

Music Composition

High School Composition and Orchestra

The Bronxville School

Full Year

High school orchestra and composition students composed music to influence the perceptions, emotions, and/or actions of others.

Driving Question

How does music influence the perceptions and actions of others?



Dispositions



Student Work

- Theme Song for Bronxville School Videos
- Operetta
- Score for Silent Film
- Composition for Baccalaureate

Success Skills

Creativity
Craft

Assessment of Success Skills

Creativity (uniqueness and fit) is assessed using Amabile's Consensual Assessment Technique.

Craft is assessed using peer and teacher feedback on musical elements.

Orchestra students created a theme song for Bronxville School videos. With the guidance of members of the PUBLIQuartet, the students learned strategies for revising and expanding musical ideas, and for setting the parameters for musical improvisations. Amabile's consensual assessment technique was used to select Jackie Coquillet's and Sofia Ricciarini's soundtrack for a video that was created to highlight student work on this project.

Drawing inspiration from the political process and the 2016 national election, Bronxville High School senior Sam Arcano composed an original Italian-language operetta, titled *Don Trump*. The two-act satirical operetta tells the story of a man's battles with his opponents and his own delusions. It is told from the perspective of Don Trump, who sets off in his ego-driven quest to become president and defeat the evil witch Hilaria. "The operetta started with my confusion about the 2016 election and not understanding how this could be going on," said Arcano. "Through the lens of music, theatrical staging and the Italian language, I explored the issues and created a satirical representation of the election process."

To explore synergies among art forms, senior Will Cioffi created a soundtrack for Charlie Chaplin's film, *The Adventurer*. One version of his piano composition encourages the audience to view the main character as the protagonist, the other as the antagonist.

Guitarist, Evan Downs, arranged Gluck's *Melodie* for violin so that he and senior violinist, Remi Laurence, could perform it for the 2017 Baccalaureate.

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Week 1

Build Background Knowledge
Identify and analyze mentor compositions

Week 2

Identify questions that need to be addressed, skills that need to be acquired and information that needs to be gathered in order to compose music
Participate in coaching sessions on music notation software and musical elements



Week 3

Compose thematic material
Create harmonic outline
Orchestration of ideas
Participate in peer and teacher feedback sessions

Week 4

Prepare parts, coach musicians and record work
Participate in dialogue with authentic audience

Week 5

Performance of Final Draft



Scan the QR Code for more videos and photos.