

The Melding of North and South America

Fall and Spring Workshop Series: Elementary

In this workshop series, participants learn about the historical development of music in North and South America through story, demonstration, instruction, and expression. Various music genres, such as; rock, blues, rhythm and blues, jazz, fusion, funk, classical, folk, and Latin / Brazilian, and more, are illustrated through voice, electric and acoustic violin / fiddle, guitar, drums / percussion, and piano.

Participants are also taught the parts of the violin, how to rosin and hold the bow and violin properly, how to play open strings, how to tune the instrument, how to take care of the instrument properly, and learn the differences between acoustic and electric violin, in particular, amplification and effects. Similarly, the guitar and open chords and strumming, and voice with sight singing and easy vocalizations to relax the vocal chords for low, mid, and high range, and breathing techniques are also introduced.

In addition, participants have the opportunity to learn and play signature rhythms native to North and South America with various percussive instruments. The series ends with a live concert performance of originals from Victoria & Zeta Five.

Week 1: Orientation

- a) Meet & Greet,
- b) Outline of the workshop, the schedule, and goals.
- c) Determine current level of mastery for each participant – beginning or intermediate in violin, voice, guitar, drums, and percussion.

Week 2: North America

- a) Historical PowerPoint presentation of the development of music in North America with the influence of Native American Indian, Nordic, European, African, cultures, and more.
- b) Demonstration of various genres of music and styles influencing North America.

Week 3: Acoustic Violin / Fiddle

- a) Name of parts for the violin and bow, the various sizes, and care of the instrument.
- b) The Violin and the Fiddle (Differences).
- c) Demonstration of various music styles with the violin (classical vs. fiddling).
- d) Participants have opportunity to learn how to hold the violin and bow properly and play open strings and rhythms with the bow.
- e) Group instructional class (Violin: Beginning to Intermediate)
- f) Group instructional class (Piano: Beginning to Intermediate)
- g) Group instructional class (Guitar: Beginning to Intermediate)
- h) Group instructional class (Voice: Beginning to Intermediate)

Week 4: Electric Violin / Fiddle

- a) The mechanics of what makes the electric violin, such as; amplification, processors, pedal effects, speaker cabs, transducers, etc., work.
- b) Demonstration of what each component adds to the sound and how electrification enhances and expands capacity to express feeling.
- c) Participants have opportunity to select play the electric violin with a number of different sound effects through pedals and processors
- d) Group instructional class (Violin: Beginning to Intermediate)
- e) Group instructional class (Piano: Beginning to Intermediate)
- f) Group instructional class (Guitar: Beginning to Intermediate)
- g) Group instructional class (Voice: Beginning to Intermediate)

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Week 5: Guitar

- a) Name of parts for the guitar, the various sizes, and care of the instrument.
- b) Acoustic Steel String, Classical, Electric (Differences).
- c) Demonstration of various music styles.
- d) Participants have opportunity to learn how to hold the guitar and pick properly and strum with EZ chords.
- e) Group instructional class (Violin: Beginning to Intermediate)
- f) Group instructional class (Piano: Beginning to Intermediate)
- g) Group instructional class (Guitar: Beginning to Intermediate)
- h) Group instructional class (Voice: Beginning to Intermediate)

Week 6: Voice, Drums, and Percussion

- a) Participants are introduced to fun vocal warm-up exercises and sight-singing.
- b) Demo of various vocal stylings and genres that influenced the first wave of development of music in North America.
- c) World Music - Intro to percussive and rhythmic signatures and instruments, such as; drums, congas, tambourine, claves, and more from different parts of the world, such as; Africa, the Americas, and more.
- d) Group instructional class (Violin: Beginning to Intermediate)
- e) Group instructional class (Piano: Beginning to Intermediate)
- f) Group instructional class (Guitar: Beginning to Intermediate)
- g) Group instructional class (Voice: Beginning to Intermediate)
- h) Group instructional class (Drums / Percussion: Beginning to Intermediate)

Week 7: South America

- a) A brief historical powerpoint presentation of the development of the early development of music in South America and how South American music influences North American music today.
- b) Participants create colorful shakers and sticks for percussive instruments.
- c) Participants are familiarized with drums and percussive instruments native to South America.
- d) Demonstration of signature percussive rhythms specific to geographical areas in South America, as well as other external influences, such as; from Africa and Europe, that impact South American music.
- e) Participants have opportunity to create signature rhythmic sounds native to South America with their shakers and sticks and a variety of other percussive instruments with native Brazilian, Luiz Coutinho & Kelley.
- f) Group instructional class (Violin: Beginning to Intermediate)
- g) Group instructional class (Piano: Beginning to Intermediate)
- h) Group instructional class (Guitar: Beginning to Intermediate)
- j) Group instructional class (Drums / Percussion: Beginning to Intermediate)

Week 8

Live Concert Performance by VICTORIA & ZETA FIVE (with workshop participants in finale piece.)