



Los Llaneros

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS / WORKSHOPS

SCHOOL TEACHERS: we highly recommend that you acquire the "Latin America Music And Culture Kit CD-Rom." It contains many resources that will help you prepare for our visit. To acquire it, please visit www.latinculturekit.com.

1) Assembly: A Musical Journey Through Latin America (adapted to grades K-12, 45-60 minutes)

This is the most general of all programs. It offers an overview of Latin American geography, cultures, and folk music, including the demonstration of instruments and vocal styles. Many explanations are given in between the musical pieces.

2) Assembly / Workshop: Cowboy Music from Colombia and Venezuela (All ages, 45-60 minutes)

Students are engaged in a fun and educational program that combines music, geography, and visuals to answer the following questions: What makes a cowboy a cowboy? Where did cowboys come from? What do cowboys do? What is America? What is Latin America? Where in the Americas do cowboys live and work? As the students take in this multi-disciplinary program and participate in music-making, they learn about the relationship between Latin America and the U.S.A., and about what different cultures throughout the Americas have in common.

3) Workshop / Master Class: The True Art of Playing Maracas (All ages, 45-60 minutes)

Nowhere in the world is the art of playing the maracas as developed as in the Colombian/Venezuelan Llanos or savannas. Learn some of the striking techniques used. This workshop can be adapted to all ages, but was especially designed for high school, college, and university percussion classes.

4) Assembly: Music And The Environment (Adapted to all ages, 45-60 minutes)

For this program the group presents a collection of songs having to do with nature, rural farm life, and environmental concerns. Intermediate level of audience participation.

5) Workshop: How to play Latin American Percussion Instruments (Grade 7 and up, 45-60 minutes)

Hands-on classes on playing congas, bongos, timbales, maracas, güiro, etc. For large groups, some of the instruments need to be supplied.

6) One-Week Residency in Latin American Music (K-college)

Students will have an in-depth opportunity to learn and perform songs and stories which reflect the Native American, European, and African influences on Latin American and Caribbean music. The musical material and the cultural information about the music are adapted to the age of the students.

7) Music/Theater Workshop: Kibungo, The Beast of The Brazilian Rainforest (1-2 hours)

In this workshop, participants will learn about Kibungo, a legendary beast from the Brazilian rain forest who is outsmarted by all other rain forest animals when Kibungo tries to eat them. The activity combines simple instrument making, singing, dancing, and acting. Although this interactive, high-energy, instructive musical theater program can simply be enjoyed by young children and their families and teachers for its own sake, it is a perfect vehicle for enhancing awareness of some of the causes of rainforest destruction, and, in a fable-like fashion, this folk tale teaches how the use of one's intelligence can overcome physical limitations. This program can be adapted to informal settings such as school gyms or classrooms, as well as to large, fully equipped stages. Rainforest slides can be shown as well, for which a screen and LCD projector needs to be supplied.

8) Workshop: Making and Playing South American Panpipes (1-2 hours)

Participants will be taught how to make panpipes out of ordinary hardware supplies, and will be taught 2 traditional, South American tunes. Playing Latin American panpipes and rhythms requires teamwork, cooperation, attentive listening, and focused participation, all of which are critical life skills. While teaching about the cultural diversity within Latin America, these musical exercises also illustrate how people may perceive and understand the same situation differently. This workshop fits well into the following curricular areas: music, world cultures, social studies, and diversity awareness. Materials must be provided if host wishes to keep the panpipes (\$75-\$150 for 35-60 students). Otherwise, instructors can provide panpipes for students to use.

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9) Concert/Lecture: The Origins, Evolution, and Function of Latin American Folk Music (Lasts 1-2 hours. College age and up)

This concert and workshop illustrates how the three primary influences in Latin American and Caribbean folk music -Indian, European, and African cultures- have merged and are expressed in a large variety of musical styles, making Latin American music and instruments as diverse as they are.

10) Workshop: Multicultural Music Education (college age and up; especially designed for teachers; lasts 1-3 hours)

Presents concepts to make the teaching of music from other cultures a more positive experience for the teacher and the students.

11) Workshop on Diversity: What Meets The Eye (college and up, 45-60 minutes)

This workshop illustrates how to dispel the assumptions we make about others, and it provides ideas on how to address diversity issues in schools, on campuses, and in communities.

12) Workshop: New Teaching Ideas / Music As A Teaching Tool (Especially designed for teachers; 2-6 hours)

Music is a fun and powerful tool for teaching many different subjects, such as history, social studies, and physics, and for teaching concepts such as cross-cultural understanding and cooperation. Music is one of the fundamental expressions of any culture, and as a result it provides information about the customs and traditions, the humor, the natural environment, the history, and the regional variations of a language. This workshop includes lectures, musical performances, hands-on activities, discussion groups, and the exploration of the educational CD-Rom entitled "Latin America Music And Culture Kit."