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

JAZZ IT UP! WITH
DR. BOBBY RODRIGUEZ
LET’S GET STARTED!

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. Jazz is as popular today as it was fifty years ago. This performance will introduce you to a variety of popular musical styles, from bebop to Dixieland to salsa. Please welcome Jazz it Up! with Grammy-nominated Dr. Bobby Rodriguez!"

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!
TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

SPACE
- 20’ wide x 20’ 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 or two freestanding microphones
  - Sound system
  - Two electrical outlets
- Water and/or coffee for five people

ARRIVAL
- 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time to prepare and set up

PARKING
- Five spaces
- Three of them should be close to the venue for loading and unloading

ASSISTANCE
- Please have a school representative ready to welcome the performer and assist with moving the electric piano if applicable

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
JAZZ IT UP! WITH DR. BOBBY RODRIGUEZ

ART FORM: Music
STYLE: Jazz
CULTURE: American, Latin American

MEET THE ARTIST:

Under the direction and leadership of Grammy nominated trumpeter Dr. Bobby Rodriguez, Jazz it Up! introduces audiences of all ages to America’s music - jazz. This high-energy program showcases a variety of jazz styles, from Dixieland to bebop, swing to blues and Latin-jazz. Deeply committed to the task of expanding the musical experience of young people, this group of seasoned professionals educate, motivate and entertain their audience through a survey of American music. Jazz it Up! is a great musical and educational treat. Dr. Bobby Rodriguez is a professor of jazz at UCLA, UC Irvine, and Pasadena City College. He always says, "Education and dedication is the way!"

ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE:

Opening with a rousing version of, "When the Saints Go Marching In," Dr. Bobby’s leads students through an examination of one of the most significant musical inventions of the 20th century: jazz.

Musical samples include Dixieland, blues, swing, be-bop, and Latin-jazz. The program provides background and historical information about the origin and development of jazz and its jazz legends such as Louis Armstrong and Charlie Parker; the big band era and jazz innovators such as Dizzy Gillespie, Benny Goodman; and introductions to rhythmic patterns and improvisational styles. The following instruments will be demonstrated: trumpet, drums, saxophone, bass, piano, and Latin percussion. Jazz it Up! culminates with hands-on Latin percussion audience participation, which ends with a bang.

PREPARING FOR THE EXPERIENCE:

Jazz is the foundation of what we call ‘American music’ and has influenced almost every type of popular music since its creation. It is about rhythm, melody, harmony, personality, style and improvisation. As a musical language, jazz is one of the first American music styles to affect music in the rest of the world. Developed in New Orleans, Louisiana near the turn of the 20th century, jazz was created from a melting pot of cultures and experiences. The influence of African-Americans is at the core of its revolutionary musical sound. Birthed from the blues, jazz incorporated ideas and aesthetic values from Africa, the Caribbean and Europe, but was clearly independent of those musical styles. In the early 1920s, New Orleans musicians like King Oliver and his Creole Jazz Band found their way north with an exuberant style of improvised music. This soulful and intellectual music was expanded by skilled musicians whose personalized sound gave American music a new vibrancy and created icons like Louis Armstrong, who is credited with influencing American music like no other musician of the 20th century. This is when jazz started to gain popularity in big cities like New York and Chicago, and later throughout the rest of the country. This happened largely because of the development of phonograph recordings. But, young people today may not even know what phonograph recordings and record players are.

Early jazz was dance music, just like electronic dance music, pop and hip hop are today. But this music was not just for young people; all of America was starting to find new life in jazz. Over the last one hundred years, jazz has developed many branches of styles: ragtime, stride, swing, be-bop, cool, straight ahead, free, Latin jazz and others. It has evolved to include dance music and what might be labeled as ‘art music.’ Jazz is a powerful expression of humanity and freedom.
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What was your favorite instrument? What about the instrument’s shape and sound attracted you?
- How many musical terms and styles can you remember from the performance? Define them.
- What does it mean to improvise? How do you improvise in your daily life?
- How did the musicians personality express itself in their playing?
- Describe how jazz could be considered to be a type of language.

ACTIVITIES TO ENHANCE THE EXPERIENCE:

★ Write an essay about the relationship between music and freedom. How does music help us to express our thoughts and feelings? What kind of music makes you feel free?
- Make up (improvise) a new way of doing something in your everyday life.
  - walking
  - speaking
  - greeting
  - moving
  - writing
  - eating
Share it with your classmates.

◆ Someone said, “It’s not the song, but the way it is played, that makes music into jazz.” Discuss this statement and give examples.

★ Rhythm and syncopation are important elements in jazz. To help students understand how accents create a jazz feeling in music, try this exercise. Divide the class into two groups; one group claps the basic beat lightly, one - two - three - four, repeating it over and over. The clapping should not be too fast or too loud. Once the basic beat is established, the second group joins in by tapping pencils on “beat one,” to accent the strongest beat. This creates a march rhythm. Then, tap the pencils on beats two and four to feel the syncopated off beat.

★ Have students select one style of jazz: ragtime, big band, blues, Dixieland, fusion, funk, Latin, be-bop or swing; investigate the music. Bring in an example of each style and listen. Then, discuss each and compare and contrast.

FRAMEWORK FOCUS—HISTORY/SOCIAL STUDIES:

New Orleans, Louisiana has long been a melting pot of many cultures, even before it joined the United States through the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. It is the birth place of jazz music, but many types and styles of music, cuisine, languages and cultures can be found there.

Create a timeline, oral report, essay or web page about the people of New Orleans. Divide the class into four groups. Three groups will research one of the following:
- African Americans (slaves and free persons)
- Acadians (Cajuns)
- Creoles*

Include general history (country of origin, migration route, language, etc.) and how the groups contributed to the magical culture of New Orleans. Research types of music and dances that were popular with each group: blues/jazz; Cajun music (two-step, waltz), zydeco music.

The fourth group will research the city of New Orleans: location, climate, famous landmarks, industry, traditions, history and famous people who came from - or whose work was strongly influenced by New Orleans (e.g., Emeril Lagasse, Ann Rice, Louis Armstrong, Tennessee Williams, Jelly Roll Morton, and Wynton Marsalis). Make a presentation as a class when the research is complete.

*Suggested resources*


“The Jazz Bakery,” The Jazz Bakery, jazzbakery.org/.

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AUTHORITY AND THE MUSIC CENTER ANNOUNCE

DR. BOBBY RODRIGUEZ TO PERFORM ON __________________________

_____________________________ and The Music Center today announced the upcoming Dr. Bobby Rodriguez 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. Bobby Rodriguez. 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.

Under the direction and leadership of Grammy-nominated musician Dr. Bobby Rodriguez, a native of east Los Angeles, Jazz it Up introduces audiences of all ages to America’s music - jazz. This high-energy program showcases a variety of jazz styles, from Dixieland to Bebop, Swing to Blues and Latin Jazz. The quintet includes Dr. Bobby Rodriguez on trumpet, Hitomi Oba on saxophone, Billy Mitchell on Keyboard, Mike Alvidrez on bass and Paul Kreibich on drums. Deeply committed to the task of expanding the musical experience of young people, this amazingly talented group of musicians educates, motivates and entertains their audience through this survey of American music. Dr. Bobby Rodriguez and Jazz it Up is a great educational treat.

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, Gloria 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

JAZZ IT UP! WITH
DR. BOBBY RODRIGUEZ

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: