Music for Diverse Learners

Workshop Leader: Deborah Sunya Moore
For Classroom, Music and Sepcial Education Teachers of Grades Pre K–2
3 hours of instruction time • Maximum participants: 30

Music is a powerful strategy for creating an inclusive classroom culture that celebrates all learners. In this workshop, explore basic learning activities with singing and drumming, focusing on the integration of English Language Arts and music for diverse learners in self-contained and inclusive classroom settings. Learn new teaching strategies that encourage collaboration and creativity for all children. This workshop is designed for classroom, music and special education teachers of Pre-K through second grade — no previous musical experience required! Deborah has worked and advocated for students with disabilities for over two decades. Her work includes having created and presented the first Arts & Disabilities conference in Trinidad and Tobago, and both designing and teaching a teaching-artist course that trained and placed students from the University of Trinidad and Tobago in weekly music classes for disability centers throughout the country. At Chautauqua Institution, Deborah’s arts education team leads weekly classes with various drumming and arts integrated residencies throughout the county.
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.

For more information:
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