

INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS



THE STUDENT CONCERT



Photo by Wafaa Issa Smith

Prepared by
The Sierra Vista Symphony Association

January 12, 2018
Buena Performing Arts Center
9:30 & 10:30 AM

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Debra L Koltveit, President
The Sierra Vista Symphony Board of Directors

We are glad that you have decided to participate in the Student Concert 2018. The Sierra Vista Symphony Association and the board of directors take pride in this annual presentation of classical music for young people. There are many choices today for students in their selection of music. Hopefully, an exposure to classical orchestral music will create an interest in the long enduring and rich history of music in general.

As a music specialist or classroom teacher, your guidance and direction will have a lasting effect upon your students. Select the parts of the Teachers Information Packet that might apply to current classroom activities. Your own background can be very important in creating interest in this experience. Feedback from you and your students will help guide us in the future program and packet building.

The program was chosen with two major objectives in mind. First, this is an opportunity to introduce symphonic music to students who may not have had the experience of attending such a concert. The program will contain music that usually appeals to students. Second, the program was designed to help meet The Arts Standards by the State Board of Education.

Information is provided in various sections. The first section deals with the symphony orchestra, the instruments and the conductor. The second section identifies specific standards that teachers can relate to the music and attendance at the concert. The third section includes the program and provides an overview of the music to be preformed. The fourth section deals with the concert etiquette. The final section introduces students to the personalities involved in the concert.

Please attend and enjoy our presentation of:

Gioachino Rossini: William Tell Overture

Johann Strauss: On the Beautiful Blue Danube

John Williams,: Harry Potter Symphonic Suite

Kristen Anderson-Lopez & Robert Lopez: Music from Frozen

John Philip Sousa: Stars and Stripes Forever (guest conductor)

Klaus Badelt: Pirates of the Caribbean, a medley including: Fog Bound, The Medallion Calls, To the Pirates Cave, The Black Pearl, One Last Shot, He's a Pirate

More information is available on the web. The League of American Symphony Orchestras website, <http://www.americanorchestras.org/>, has a wealth of information. When opening the site, click on "Youth, Education & Community." This will provide links to several symphony orchestras. "Resources for music education" is of particular value. The New York Philharmonic website <http://nyphil.org/education> provides a great deal of information about composers and instruments of the orchestra. We also recommend you investigate "The Guide to the Symphony Orchestra," <http://listeningadventures.carnegiehall.org/ypgto/index.aspx> "The Musical Instruments Chart," and "The Symphony".



Photo by Pauline Fredericks Photography

I. THE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

An orchestra is an ensemble of musical instruments, having at its core a group of bowed-string instruments of the violin family, augmented by woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. The term *orchestra* can also refer to various specialized groups such as a *jazz orchestra*. *The symphony orchestra, however, is usually larger than the specialized ensembles, and ordinarily includes the strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion.*

The development of the modern symphony orchestra spans more than 200 years. By the middle of the 1800s, however, the size and instruments used in the modern orchestra were well established.

Orchestras range in size from as small as 20 to 25 players to orchestras numbering well over 100 musicians. The Sierra Vista Symphony Orchestra performing on January 12th will number approximately 58 players.

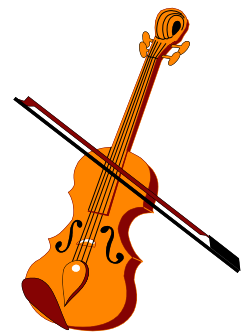
Approximately one-half of the orchestra members are residents of Cochise County with the remainder commute from Tucson. Many of the wind and percussion players are members of the military assigned to Ft. Huachuca and the 36th Army Band.

The symphony orchestra is comprised of four “families” of instruments: strings, woodwinds, brasses, and percussion. Each member of these “families” is described below.

The String Family

The string family is comprised of 1st violins, 2nd violins, violas, cellos, and double basses.

The violins are the highest pitch instruments among the strings. They are seated immediately to the left of the conductor. The 1st and 2nd violins play different



VIOLIN & BOW



parts, but players within each section play the same music. The violas are a larger violin and play music at a lower pitch. The viola section is directly in front of the conductor.

The cellos (pronounced “chello”) are seated to the right of the conductor. The players hold their instruments between their knees.



CELLO & BOW

The double basses are among the lowest pitched instruments in the orchestra and stand with their instruments behind the cellos.

Together, the strings comprise the largest group of players in the orchestra. With the differences in pitch, from the highest in the violins to the lowest in the double basses, they provide the capacity for a full “choir” of sound, much as a vocal choir encompasses soprano, alto, tenor, and bass voices.

BASS

The Woodwind Family

The woodwinds are so named because originally all of the instruments were made of wood and players use their breath to create the sound. In the modern orchestra, however, the flute and piccolo may be made of metal.

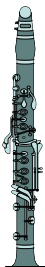


FLUTE

The flute and its smaller (and higher) cousin, the piccolo, produce their sounds by a player blowing air across an opening much like a person making a sound by blowing across a soda pop bottle. Due to its high, piercing sound, the orchestra has only one piccolo. Most orchestras have two or three flutists.

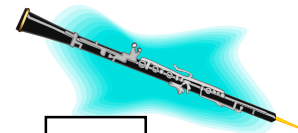


PICCOLO



The clarinet is a “single reed” instrument. The sound is produced by a small reed (about ½ inch wide by 2 inches long) vibrating against a mouthpiece as the player blows into the instrument. Some have called the clarinet the “rascal” of the orchestra because of its distinctive sound and its ability to lend “playfulness” to portions of the musical score. Typically, the orchestra will include two or three clarinetists.

CLARINET



OBOE

The oboe is a “double reed” instrument. The sound is produced by blowing through two small reeds (about ¼ inch by 1 ½ inches) tied together and hollowed out so that air can pass between them. When the player blows into the instrument, the reeds vibrate together to create the sound. The sound of the oboe is distinguishable by its thin, plaintive sound.

The English Horn, is neither English nor a horn. Rather it is a larger oboe, or some might call it an "alto oboe." The orchestra will include two oboists with one of the players also performing on the English Horn.



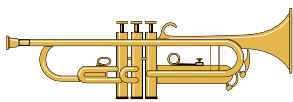
BASSOON

The bassoon is also a "double reed" instrument. It is often called the "buffoon" of the orchestra because of its "reedy," deep sound. The bassoon is the bass voice of the woodwind family. The bassoonists will be sitting in front of the conductor, but at the back of the orchestra. The bassoon will be identifiable by its unique shape (a four-foot long tube) and its reddish-brown color.

As is the case with the strings, the woodwinds combine to form an entire "choir;" encompassing soprano, alto, tenor, and bass parts.

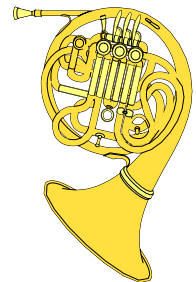
The Brass Family

As the name implies, this family of instruments is made of brass and includes four different instruments: trumpet, French horn, trombone, and tuba. The sound is created by the player's lips vibrating as air passes into a mouthpiece. Trumpets, French horns, and the Tuba are constructed with three or four valves that players use to sound the different notes of the scale.



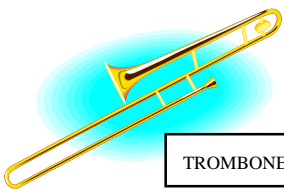
TRUMPET

The trumpet is the highest pitched instrument in the brass family. Ordinarily, the orchestra will include three or four trumpets. The trumpet is widely used, not only in the symphony orchestra, but also in military and concert bands as well as jazz ensembles.



FRENCH HORN

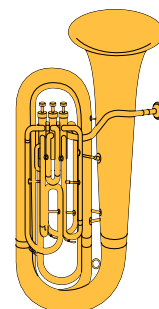
The French Horn is curled so that the bell of the horn faces backwards. In addition, the player uses his/her left hand to finger the valves and inserts the right hand into the bell. Most music played by the orchestra requires four horn parts.



TROMBONE

The trombone, again an instrument used in many types of musical groups, employs a sliding tube that the player extends or retracts to produce higher or lower pitches. Much symphonic music requires three or four trombonists.

The tuba is the largest, and lowest pitched, instrument in the brass family. If its curled brass tubes were stretched out as a single tube, it would extend many feet. The orchestra includes only one tuba.



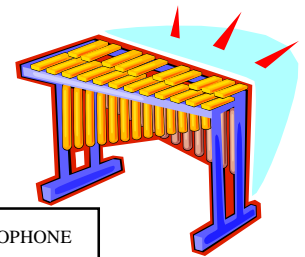
TUBA

The Percussion Family

This family includes the instruments whose sound is made by striking or shaking. The instruments fall into two categories: those that produce a definite pitch and those that do not. The most important of the definite pitch instruments is the timpani (kettledrum).

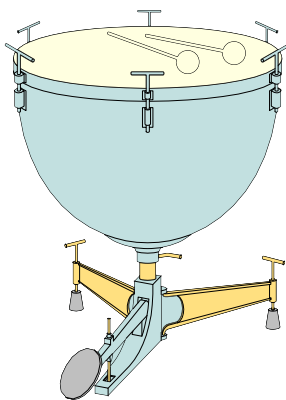
Three or four individual drums of different sizes comprise the timpani. Each drum consists of a large metal shell over which a thin piece of plastic (the head) is stretched. A metal ring attached to a foot pedal allows the player to stretch the head to raise the pitch. The timpani are played with two mallets.

A variety of instruments such as the xylophone, marimba, chimes, and even the piano comprise the other definite pitched instruments. All are played by striking a metal or wooden bar, and in the case of the piano, a set of strings.



XYLOPHONE

The indefinite pitched instruments include various types of drums on which players use two sticks to strike the head of the instrument. In the case of the bass drum, the player ordinarily uses a large, fleece-covered beater. Other instruments of this type include bells, whistles, woodblocks, rattles, cymbals, gongs, and even a thin piece of metal molded into a three-cornered shape called the triangle.



KETTLEDRUM

The Conductor

The modern symphony orchestra could not function well without the conductor. This person does more than simply wave his/her arms in time to the music. This person has two important functions. First, this is the only member of the orchestra who hears all of the parts being played. It is up to the conductor to ensure that all parts can be heard as the composer intended. Second, it is the conductor's responsibility to set the speed (tempo) of the music and to ensure that all members of the orchestra begin at exactly the same time. Thus, the conductor's arm and body movement are designed to ensure that the orchestra's musical parts balance with each other, that an appropriate tempo is established and followed, and that all of the players are perfectly synchronized.



Conductor, Toru Tagawa
Photo By
Mindi Acosta

II. ARIZONA MUSIC STANDARDS
Revised 2006

Strand 2 Relate

Concept 2 Understanding music in relation to history and culture.

PO1 Describing the historical context and/or influence of music on daily life, culture, politics, etc

PO2 Describing the cultural context and/or influence of music on daily life, culture, politics, etc

PO3 Describing origins and development of instruments

PO4 Classifying different musical careers

Strand 3 Evaluate

Concept 1 Listening to analyzing and describing music.

PO1 Classifying scales as major or minor

PO2 Categorizing instruments as Western and non-Western

PO3 Identifying AB, ABA, cannon and round forms when presented in performance and/or recorded music

PO4 Identifying music examples by genre

Strand 3 Evaluate

Concept 2

PO2 Listening attentively while others perform and showing appropriate audience behavior for the context and style of the music performed

III. PROGRAM

Sierra Vista Symphony Orchestra
Toru Tagawa, Conductor

Gioachino Rossini: William Tell Overture

Johann Strauss: On the Beautiful Blue Danube

John Williams: Harry Potter Symphonic Suite

Kristen Anderson-Lopez & Robert Lopez: Music from Frozen

John Philip Sousa: Stars and Stripes Forever (guest conductor)

Klaus Badelt: Pirates of the Caribbean, A medley including: Fog Bound, The Medallion Calls, To the Pirates Cave, The Black Pearl, One Last Shot, He's a Pirate

IV. CONCERT ETIQUETTE

Many students have never attended a live performance of a symphony orchestra. They need to know that appropriate conduct at a symphony concert is different from that of a movie or a pop music concert. Three simple guidelines will suffice to prepare them for the concert.

1. Do not talk with your neighbor while the music is playing. This not only diverts your neighbor's attention, is it also distracting to the members of the orchestra.
2. Remain seated while the orchestra is playing. Moving about distracts others and creates a disturbance in the auditorium.
3. Applause is the appropriate manner in which to show one's appreciation. Whistling and cheering are appropriate for ball games, but not for a symphony concert. And, we might add, that wearing caps is appropriate for a ball game, but they should be removed during the concert.

V. SPOTLIGHT ON STAGE PERSONALITIES

Sierra Vista Symphony Conductor Toru Tagawa



Photo By
Mindi Acosta

Toru, from Hiroshima, Japan, started playing the violin at age 6, and joined the Kurashiki Junior Philharmonic Orchestra at age 9. He received his Violin Performance degrees from the University of Tulsa (BM) and the Florida State University (MM), and a Music Education degree (MME) from the University of Arizona. His main Violin teachers include Steven Moeckel, Gary Kosloski, Eliot Chapo, Derry Deane, and Mikio Ejima.

Toru has been the Music Director and Conductor of the Tucson Repertory , Artistic Director of the Sierra Vista Symphony Orchestra and Orchestra Director of the Canyon del Oro High School Orchestra. His conducting teachers include Thomas Cockrell, Charles Bontrager, Jung-Ho Pak, and Maurice Peress. Toru made his debut at Carnegie Hall in March, 2017.

As active violinist, he plays with the Tucson Symphony, Tucson Pops, Arizona Opera Orchestras, and has played with National Repertory (CO), Shreveport (LA), Arkansas, Tallahassee (FL), AIMS (Austria), Hiroshima (Japan) ,and Vancouver (Canada) Symphony Orchestras. Toru is the President-Elect for the American String Teachers Association of Arizona.

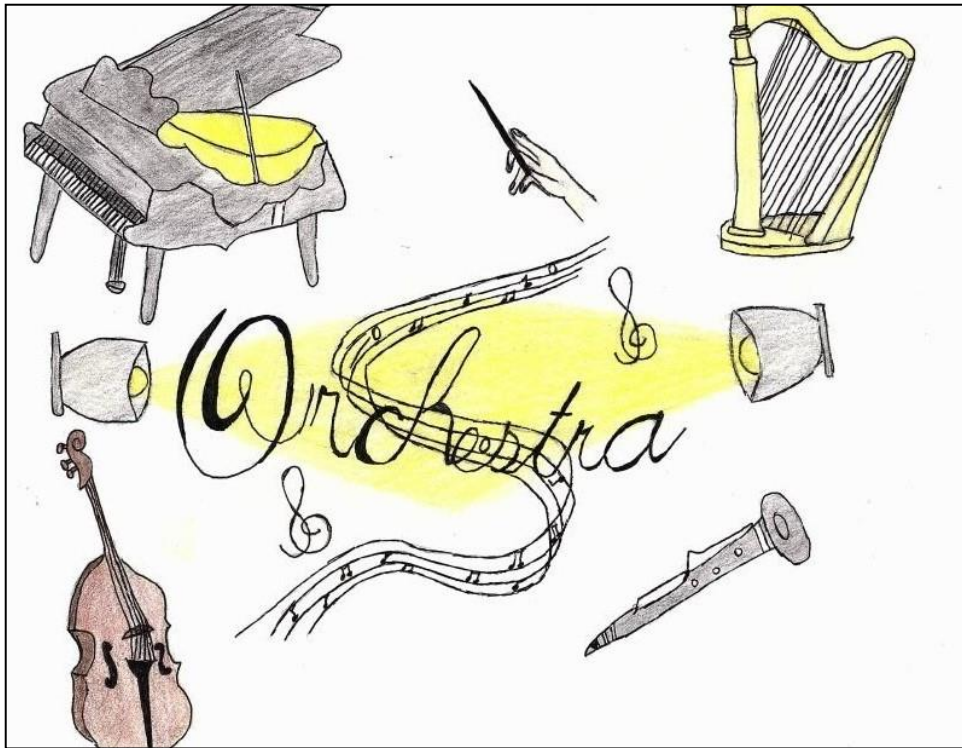
ENJOY!!!!



2015 Winning Art work by Zarghona Ahmadi, Huachuca Elementary School 5th Grade



2016 Winning artwork by Janirra Arbalto, Naco Elementary School 5th grade



2017 Winning artwork by Alexis Alarcon, Bella Vista Elementary School 5th grade



At the 2017 Children's concert several lucky students were chosen to conduct the orchestra.