symphony Orchestra: https://austinsymphony.org

Austin Opera: https://austinopera.org

Austin Chamber Music Center: https://austinchambermusic.org

Ballet Austin: https://balletaustin.org

Ballet Afrique: https://balletafriqueaustin.org/

Puerto Rican Folkloric Dance and Cultural Center: https://www.

prfdance.org/

EL PASO

El Paso Symphony Orchestra: https://www.epso.org/

El Paso Pro Musica: https://www.elpasopromusica.org/

El Paso Opera: https://www.epopera.org/

El Paso Society for Musicians of the Future: https://www.epsmf.org/