Grade 5 General Music - Unit 5 - Xylos - Preparing and Presenting a Performance

Unit Focus

In this unit, student musicians will engage in preparing a presentation for their parents, including taking ownership of several organizational aspects involved in producing a successful performance. Students will experience the process of rehearsal as they refine their individual part and improve the cohesiveness of their ensemble. Learning experiences typically include a sequence of playing through a song, followed by class analysis and discussion to arrive at suggestions for improvement, and then following through on those suggestions; also recording one or more rehearsals for the students to watch and evaluate themselves individually and as a group. This unit will culminate in an informal class presentation for parents.

Stage 1: Desired Results - Key Understandings

Standard(s)

National Core Arts
Standards General Music: 5

- Present the final version of personal created music to others that demonstrates craftsmanship, and explain connection to expressive intent. (MU:Cr3.2.5.a)
- Rehearse to refine technical accuracy and expressive qualities to address challenges, and show improvement over time. (MU:Pr5.1.5.b)
- Perform music, alone or with others, with expression, technical accuracy, and appropriate interpretation. (MU:Pr6.1.5.a)

Madison Public Schools Profile of a Graduate

- Design: Engaging in a process to refine a product for an intended audience and purpose. (POG.2.2)
- Collective Intelligence: Working respectfully and responsibly with others, exchanging and evaluating ideas to achieve a common objective. (POG.3.1)
- Product Creation: Effectively use a medium to communicate important information. (POG.3.2)

Transfer

Students will be able to independently use their learning to...
T1 Make appropriate choices as a responsible, respectful participant within a communal artistic experience
T2 Engage in critique to inform next steps or deepen examination of an artistic work

Meaning

Understanding(s)

Students will understand that...
U1 Music/Theater: The way an audience responds to a performance in real time impacts the artist(s) and the performance.
U2 Artists improve the quality of a performance/piece of art through a cycle of deliberate practice and examination of results.
U3 there is both an individual skillset and group skillset when performing in an ensemble.

Essential Question(s)

Students will keep considering...
Q1 What does quality look/feel/sound like? How do I fine tune my work for and with an audience?
Q2 What (skill/technique) am I focusing on? How do I get better at this? How do I know I'm making progress?

Acquisition of Knowledge and Skill

Knowledge

Students will know...
K1 the process of refining their skills, both individually and collectively, to improve a performance.
K2 the meaning of syncopation.

Skill(s)

Students will be skilled at...
S1 blending in an ensemble.
S2 presenting a performance that highlights their musical growth in note-reading, rhythmic precision, sight-reading, sightsinging, melodic improvisation, and ensemble playing.
S3 demonstrating ensemble awareness, including listening, blending and rhythmic precision.
S4 developing and demonstrating appropriate behavior, both as a performer and as an audience member, during performances.