

**The Music Center
Performing Artists
in Schools and
Neighborhoods**

**Exciting
Dance
Music
Theatre
Storytelling
Performances
Come 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 host 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, notify The 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.

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 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.

PRESS RELEASE AND POSTER

A template press release is included should you wish to publicize the event. If you wish to use it, simply copy the text into a word document and fill in the blanks with the appropriate information. A premade poster is also included to let your community know about the upcoming event.

CURRICULUM CONNECTION FOR CLASSROOM TEACHERS

These pre- and post-event classroom activities are designed to deepen the understanding and engagement 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.

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.

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.

Performance Introduction

"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 old jazz 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!

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 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
- Audience 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.

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.

* There may be some confusion concerning the correct definition of Cajun and Creole; this is part of the research.

California Arts Standards: Artistic Processes

- Cr** Creating
- Pr** Performing/Producing/Presenting
- Re** Responding
- Cn** Connecting

Learn more at:

<https://tinyurl.com/ArtsStandardsCA>

ACTIVITIES TO ENHANCE THE EXPERIENCE:

Cr 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?

Pr Make up (improvise) a new way of doing something in your everyday life.

| | | |
|---------|----------|----------|
| walking | speaking | greeting |
| moving | writing | eating |

Share it with your classmates.

Cn Someone said, "It's not the song, but the way it is played, that makes music into jazz." Discuss this statement and give examples.

Pr *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.

Re 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.

SUGGESTED RESOURCES:

Myers, Walter Dean and Christopher Myers. *Jazz*. Holiday House, 2008

Marsalis, Wynton, *Marsalis on Music*. W.W. Norton, New York, NY, 1995.

Shange, Ntozake and Bearden, Romare. *I Live In Music*. Stewart, Tabori & Chang Inc, New York, NY, 1994.

"JAZZ A Film by Ken Burns." *PBS*, Public Broadcasting Service, www.pbs.org/kenburns/jazz/home/.

"The Jazz Bakery." [The Jazz Bakery, jazzbakery.org/](http://TheJazzBakery.jazzbakery.org/).

Contact Name: _____

Phone: _____

_____ **AND THE MUSIC CENTER ANNOUNCE**
DR. BOBBY RODRIGUEZ TO PERFORM ON _____

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

For more than 40 years, The Music Center Performing Artists in Schools and Neighborhoods have been the premier resource for high-quality educational performances, offering one of the most compelling and diverse artistic rosters. The Music Center's incredible artists bring the magic of live performance to audiences throughout Los Angeles County, with an emphasis on programs that are an excellent fit for educational and neighborhood settings. All Music Center Performing Artists in Schools and Neighborhoods performances include standards-based curriculum materials that feature background information on the artists and their performance, as well as related classroom activities with connections to multiple curricular disciplines. Schools can choose from more than 60 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

The Music Center convenes artists, communities and ideas with the goal of deepening the cultural lives of every resident in Los Angeles County. The \$70 million non-profit performing arts organization has two divisions: TMC Arts and TMC Ops. TMC Arts, The Music Center's programming engine, provides year-round programming inside The Music Center's four theatres, on Jerry Moss Plaza, outside at Grand Park—a 12-acre adjacent green space—in schools and other locations all over Los Angeles County and on a digital platform called The Music Center Offstage. TMC Arts presents world-class dance with Gloria Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center, free and low-cost public concerts and events, as well as live and digital K-12 arts education programs, workshops, performances, interactive experiences and special events. TMC Ops manages the theatres, the Plaza and Grand Park, which comprise \$2 billion in county assets, on behalf of the County of Los Angeles. The Music Center is also home to four renowned resident companies—Center Theatre Group, Los Angeles Master Chorale, LA Opera and LA Phil. For more information, visit musiccenter.org. Follow The Music Center on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @MusicCenterLA.

###

For more information, please contact The Music Center at 213-972-3332. 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
Performing Artists
in Schools and
Neighborhoods

Exciting
Dance
Music
Theatre
Storytelling
Performances
Come To You

JAZZ IT UP! WITH DR. BOBBY RODRIGUEZ



DATE: _____

TIME: _____

LOCATION: _____



musiccenter.org/performingartists
@MusicCenterLA

THE
MUSIC
CENTER
A TMC Arts Program

ARTS INTEGRATION PARTNERSHIPS

Music Center teaching artists work in classrooms to empower student creativity and develop their artistic, work-force and life skills. The program deepens learning across the curriculum in collaboration with classroom teachers by combining dance, music, theatre, visual and media arts with content areas including English Language Arts, history, science and social emotional learning for students of all ages and abilities.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Music Center's professional development programs bring educators together to participate in an experiential and immersive approach to integrating dance, music, theatre, visual and media arts into their classrooms. The focus is on meeting educators where they are and building their capacity over time and in depth — both at school sites and at The Music Center. As but one example, each year The Music Center's Arts Integration Symposium engages participants in all grade levels, art forms and content areas.

DANCE LEARNING PROGRAMS

Glorya Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center offers Student Matinee performances during each season featuring world-class dance performances that celebrate the diversity of L.A. communities; invited rehearsals that provide young people with an inside look at the creative process of dance companies in residence; master classes focused on technique, choreography and dialogue with professional dancers; and creative residencies where local youth engage with visiting dance companies for multiple days, including the Ailey school residency program.

STUDENT FESTIVALS

The Very Special Arts Festival engages students of all abilities as artistic creators and contributors. At the Blue Ribbon Children's Festival, fifth graders across the county experience live performances and dance together as a community.

SPOTLIGHT YOUNG ARTISTS PROGRAM

A nationally acclaimed, free arts training and scholarship program that develops the creative capacity of high school performing artists in Southern California.

ARTS GROWN LA

A new platform for artistic expression already thriving in communities throughout Los Angeles County. From performances at parks, community centers, libraries, senior centers and civic events, to Hip Hop dance parties and youth lessons, Arts Grown L.A. collaborates with community partners and neighborhoods to uplift artists and creativity, complementing existing local programs.

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, Grand Park, Dance DTLA, L.A. County Holiday Celebration, Plaza Concerts, and Symphonian Campus Tours, among other activities

For all our offerings, please visit us at www.musiccenter.org