A Powerful Connection: Music And Poetry

Workshop Leader: Deborah Sunya Moore
For Teachers of Grades 3–5
Available as a 3-hour or 6-hour workshop • Maximum participants: 30

Music has great potential for helping students comprehend, respond to and interpret poetry. In this workshop, teachers examine a process for integrating music and poetry in the classroom by exploring their natural connections. Participants learn ways to help students use musical instruments, voice and body movement to explore elements of music (such as dynamics, tempi, and timbre) and then apply their understandings to create a musical composition for a poem. The artistic process of composing music for a poem will draw on essential reading comprehension strategies and result in a powerful and personal learning experience. No previous musical training is necessary!

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 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

For more information:
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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.