Alabama Symphony Orchestra Education initiatives...

empower our community to celebrate and advance our symphonic culture by actively supporting the endeavor for excellence in music education. We seek to become an indispensable partner in the education of our community’s children and to create sustainable, meaningful programs and partnerships that foster strong relationships with schools and families. As Alabama’s orchestra, we aspire to reach all citizens of the greater Birmingham area and the state of Alabama, truly diverse audiences reflective of our unique makeup, and to provide programming that is ever more relevant, imaginative, and exciting. Through a world-class orchestra that offers extraordinary performances, we strive to inspire in our community a life-long passion for music, learning, and creativity.

Education Concert Calendar

**Explorer Concerts**  
*Pre-K - 2nd grade*
Get ready for a musical adventure as the ASO presents a special program for our youngest audience members. Casual, interactive, and lots of fun!  
*Sponsored by Vulcan Materials*

**Tuesday, October 11, 2016 | 11:30 am**  
Vestavia Hills United Methodist Church

**Wednesday, October 12, 2016 | 9:30 am & 11 am**  
Dawson Memorial Baptist Church

**Thursday, October 13, 2016 | 9:30 am & 11 am**  
Northpark Baptist Church, Trussville

**Young People's Concerts**  
*3rd - 6th grade*

**Superheroes of the Symphony**  
Who are your biggest heroes? Did you know that the symphony orchestra has heroes too? Learn about all of the Superheroes of the Symphony including some of the Symphony’s most iconic composers.

**November 9, 2016 | 10 am**  
Samford University’s Wright Center  
Christopher Confessore, Conductor

**Marvels, Magic & Myths**  
Discover the magic of musical storytelling! Presented as part of *A Gloriumptious Jubilee*, celebrating 100 years of Roald Dahl’s imaginative world, hear the musical narratives of mythical and enchanted stories. This program presents iconic symphonic music inspired by magical storytelling!

**Thursday, February 23, 2017 | 10 am**  
Samford University’s Wright Center  
Carlos Izcaray, Conductor  
*In collaboration with Red Mountain Theatre Company*

**Alabama Symphony Youth Orchestra**
Under the direction of Dr. Blake Richardson, the ASYO is made up of some of the most musically talented youth from across our state!  
*Sponsored by Brooke and Daniel Coleman*

**Fall Concert* | November 19, 2016 at 2 pm**  
Alys Stephens Center, Jemison Concert Hall

**Holiday at the Galleria* | Dec. 4, 2016 at 2 & 4 pm**  
Come hear the ASYO play Holiday favorites near the Carousel at the Riverchase Galleria. *Proudly presented by Riverchase Galleria.*

**Side by Side Concert with the Alabama Symphony Orchestra | March 19, 2017 at 3 pm**  
Alys Stephens Center, Jemison Concert Hall

**Spring Concert* | May 20, 2017 at 2 pm**  
Alys Stephens Center, Jemison Concert Hall

**Greater Birmingham Music Educator’s Alliance**
Come join us for a day of interactive programming and performances celebrating music education! Learn about all the wonderful ensembles and musical resources within the Greater Birmingham Community and learn how you can be a part of this diverse community.

**GBMEA Festival* | May 7, 2017 at 12:30-5 pm**  
Alys Stephens Center

*Free Event*
Thank You to Our 2016-2017 Education Partners

$50,000+
Alabama Power
Alabama State Council on the Arts
Daniel & Brooke Coleman Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham
The Daniel Foundation of Alabama
The Mike and Gillian Goodrich Foundation
William Randolph Hearst Foundation

$26,000-$49,999
Hill Crest Foundation
Robert Meyer Foundation
Shelby County Commission
Symphony 30
Vulcan Materials Company

$10,000-$25,000
ACIPCO
BBVA Compass
The Charles T. Campbell Charitable Foundation
Comer Foundation
General Growth Properties
Joseph S. Bruno Charitable Foundation
New Music USA
Susan Mott Webb Charitable Trust

$1,000-$9,999
The Hess Foundation
Independent Presbyterian Foundation
The Mockingbird Foundation
Robert Raiford & Zane Rhoades
Sanjay & Dora Singh
The Symphony Volunteer Council (SVC)
Jim Wilson & Associates

Up to $999
Kathryn Acree
Vincent Cirulli
William & Joy Denton
Carlos Izcaray & Yolanda Serafimov
David & Rupa Kitchens
Vijay Kodali & Vineeta Kumar
Virupaksha Kothandapani
Drs. Shaily & Geeta Lakhanpal
Rohit & Geeta Malik
Ranjit Prasad
Shades Mountain Music Club
Jeff & Susanne Thomas
# Table of Contents

Forward to Teachers and Parents ................................................................. 5

Program........................................................................................................ 6

Meet the Conductor...................................................................................... 6

Meet the Musicians..................................................................................... 7

Lessons
   Lesson 1: How Does Music Make You Feel?........................................... 8
   Lesson 2: Intro to Instrument Families................................................... 9
   Lesson 3: Let’s Visit the Symphony!....................................................... 10

Accompanying Materials
   Vibration Station .................................................................................... 11
   Orchestra Seating Chart ......................................................................... 12
   We Want to Hear from You! ................................................................... 13

How to Submit Student Work to the ASO.................................................. 14
Dear Teachers and Parents,

We are delighted to bring you the first ever Teacher Guide to accompany the 2016-2017 Alabama Symphony Orchestra Explorer Concerts. This guide is designed to enhance your students' experience at the Symphony. While the lessons enclosed are certainly not required, we think that your students will have fun doing these activities while learning something about the Symphony and the music they will hear at the concert.

How to use this guide:

1. Lessons: Lessons are designed to be customized to your classroom or home. Use as many as you would like, add and shorten them ad libitum! Whether you are a music teacher or an English teacher, we encourage you to peruse this guide and see what is useful in your classroom. Maybe you will use just one and maybe you will use them all! We hope you will find that most lessons can be adapted to different classroom situations and resources!

2. We'd love to see your student's creations: Ever wonder how you can help advocate for music education in Alabama? Consider submitting student work developed as part of the enclosed activities to the ASO! Every submission will be used in our music education advocacy efforts. The more student work we collect, the better able we are to advocate for sustained funding for high quality arts education in our state! Feel free to send a short video of student choreography, artwork, or even just a photograph of your students working on these lessons. Please find the form for student submission on page 14. While we understand that this is an extra step to mail in student work, we are excited to see what your students have created!

By bringing your students to an ASO Education Concert, you have shown your commitment to the arts as a vital part of a child's education. On December 15, 2015 the Every Student Succeeds Act was signed into effect. This is wonderful news for our nation as the arts will be acknowledged as a core subject. As congress and our state legislation works to determine how to allocate these funds, whatever your role in education, please consider writing to your representative, perhaps combined with a student’s success story, to help advocate for arts education funding. The ASO relies on our partnerships with you to provide great educational programming.

We look forward to seeing all of you for another great year of Explorer Concerts!

Deanna Sirkot  
Education Manager  
Alabama Symphony Orchestra  
(205) 314- 6936  
dsirkot@alabamasymphony.com
Program

Explorer Concert
October 11, 2016 | 11:30 am | Vestavia Hills United Methodist Church
October 12, 2016 | 9:30 am and 11:00 am | Dawson Memorial Baptist Church
October 13, 2016 | 9:30 am and 11:00 am | Northpark Baptist Church, Trussville
Chris Confessore, Conductor

Gregory Smith – Tempus Fugit
Grieg – “Morning” from Peer Gynt Suite (excerpt)
Williams – Imperial March from Star Wars Suite (excerpt)
Tchaikovsky – Sleeping Beauty Waltz
Mark Sforzini – A Journey in Orchestration
Offenbach – “Can Can” from Orpheus in the Underworld Overture

Concert will be performed without intermission
Mobile phones and other electronic devices must be set to silent/vibrate during the performance.
Program is subject to change.

Meet the Conductor

Christopher Confessore
CONDUCTOR
Christopher Confessore serves as Principal POPS Conductor of the Alabama Symphony Orchestra and Music Director and Principal Conductor of the Brevard Symphony Orchestra in Melbourne, FL.

In recent seasons, Mr. Confessore’s schedule as a guest conductor has included appearances with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Kansas City Symphony, Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, New Mexico Philharmonic, Naples Philharmonic, Charlotte Symphony, Sarasota Orchestra and the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra. He appears annually as a conductor of Walt Disney World’s Candlelight Processional at EPCOT – a production featuring a full orchestra, 300-voice choir and celebrity narrators including Whoopi Goldberg, Neil Patrick Harris and Gary Sinise. Praised for his ability to communicate with audiences of all ages, the 2016-17 Season sees Mr. Confessore leading Educational and Outreach Concerts with orchestras throughout the Southeast for a combined audience of more than 60,000 students.

Heralded as a sensitive accompanist and inspiring collaborator, Christopher Confessore has accompanied a distinguished list of world-class concert artists, including Itzhak Perlman, Joshua Bell and Lang Lang. As a Pops conductor, he has appeared with a diverse group of superstars, including Grammy Award winners Art Garfunkel, Roberta Flack, Judy Collins, Amy Grant, Marvin Hamlisch, LeAnn Rimes, Indigo Girls, Chris Botti and Charlie Daniels and Tony Award winner Idina Menzel. Music columnist Mary Colurso of The Birmingham News remarked “Anyone who regards the symphony as stuffy and elitist hasn’t been to a SuperPops show when Confessore’s in charge. He exudes nice-guy appeal on stage, along with real warmth, a sense of humor and smarts to spare.”

For a complete concert calendar, visit www.christopherconfessore.com
Meet the Musicians

Alabama Symphony Orchestra

FIRST VIOLIN
Daniel Szasz
CONCERTMASTER/THE BEVERLY HEAD AND HUGH KAUL CHAIR
Jinsong Gao
ASSOCIATE CONCERTMASTER
Mayumi Masri
ASSISTANT CONCERTMASTER
Yifan Zhou
ASSISTANT CONCERTMASTER
Ai-Yi Bao
Sarah Nordlund Dennis
Viktor Dulguerov
Roger James
Anne Pandolfi
Pei-Ju Wu

SECOND VIOLIN
Yuriko Yasuda
PRINCIPAL
David Handler
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
Karl Braaten
Levon Margaryan
Serghei Tanas

VIOLA
Michael Fernandez
PRINCIPAL
Zakaria Enikeev
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
DJ Cheek
Lucina Horner
Rene Reder
Meredith Treaster

CELLO
Warren Samples
PRINCIPAL
Andrew Dunn
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
Mary Del Gobbo
Peter Garrett
Mara McClain
Clayton Vaughn

BASS
Daniel Carson*
PRINCIPAL
Richard Cassarino
PRINCIPAL, 2016-2017 SEASON
Justin Kujawski
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, 2016-2017 SEASON
Michael Bradt
Mark Wilson

FLUTE
Lisa Wienhold
PRINCIPAL
Hillary Tidman
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

OBOE
James Sullivan
PRINCIPAL
Machiko Ogawa Schlaffer
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

CLARINET
Kathleen Costello
PRINCIPAL/THE SYMPHONY VOLUNTEER COUNCIL CHAIR
Brad Whitfield
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

BASSOON
Tariq Masri
PRINCIPAL
Alex Zdanis
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

HORN
David Pandolfi
PRINCIPAL/THE SYMPHONY VOLUNTEER COUNCIL CHAIR
Kevin Kozak
Jeffrey Solomon
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
Nina Adair

TRUMPET
Ryan Beach
PRINCIPAL
Nicholas Ciulla
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

TROMBONE
Jay Evans
PRINCIPAL
Jason Robins

TUBA
Andrew Miller
PRINCIPAL

TIMPANI
Jay Burnham
PRINCIPAL

PERCUSSION
Mark Libby
PRINCIPAL
Bill Williams

HARP
Judy Sullivan Hicks
PRINCIPAL/ THE MRS. R. HUGH DANIEL CHAIR

*On leave of absence for the 2016-2017 Season
Lesson 1: How Does Music Make You Feel?

Objectives
- Students will describe emotional responses to music.
- Students will describe how music can evoke certain emotions.

Academic Standards
- COS Music K # 7, Gr. 1 #9
- NAfME: PK: Mu: Cr. 1.1. PKa; MU: Cr.2.1.PKa; MU: Re8.1.1.PKa / K: MU: Cr. 2.1.Ka; MU: Re7.2.Ka; MU: Re8.1.1.PKa / 1: MU: Cr.2.1.1a; MU:Re7.2.1a; MU:Re8.1.1a / 2: MU: Re7.2.2a; MU Re8.1.2a

Introduction
- What kind of emotions do you feel on a day-to-day basis? Ask students how they feel in certain situations (i.e. recess vs when they have a fight with a friend).

Process
1. Ask students to describe how their behaviors change when they experience different emotions. When they’re happy do they usually want to laugh loudly? How does their voice change when they’re sad? At recess, do they usually run or do they sit quietly?
2. Explain that music has emotions too! Play the following example of happy music. Ask the students how the music makes them feel. Is the music fast or slow? Is it loud or soft?

   Happy Example
   “George Frideric Handel - The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba”
   Duration: 3:30
   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-TGKJ9MgCOQ&list=PL424068ABC6D65EBB

3. Play the following example of sad music and ask similar questions. How does the music make your students feel? Is it loud or soft? Fast or slow?

   Sad Example
   “Erik Satie - Gymnopedie n.1”
   Duration 3:40
   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NM0M0MJt-9M

4. Ask the students to draw pictures of how the music makes them feel.
5. Alternatively, ask students to create movement to the musical selections, displaying behaviors they might exhibit when they feel certain emotions.

Review
- Happy= louder and faster. Sad= quieter and softer. Why? Because when you’re happy you usually want to laugh, skip, and dance! Sometimes when you’re sad you might want to be alone.

Extension
- Using recordings you find on YouTube, Play a few more examples from the Explorer Concert Program found on page 6. Proceed with activities #4 and #5 from the Process section of Lesson 1.
- Using recordings you find on YouTube, Play a few more examples from the Explorer Concert Program found on page 6. Ask students to identify their favorite piece from the program. Ask them why they feel that way.
Lesson 2: Intro to Instrument Families

Objectives
• Students will understand that the orchestra is made of different instruments, all working together.
• Students will distinguish between instrument ranges.

Academic Standards
• Gr. 1 # 13; Gr. 2 #13

Introduction
• Ask students what it means to be part of a family. Is there one member or are there more? Do you have different names or the same names? Do all of your family members look the same or different?

Process
1. Show a picture of the orchestra and explain that it too is made up of different instrument members with different names, and together, they are one orchestra.
2. Show pictures of a few different instruments. Ask students to describe differences in how they look. What color are they? What are they made of?
3. Some instruments play high and some play low. Using the following recordings, play some examples. Play a recording of a flute. Does it play high or low? Play a recording of a trombone. Does it play high or low?

High Sounds
“Grieg - Morning Mood” (flute)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9LDUaEf3wJA

Low Sounds
“GoPro on Trombone: Star Wars - Imperial March” (trombone)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HwWQUXnD0oo

4. Explain that the orchestra is made up of different instruments that vary in size and pitch. Together, they make one Symphony!

Review
1. Check for understanding. Does the orchestra have one person or is it made up of many? Do the different instruments look and sound the same or do they look and sound different?
2. Remind students that like a family, the orchestra has different members of small, tall, high and low members. Each member has their own name too!

Extension
• Do instruments make sound the same way? Try asking your students replicate the vibrations of different instruments, using the Vibration Station activities found on page 11.

Video for Fun
"Instrument Families"
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vQ95KUWCGT0
Lesson 3: Let’s Visit the Symphony!

Objectives
• Students will understand the role of a conductor.
• Students will respond to verbal and nonverbal cues.

Academic Standards
• COS K #2, Gr. 1 # 4

Introduction
• Ask students to describe the role of conductors that they know. What does a train conductor do? Keep a list of responses on the board. Solicit answers such as conductors tell the train how fast to move, when to stop, and when to go!

Process
1. Discuss the role of an Orchestra Conductor with or without one or both of the following videos:
   “Sesame Street: People in Your Neighborhood – Conductor”
   Duration: 4:03
   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MJ4UGtDLLYc

   “Class Notes: What does a Conductor do?”
   Duration: 6:35
   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x_6cTbyWP88

   2. Review that conductors can show how loud and fast a piece is with their gestures.
   3. Using simple percussion instruments found in your classroom (clapping will work too!), show different size gestures and have students respond by adjusting the volume of their instruments or their clapping. Try fast and slow gestures to have them play or clap at different speeds.
   4. Ask for student conductor volunteers to mime conductor gestures for the class! Have the remainder of the class respond to those gestures as they did in #3.

Review
• Revisit the list from the beginning of class. Compare and contrast the responses from the beginning of class to what the students understand of orchestra conductors. Does an orchestral conductor tell the orchestra how fast or slow to play like a train conductor might make a train drive faster or slower?

Extensions
• Talk about the ASO’s conductor Chris Confessore who will be conducting the upcoming Explorer Concert! Using page 6, display his picture on the board.
• Play a few selections from the Explorer Concert Program found on page 6. Ask your students if they think the conductor will conduct fast or slow? Loud or soft?
Vibration Station

All musical instruments use vibration to make sound, but different instruments vibrate in different ways. You can use everyday objects to discover how each family of the orchestra makes its unique sound.

**String instruments**, like the violin, make sound when their strings vibrate.

**You try it:**
Take the top off of an empty soda bottle and place several different sized rubber bands around it. Pluck the rubber bands, watch them vibrate and listen to the sound they make. Which rubber bands vibrate faster? Which ones vibrate slower? Do some rubber bands sound higher or lower than others?

**Woodwind instruments**, like the flute and clarinet, make sound when air vibrates through them.

**You try it:**
Blow across the top of an empty water or soda bottle and listen to the sound that the vibrating air creates. Try filling the bottle with different amounts of water. Does more water in the bottle make the sound higher or lower? Also, try blowing across different sized bottles. Do small bottles sound different than large bottles? Fill several bottles with different amounts of water, and you can even play a song!

**Brass instruments**, like the trumpet, make sound when you vibrate your lips together and put them up to the mouthpiece.

**You try it:**
Purse your lips together like you are going to whistle. Now “buzz” your lips so that they vibrate. What does it feel like? Can you make the sound go higher or lower? Can you “buzz” a tune? Try buzzing into a paper towel tube. What happens to the sound?

**Percussion instruments**, like drums, cymbals, and maracas, make sound when you hit them or shake them, causing the instrument itself to vibrate.

**You try it:**
Play several different percussion instruments in your music classroom or find things at home that you can hit or shake. What is each instrument made of? What does each material look like and sound like when it vibrates? Hit something metal, then grab it with your hand: why does the sound stop?

**Did you know that your voice is a musical instrument too?** It makes sound when air passes through your vocal cords and makes them vibrate.

**You try it:**
Put your fingertips on your throat and make a sound with your voice. Can you feel the vibrations? How many different sounds can you make? How do the vibrations change? Can you make them go faster or slower?
We Want to Hear from You!

Now that you’ve seen an ASO Concert, write us a letter and tell us about your experience. You can write your own letter or use this sheet as a guide. Send your letters to:

Alabama Symphony Orchestra
Attn: Education
3621 Sixth Avenue South
Birmingham, AL 35222

Date __________________________

Dear Alabama Symphony Orchestra,

I just came to see a Young People’s Concert called _______________________________.

One thing I liked about the concert was ____________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

My favorite piece of music you played was _________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Something new that I learned was ________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

If I could play an instrument in the orchestra, I would play the ________________________.

Sincerely,

Name ___________________________________________

Address _________________________________________
Submit Student Work from these Lessons to the ASO!  
We’d love to see what your students have created!

Submission Form

Instructions: Complete the information below, enclose student work, and mail to:

Education Department  
Alabama Symphony Orchestra  
3621 6th Avenue South  
Birmingham, AL 35222

School name: ________________________________________________________________

School address: ______________________________________________________________

Contact name: _______________________________________________________________

Contact email: _______________________________________________________________

Phone: _______________________________________________________________________

Any Comments?
For more information about Education Concerts and to reserve seats, visit: alabamasymphony.org/educationconcerts.htm