

KIDDIE MENU

The following menu items we find particularly good for younger audiences.

A YOUNG PERSON'S GUIDE TO MODERN MUSIC

READY, SET, GO!!! *Instant Percussion and Improvisation*

MEET A COLORADO COMPOSER

STATE OF COLORADO & DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS MODEL CONTENT MUSIC STANDARDS

Standards provide a substantive framework for those who teach music to young people. Music standards speak powerfully to two fundamental issues that pervade all of education: quality and accountability.

- 1.....Students sing or play on instruments a varied repertoire of music, alone or with others.
- 2.....Students will read and notate music.
- 3.....Students will create music.
- 4.....Students will listen to, analyze, evaluate, and describe music.
- 5.....Students will relate music to various historical and cultural traditions.

Students benefit from music education because it develops the whole person, gradually building music literacy while cultivating intuition, reasoning, imagination, and dexterity into unique forms of expression and communication. If music education is to serve its proper function, each student must develop an understanding of such questions as these:

- Why is music important to individuals and society?
- How does music relate to the other art disciplines: dance, theatre and visual arts?
- How do traditional, popular, and classical music forms influence one another?
- How do musicians work and what tools do they use?

Info taken from: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeassess/documents/standards/music.pdf>

MENC National Standards for Music Education can be found at:
<http://www.menc.org/publication/books/standards.htm>



the Playground

THE MENU

Enjoy our list of educational offerings (Entrées). Accompanying each entrée is the appropriate age group, the serving size (time duration) and nutritional value (specific DPS and State of Colorado arts standards) met by each program. You may select the full entrée (meaning the full time duration), or any combination of smaller servings to meet your programming needs. Each entrée is prepared to perfection by our talented and renowned musicians to meet your exact tastes.

We follow every meal with a Question & Answer talkback dessert allowing the more curious diners to satisfy that intellectual appetite.

Also, don't forget the **Kiddie Menu**, specifically designed for a younger audience.

Programs may vary based on performer availability. DPS, State of Colorado and MENC standards can be found at the end of this menu.

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FINE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING SINCE 2002



MUSICAL ENTREES

BACH TO THE FUTURE..(sponsored by the Denver Bach Society)

J.S. Bach is truly one of the great masters. It is impossible to deny his influence on all eras of music. This program matches compositions by Bach with modern takes on his work. The program is a great way to relate traditional and contemporary music. Depending on the age group this program can also include a historical discussion of Bach's life and a discussion of counterpoint and the intricate contrapuntal techniques used by composers throughout history.

Serving Size: 30- 50 minutes

Appropriate Age Groups: All

Nutritional Value: 4 & 5

MODERN VOCAL TECHNIQUE

This is the perfect program for schools with strong choral and vocal programs. Members of the Playground will perform contemporary solo and chamber vocal music. Each performance will be followed with a discussion of the specific compositional and rehearsal techniques needed for these pieces. This program could also include some group singing improvisations.

Serving Size: 15- 50 minutes

Appropriate Age Groups: All

Nutritional Value: 1, 3, 4 & 5

READY, SET, GO!!!! Instant Percussion and Improvisation

Music is all around us. Everyday we are exposed to a multitude of sounds that can be considered music. This presentation starts with a demonstration on creating percussion instruments from every day items, followed by an explanation of rhythm and meter. Students are then taught a system of hand signal improvisation. The whole event culminates with the students and members of the Playground performing together. • The Playground provides drum sticks. Please let us know in advance how many students will be attending. Students are encouraged to bring items from home (must be durable enough to be struck with drum sticks and not break- NO GLASS).

Serving Size: 50 minutes

Appropriate Age Groups: All

Nutritional Value: 1, 3, 4 & 5

READY, SET, GO!!!! Color, Shape and Sound

The Playground will discuss chamber improvisation, aleatory, and graphic notation followed by performances that demonstrate these techniques. The graphic notation portion includes viewable examples of scores. • Students will then join the Playground in the creation of and/or the realization of a graphic score and an improvisation.

Serving Size: varies from 20 minutes to a full 50 minute performance/ presentation

Appropriate Age Groups: All

Nutritional Value: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

READY, SET, GO!!!! Game Theory

In recent years composers have resorted to the use of musical "games" to create new works. These games leave the end result to chance, meaning that each performance is different. These games can involve hand signals, cards, pictures- basically anything the composer desires.

The Playground will perform and explain a game theory composition. In the appropriate setting students will then join the Playground for another realization of that composition. This may require a small amount of rehearsal time with student performers before the event itself.

Serving Size: varies from 10 – 30 minutes

Appropriate Age Groups: High School – Adult

Nutritional Value: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

AMERICAN BERSERK

During the 20th century, Western art music's center of gravity shifted from Europe to America. As American composers redefined music for their era stylistic trends emerged, each in its own way revolutionary. This program, named after a work by minimalist composer John Adams, explores a number of such trends through the chamber music of renowned American composers.

Serving Size: 50 minutes

Appropriate Age Groups: All

Nutritional Value: 4 & 5

ELECTRONIC MUSIC & THE COMPUTER.. AS A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

The 20th century has witnessed amazing advances in technology. These advances have worked their way into every aspect of our lives and music is no different. Synthesizers aren't just for rock music, and the computer isn't just for playing downloads. Composers began to use turntables, synthesizers and other electronics as early as the 1950's. In time hybrids formed mixing pre-recorded material with live performers. Today there is an established trend of real-time manipulations, in which a computer records, modifies and then reproduces live musical events. Who knows what the future may bring? The possibilities are endless.

Serving Size: varies from 10 – 50 minutes

Appropriate Age Groups: High School - Adult

Nutritional Value: 4 & 5

COMBINATION PLATTER

Using various parts from the entrees above, we can work together to design a program that fits your needs. We can do this together, or the Playground can design it for you. Your participation can be as much or as little as you wish

Serving Size: 50+ minutes

Appropriate Age Groups: All

Nutritional Value: Varies

ACADEMIC ENTREES

MEET A COLORADO COMPOSER

Colorado is home to a number of talented composers who perform in, or work with the Playground on a regular basis. The Playground will sponsor a visit by one or more of our locals, armed with scores, recordings, and possibly a live performance by the ensemble as well. Because so many composers have ties to area colleges, this is a great idea for those looking to take that next step in their composition education. This is ideal for any composition class or seminar, as well as large assemblies.

Serving Size: 30 – 50 minutes

Appropriate Age Groups: All

Nutritional Value: 2, 4 & 5

MUSIC THEORY & COMPOSITION MASTER CLASSES

Many members of the Playground are music theory and/or composition faculty at the Lamont School of Music and other area institutions. This program is designed to help reinforce what teachers are currently doing in the classroom. The discussion can specialize in modern music techniques, can help relate modern music to traditional theory, or can focus on common practice period voice leading and harmonic progression.

Serving Size: 30 – 50 minutes

Appropriate Age Groups: High School - Adult

Nutritional Value: 2, 4, & 5