Integrating Music And Reading Through Chant, Song, And Rhythm Instruments

Course Leader: Deborah Sunya Moore
For Teachers of Grades Pre K–1 and Music Specialists
Three Session Course (sessions are 2.5–3 hours each)

Explore how vocal and instrumental music strategies can deepen student enthusiasm for and comprehension of both text and music. The work begins with finding the steady beat and various musical forms (echo and verse-chorus) in select books, focusing on the opportunity to engage students in participatory chant to develop fluency and reading comprehension. Next, you’ll move on to singing stories with a focus on increasing retention and comprehension through song as we build upon our music strategies to include call and response as well as pitch. Finally, use simple percussion instruments to explore books as you move from singing in a group to playing instruments in a group. This instrumental ensemble experience models how to work like a team with several independent parts creating a whole. You’ll learn how to create rhythmic patterns inspired by text that help students determine importance and analyze characters. Also, the addition of instruments allows teachers to explore setting and descriptive details of story by working with the quality, or timbre, of each instrument. By the end of the course, you’ll have explored several lesson plans as well as built an understanding of the strategy to begin crafting original lesson plans that integrate music and reading. No previous musical experience is required! Music specialists are encouraged to attend.

Session 1 • Steady Beat and Participatory Chanting of Books
Session 2 • Singing Stories (singing text from books)
Session 3 • Playing Simple Percussion Instruments with Books (creating sounds that are about different characters, settings, etc.)

For more information:
Deborah Sunya Moore
Vice President of Performing and Visual Arts
dsunyamoore@chq.org
716.357.6232
artsed.chq.org

Deborah Sunya Moore also offers the following services for:

Students
• Performances/Lecture-Demonstrations
• Workshops in Preparation for Performance/
• Exhibit-Attendance
• Other Workshops
• Residencies
• Written Guides to Performances/Exhibits

Teachers
• In-Depth Courses
• Demonstration Teaching
• Workshops in Preparation for Performance/
• Exhibit-Attendance
• Written Guides to Performances/Exhibits
Deborah Sunya Moore, percussionist and arts educator, has a long history as an advocate of performing arts programs for youth and persons with disabilities. Deborah is currently the Vice President of Performing and Visual Arts at Chautauqua Institution and a National Workshop Leader for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Additionally, she was awarded the designation of Fulbright Specialist in Arts Integration from 2017 to 2019. Previously, Ms. Moore held the positions of Arts Education & Community Engagement Specialist and Associate Professor of Percussion at the University of Trinidad and Tobago (2010–2013). She served as the Director of Education and Community Engagement for the Louisville Orchestra 2004–2009 and performs regularly with the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra. She also was the artistic director (1999–2005) and percussionist (1996–2003) of Tales & Scales, a nationally touring instrumental quartet for youth. With Tales & Scales, Deborah commissioned and performed “musictales” for thousands of children and families in schools and theaters, and with symphonies such as the Boston, Atlanta, St. Louis, Phoenix and Indianapolis symphony orchestras. Deborah was selected for the Hermitage Artist Retreat 2013–2014 and became a speaker for the United States Department of State in 2014, representing the USA in Trinidad as a performer and speaker for Trinidad’s 2014 Arts & Disabilities Conference.

Deborah serves as an arts educator and consultant, having led educator and artist training workshops for organizations such as the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Florida State University, Oberlin Conservatory, Eastman School of Music, Cleveland Institute of Music, Boise Symphony, United States Marine Band and the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. She has developed and taught longer arts integrated courses for classroom teachers for organizations such as the Kentucky Center for the Arts, the Kravis Center (Florida), the Jefferson Country Public Schools (Kentucky) and the Peace Center (North Carolina). Deborah was named a National Workshop Leader for the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in 2008. An arts advocate for her local community as well, Deborah was a recipient of Zonta Club of Jamestown’s Women in Leadership Award in 2018. She holds a bachelor’s degree in percussion performance and an individual major, Performance and Education in Related Arts, from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and a Master of Education curriculum and instruction from the University of Cincinnati.

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