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

THE PERFECT GENTLEMEN

100 Years of Harmony
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. The Perfect Gentlemen is a vocal group that will take you on a musical journey through the last 100 years of music. Not only will you hear and see how music has changed over the last century, you will also learn about the many different ways people experienced their music as well. They have been performing as a group for over 18 years and hope to encourage you to make music a bigger part of your life. Please welcome those genial gentlemen of harmony—Tim, Jim, Tyler, and Phil as they perform their show "100 Years of Harmony."

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
- 15’ wide x 10’ deep x 10’ high minimum
- Portable stages must be sturdy and securely lashed, with steps leading up to the stage

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

DRESSING AREA
- One private dressing room, properly ventilated with restroom access and large enough to comfortably accommodate four people

OUTDOOR PERFORMANCES
- Space should be protected from wind and excess traffic or playground noise
  - No grass surfaces

EQUIPMENT
- 4 armless chairs
- 2 matching rectangular tables (6’ long by 30” is ideal)
- Ice water for four
- Power outlets for portable sound system

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

PARKING
- Four spaces near the venue for loading and unloading

ASSISTANCE
- Please have a school representative ready to welcome the performers and assist 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
THE PERFECT GENTLEMEN—100 Years of Harmony

ART FORM: Music
STYLE: Early 20th Century to Contemporary
CULTURE: Western European and American

MEET THE ARTIST:
The Perfect Gentlemen is a vocal group that provides the perfect blend of harmony and preservation America's great vocal sounds from a time gone by. The group was named the "Best A Capella Vocal Group" in the U.S. by winning the National Harmony Sweepstakes competition. Though not strictly an a cappella group, their act has evolved into a full-blown vocal variety show, complete with tenor guitar accompaniment, props, and costume changes made right before the audience's eye. This enables the group to bring different characters to life. They have performed in theaters and concert halls all across the U.S. and did tours to England, Brazil, and Singapore. They are very proud to bring their educational musical show, "100 Years of Harmony," into schools.

PREPARING FOR THE EXPERIENCE:
"Barbershop quartets are often characterized as four 'dandies', perhaps with straw hats, striped vests and handlebar mustaches. These caricatures of the barber shop tradition are not only a quaint symbol of small-town America, but have some historical foundation. Barbershop music was indeed borne out of informal gatherings of amateur singers in such unpretentious settings as the local barber shop. And therein lies barbershop music's greatest enigma: it is associated with, and practiced today mostly by whites, yet it is primarily a product of the African-American culture."
- Dr. Jim Henry, Barbershopper.

However, The Perfect Gentlemen is much more than a Barbershop Quartet singing a capella. They also sing songs such as "Coney Island Washboard," "I Like Bananas," "Teddy Bear" (by Elvis Presley), "She Loves You" (by The Beatles), "Surfin' U.S.A.," (by The Beach Boys). All of these songs are with tenor guitar accompaniment. Different featured styles are: Dixieland; Blues; Big Band Vocals; Doo-Wop; Surf Music; Disco; Techno-Punk; and Hip Hop. These aurally illustrate how musical styles have changed through the decades. In fact, this show is a 'musical timeline,' showing the progression of changes in the music, as well as other aspects of society.

ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE:
The Perfect Gentlemen's show, "100 Years of Harmony," takes the audience on a musical journey through time, illustrating how music and harmony have changed over the last century. They give an overview of the many musical media innovations that have taken place. Their show begins with a re-creation of the classic American image, "Barbershop Quartet" by illustrator Norman Rockwell. The Perfect Gentlemen have infused their show with a three-ring circus full of costumes, props, and wigs, along with audience participation. Throughout the hilarity, they manage to teach these basic elements of music: melody, pitch, harmony, and rhythm. They have skillfully adapted their award-winning routine, "Salute to the 20th Century," where they sing one song, "Shine On Harvest Moon," in popular musical styles of different times. Students will see how the prevailing style of the day can influence how an artist might interpret a song.

In 1877, Thomas Edison produced the first viable sound recording device: a tinfoil cylinder phonograph. However, tinfoil was quickly replaced by wax. Cylinders were replaced by flat discs (records) in the early 20th century. Records reined until the advent of magnetic tape-recording technology, leading to reel-to-reel recording, audio cassette tape and 8-track tapes. In 1979, Sony gave the world the Walkman cassette player—making music personal and portable. Digital recording technology became mainstream with compact discs. In the mid-1990s, the MP3 digital format for computers opened whole new realms. Now with streaming music services, people can listen to any song they want on demand.
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:
- What were your impressions of the different styles of singing?
- What was your favorite musical style from the show? Explain why it was your favorite.
- Can you define the term, “Harmony?” Can you give an example of how harmony was used in the show?
- A cappella means singing without music. Can you think of other groups you have heard that sing a cappella? Name them and tell how they are similar to this group.
- Define and discuss the musical terms: melody, pitch, harmony, and rhythm. Illustrate with examples from the performance.

FRAMEWORK FOCUS—LANGUAGE ARTS:
One of the featured songs in the show is “Shine on, Harvest Moon.” A harvest moon is a full moon that is closest to the fall or autumn equinox (September 20-22). An equinox occurs two times a year. They happen when the day and night are equal in length. There is another equinox in the spring that occurs somewhere around March 20-22. Look up the following words – harvest moon, equinox and see if you can get more information about them. Are there any festivals that occur on either the fall or spring equinox? If so, describe them and their meanings.

Songwriters often get ideas or inspiration from the seasons. Look at the words of the chorus in Harvest Moon. Say or sing them together, until you can do it in perfect unison. Speak or sing the words rhythmically.

“Shine on, shine on harvest moon up in the sky.
I ain’t had no lovin’ since January, February, June or July
Snowtime ain’t no time to stay outdoors and spoon,
So, shine on, shine on harvest moon – for me and my gal!”

Then, discuss all of the ideas that relate to the equinox and harvest moon, using additional research. Why did the songwriter choose the specific months of January, February, June and July to include in his lyrics? Select one thing about the moon and any of its phases and write a two line poem or chorus that captures that characteristic or mood. Work to make the last word of the first line rhyme with the last word of the second line. Share your 2-line poems in small groups or with a partner.

ACTIVITIES TO ENHANCE THE EXPERIENCE:
- Learn to sing the chorus of “Shine on Harvest Moon.” Then, think of the musical element of dynamics (loud and soft qualities). Discuss the words of the chorus and then decide which phrases to sing loudly, which to sing softly and which to sing at a medium volume (dynamic). Sing the chorus again and see how it changes the expression of the lyrics. Try a different way of changing the dynamics of the chorus and sing it again. Decide which one worked best and discuss the reasons for your choice.
- Timelines are graphic representations of the chronology of events in time that are often used as a way to display information in visual form. Reviewing the songs in the musical timeline, see if students can work together, or in small groups, to map the timeline of songs, times and styles in the correct sequence. Share and discuss.

- The 1900s were the beginning of the 20th century and it was a time of change. However, there were no big wars occurring during this time. Here are some facts about America in the 1900s:
  - 76,000,000 Americans in 46 states
  - $46,000,000+ in the U.S. treasury
  - 8,000 cars - 10 miles of paved roads
  - 1900 - Auto deaths 96; lynchings 115
  - San Francisco Earthquake took 700 lives and cost over $4,000,000 in damage.
  - Average worker made $12.98/week for 59 hours
  - Average life expectancy: 47.3 female, 46.3 male

Select one or two of these ideas and discuss how they differ from the statistics in America today. Are there some things that remain the same? Do some research to find out more facts.

- Take a song that can be sung in a round, such as “Row, Row, Row Your Boat” or “Make New Friends.” Practice singing it as a group, then divide into two groups and sing as a round. Listen for the difference when harmony is created during the round. Try it in three or four parts. Discuss how the round form changes the song. Try changing the pitch. Then, change the tempo (fast to slow) and see how that sounds.

SUGGESTED RESOURCES:
and The Music Center announce
THE PERFECT GENTLEMEN TO PERFORM ON ____________

and The Music Center today announced the upcoming The Perfect Gentlemen 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 The Perfect Gentlemen. 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.

The Perfect Gentlemen have been entertaining audiences since 1998 from Los Angeles to London. While keeping the tradition of vaudeville alive, these four gentlemen have put together a carefully designed repertoire of music, unsurpassed in its ability to entertain all ages. It also educates those who witness their live performances with music covering 100 years of musical styles.

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

THE PERFECT GENTLEMEN

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: