THE EXCITEMENT OF DANCE, MUSIC, THEATRE AND STORYTELLING COMES TO YOU!

CRAIG WOODSON'S WORLD ORCHESTRA
Enclosed is a packet of information about the scheduled program. Please review all of the documents carefully, as they are the materials you will need to sponsor a successful program.

THE DAILY SCHEDULE
It is important that the daily schedule be maintained as specified on the confirmation document. If special circumstances occur once the project has begun, notify Music Center staff as soon as possible. Changes may be accommodated pending artist availability (which can be limited). We request that all participants be seated in the performance area and ready to begin at the scheduled times.

STUDENT SUPERVISION AT SCHOOL SITES
In accordance with California law, The Music Center requires that a classroom teacher be present with students at all times. It is expected that teachers will attend events with their class and actively participate in the learning experience.

YOUR FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS
About a week after the performance, you’ll receive an invoice in the mail. You have 30 days to pay upon receipt of the invoice. We do ask that you wait until you receive the invoice before sending payment.

ARTIST INTRODUCTION & STAGING REQUIREMENTS
Please introduce the artist with the enclosed introduction. There is also specific information you will need to prepare for the arrival of each artist. Please give the tech sheet to the school personnel in charge of setting up the performance area well in advance of the scheduled dates. Be sure to have ready any equipment which may be required.

CURRICULUM CONNECTION FOR CLASSROOM TEACHERS
These pre- and post-event classroom activities are designed to enhance the understanding and enjoyment of the program. Please duplicate this preparation material and distribute to all teachers whose students will be attending the event to allow them to fully prepare the students.

PRESS RELEASE AND POSTER
A pre-made press release is available should you wish to publicize the event. A premade poster is also included so that your school community can be aware of the upcoming event.

We applaud your commitment to arts education and look forward to working with you.
If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call us at 213-972-4310.
"I would like to introduce today's performance which is presented by The Music Center of Los Angeles County. This performance is called “A World Orchestra” and features artist Craig Woodson. Using simple tools and materials, Dr. Woodson will demonstrate how to create homemade musical instruments from around the world that you can build yourself. Please welcome Dr. Craig Woodson!"

Feel free to encourage the adult members of your audience to share the experience on social media! Tag us on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram at @MusicCenterLA and we might repost your photos!
SPACE
• 16' wide x 8' deep minimum
• Portable stages must be sturdy, level and securely lashed

SURFACE
• Freshly mopped (not waxed)
• Irregularities covered with tape
• Extraneous clutter removed

OUTDOOR PERFORMANCE
If the performance must be held outdoors, the following conditions must be met:
• Shaded – no direct sunlight
• Protected from wind and excess traffic or playground noise

EQUIPMENT
• One microphone on a stand, with a 20’ cord
• One electrical outlet within 20’ of stage or performance area
• Sound system

ARRIVAL
• 60 minutes prior to the scheduled start time to prepare and set up

PARKING
• One space close to the venue for loading and unloading

ASSISTANCE
• Please have a school representative ready to welcome the performer and stay and help as needed

START TIME
• Please prepare to start the program on time
• Students should be in the venue, seated and ready to begin at the listed times
CRAIG WOODSON’S WORLD ORCHESTRA

ART FORM: Music
STYLE: Classical and Folk
CULTURE: Asia, Africa, Europe, Middle East and the Americas

MEET THE ARTIST:

Dr. Craig Woodson, an educator, author, musician, and musical instrument maker, holds a doctorate in music from UCLA. His professional career as a musician includes playing drums to backing singers Elvis Presley and Linda Ronstadt. In 1974 he founded the company Ethnomusic, Inc. as an outgrowth of his knowledge and love of African drumming, world music, and his specialization in instrument making. Later, he was invited to spend three years as a researcher in Ghana, West Africa where he had first-hand experiences with the people and their musical traditions. In the 1980s, he began presenting his lively, interactive school assemblies to teach young people and teachers about world music, African drumming and percussion. He facilitates drum circles and leads student and teacher workshops on world drumming, drum set, and simple instrument making. As a consultant to the Remo drum company, he helped design several products, especially Sound Shapes, Flat drums. Dr. Woodson is also the author of “Roots of Rhythm,” a K-8 teacher’s guide. Presented in two volumes, the guide introduces 16 percussion instruments from around the world through hands-on musical activities and the lens of geography, history, culture, and musical styles. He is the recipient of grants from the Percussion Marketing Council (PMC) and International Music Products Association (NAMM) to teach his “Roots of Rhythm” guide.

PREPARING FOR THE EXPERIENCE:

The music and instruments introduced in Dr. Craig Woodson's performance are part of five broad musical cultures studied by ethno-musicologists. These include: Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and the Americas. On each of these continents, there exists music which is based on an oral tradition, that is, music learned by listening and then imitating what is heard. This is a different approach than the one traditionally taken in Western art music. In this tradition, the music is often written down with symbols, and students begin their study by learning the written musical language through symbols. Music based on an oral tradition is typically passed on from master to student and from one generation to the next. This imitative process provides the student with a clear model to guide his or her own musical development. ‘Oral transmission’ is found in most countries and includes highly accomplished artistic traditions. Historically the music of the royal court, the high priests and the upper classes was often learned by listening rather than reading a score.

In music passed on orally, rather than in written form, change is common. These subtle evolutions help to make the music a living art. The music also changes when people add their own musical ideas to the traditional melodies and rhythms which may account for the many versions of certain popular songs. This view of music-making, as something everyone can do, is different from our traditional Western idea. That is, Western music is performed by highly skilled professionals for an audience whose only function is to listen.

ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE:

In his upbeat and educational "World Orchestra" assembly, Dr. Craig Woodson leads students and teachers in an exploration of instruments from around the world. His performance style is dynamic and filled with audience participation. Dr. Woodson uses simple tools and common materials to build twelve, easy-to-make musical instruments, based on children’s ideas from world cultures. The audience plays ‘body music’ that represents the musical families -- string, air, drum and idiophone (self sounding). Examples of ‘body music’ include a cheek drum, lip buzz, musical hair, and clapping. These are ways our ancestors produced sound 20,000 years ago. Dr. Woodson shows how instruments evolved from early sound ideas to sophisticated versions. For example, how a fishing pole became a musical bow, then transformed into a guitar and violin. Using common items like a Styrofoam cup, fishing line, coat hangers, dental floss, and packing tape, he assembles homemade versions of folk instruments. These include: a coat hanger harp, a bobby pin “thumb piano,” and a picture frame drum. By the assembly’s end, Dr. Woodson has children and teachers on stage, performing as A World Orchestra in a fun-filled improvisation.
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

• What most impressed or surprised you about this performance?
• What is the difference between noise and a musical sound? Define what ‘noise’ is to you. Where might you find it in a musical performance? What might be musical in a noisy sound?
• Can you recall the classification of musical instrument families talked about in the performance? (air, string, drum and self-sounding)
• What is an oral tradition? Can you think of songs, dances, nursery rhymes or stories that have been passed on by the oral tradition in your own family?
• What are things that you learned about making instruments from the performance? What instruments would you chose to make for yourself to enjoy? Why?

FRAMEWORK FOCUS—SCIENCE:

All sounds are vibrations. To see as well as hear a vibration, place a thin wooden ruler on a table so that about nine inches sticks out beyond the edge. Hold it firmly with one hand near the table edge and with the other thumb pull down and quickly release the free end. The vibrations can be seen, heard, and felt. To make a change in the pitch (higher or lower sound), gradually pull the ruler back from the edge, shortening the length that is off of the table. Pull down and release the free end every half- to one-inch. As the free end gets shorter, the pitch will rise.

The sound of the human voice is also a vibration. To feel the vibrations, place the finger gently on the Adam’s apple (cartilage at the middle of the throat) and sing. Not only can the vibrations be felt, but also the up and down movement of the cartilage as the pitch is changed. Discuss your experience and what you learned about sound.

ACTIVITIES TO ENHANCE THE EXPERIENCE:

• Create a ‘Word Web’ on Musical Instruments. Ask students to name musical instruments they know and write these on the board. When all answers are listed, remind students about the four families of instruments they learned about in the show: strings - produced by bowing, plucking or strumming; winds - produced by blowing into or across a mouthpiece; drums - sound produced by striking, shaking or scraping a membrane; self-sounding—sounds produced by using the instrument body itself. Then, write these categories on the board and challenge students to place the instruments from the word web into the four categories. Discuss self-sounding ideas that they may not have thought of originally.

• Encourage students to list sounds they hear around them. This might include such things as: door bell; phone; clock; dripping water; people laughing; traffic sounds such as horns beeping; and keys jingling. Ask students to think about how they could make an ordinary sound into a musical sound. What could they do to make it sound musical (give it a rhythm, organize the sounds into a composition or musical idea, clap a steady, continuous beat and purposefully add the sounds in chosen or improvised way). Ask students to experiment with ordinary sounds using some of the ideas above. Have one group keep a steady beat with snapping or clapping and the other group improvise sounds over the top. Discuss the ideas and what made them work or not.

• Create some simple rhythmic patterns that can be done in a traditional ‘Call and Response’ manner. This is one of the ways that music is learned in traditional cultures. Here are a couple of examples to try: Pattern #1 - Clap hands (counts 1, 2), slap knees (count 3), rest (count 4). Repeat several times moving back and forth between the leader and the group. Then try in unison several times. Pattern #2 – Clap (count 1), stamp (counts 2, 3), slap knees (count 4). Then, challenge students to create their own original patterns. Ask some to be the leader or caller and the group will respond by repeating the pattern. Then, again try in unison 4-8 times.

SUGGESTED RESOURCES:


Craig offers a free 300 page curriculum guide at:
http://tinyurl.com/craigwoodson
(registration is required)
and The Music Center announce

CRAIG WOODSON’S WORLD ORCHESTRA

TO PERFORM ON ______________________

________________________________________ and The Music Center today announced the upcoming Dr. Craig Woodson performance. As part of the school’s continuing efforts to enrich its curriculum and its students’ educational experience, the school will present a special performance of Dr. Craig Woodson. The performance is presented by The Music Center’s education department which provides many offerings including live performances, classroom workshops, scholarship and training programs, online arts curriculum, on-campus events and professional development.

Dr. Craig Woodson is an educator, musician and musical instrument maker with a doctorate in ethnomusicology. Inspired by children’s ideas around the world, he has created more than 250 easy-to-make musical instruments from simple materials that reflect the cultures of Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas. In his fun-filled educational performances, Dr. Woodson explores the origin, science and playing techniques of twelve homemade musical instruments.

The Music Center on Tour is the premiere resource for high-quality performing arts performances in Los Angeles County. For more than 35 years, schools and communities have benefited from the program’s roster of diverse and compelling performing artists who serve as models of artistic excellence, inspire creative thinking and introduce young audiences to the world’s diverse cultural traditions. Music Center artists represent and celebrate the finest artistic contribution of the world’s cultures – from the colorful regional dances of Mexico and the exquisite music of the China, to the pulsating rhythms of Brazil and the golden harmonies of 20th century America.

Schools can choose from more than 70 performances in music, dance, theatre and storytelling from an internationally acclaimed roster of artists seen across the globe in films, theaters, concert halls, television shows and museums.

About The Music Center
As L.A.’s performing arts destination, The Music Center is L.A.’s home to the world’s greatest artistic programs and events. With four iconic theaters and four renowned resident companies – Center Theatre Group, the LA Master Chorale, the LA Opera and the LA Philharmonic – and recognized for its illustrious dance programming, Glorya Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center, The Music Center is a destination where audiences find inspiration in the very best of live performance, as well as nationally recognized arts education and participatory arts experiences. With The Music Center On Location, the non-profit performing arts organization brings events and activities to locations outside of its Downtown Los Angeles campus. The Music Center also programs and manages Grand Park, a 12-acre adjacent greenspace, with year-round free programming. For more information, visit musiccenter.org Follow The Music Center on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram (@MusicCenterLA).

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For more information, please contact The Music Center at 213-972-3338. Members of the media are welcome to cover this performance. Please contact The Music Center prior to sending a reporter or photographer to the school.
THE MUSIC CENTER PRESENTS

CRAIG WOODSON’S WORLD ORCHESTRA

DATE: ___________________________ TIME: ___________________________

SCHOOL: ___________________________

musiccenter.org/ontour
ARTS INTEGRATION PARTNERSHIPS
The Music Center’s teaching artists work in the classroom facilitating student learning and modeling effective instructional strategies for teachers. Essential skills and vocabulary in music, theater, dance, or visual art are connected to universal themes and integrated with other content areas.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Our Professional Development targets arts integration strategies for K-12 teachers in dance, music, theatre, and visual arts. Teachers learn creative and effective approaches for integrating the arts into their content areas. Additionally, The Music Center offers the Summer Arts Studio for Educators. This program consists of events tailored for classroom teachers, arts teachers and educators.

STUDENT MATINEE PERFORMANCES
Each year Glorya Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center offers free student matinee dance performances. All performances include a teacher orientation session and curriculum guide for students.

THE BLUE RIBBON CHILDREN’S FESTIVAL
The Blue Ribbon Children’s Festival, designed specifically for fifth grade students, is an annual admission-free program at The Music Center. Students experience a live professional performance at a world-class performing arts center, then gather together to perform a short choreographed dance inspired by the production.

VERY SPECIAL ARTS FESTIVAL
The Very Special Arts Festival is an annual admission-free event celebrating the artistic achievements of students with disabilities and their mainstream peers. The festival features student and professional performances on two stages, visual and performing arts workshops, and a student art exhibit created around a central theme.

SPOTLIGHT
Much more than a competition, Spotlight is a scholarship and training program, which encourages personal and artistic growth, while exploring new possibilities in the arts.

ARTSOURCE®
The Music Center’s Artsource® curriculum is designed to bring the expressive world of the arts into classrooms. The materials are available online free of cost.

OTHER ON CAMPUS MUSIC CENTER OFFERINGS:
Glorya Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center, Dance Downtown, Symphonian Campus Tours, Grand Park

PROGRAM SUPPORT PROVIDED BY: