

RATIONALE

In today's world, it is critical that students receive an education which incorporates a diverse spectrum of content from other cultures and traditions. This may be most imperative within the middle school music classroom, due to the unique educational potential music courses have to offer. Across the globe, music plays a critical role in every country, community, and individual person's life. Beyond this, a host of similarities exist between the musical traditions of every culture. Through the study of the music of other cultures, students can begin to break down the barriers which separate them from others, ultimately developing a stronger sense of humanity and unity with those of other cultures. Students stand to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the world around them through the study of diverse music and the musical traditions of other cultures, while simultaneously developing their own personal understandings of music and musicianship.

Additionally, understanding of culturally diverse music and musical traditions is embedded into both the state and national standards. According to the National Core Music Standards for Pre-K to 8th Grade General Music, by the eighth grade, students should be able to "Perform the music with technical accuracy, stylistic expression, and culturally authentic practices in music to convey the creator's intent." The Pennsylvania Academic Standards for the Arts and Humanities place similar expectations on students, including that they be able to "identify, explain and analyze historical and cultural differences as they relate to works in the arts" and "Explain the historical, cultural and social context of an individual work in the arts." However, the culturally authentic study of music from other cultures, in addition to demanding open minds and respectful study and research, benefits greatly from the use of appropriate materials and traditional instruments.

Below you will find an itemized list of such materials and instruments on which, if received, the grant money will be spent. The first and largest section of each year's budget, labelled "World Music Drumming," details the various instruments which would be used in the execution of the "World Music Drumming" curriculum, which seeks to increase the presence of culturally diverse music in the general music classroom through the study of drumming traditions from countries in Africa, such as Ghana and Liberia, as well as the Caribbean. These traditions include an array of different instruments, including tubano and djembe hand drums, mallet drums like the talking and frame drums, as well as other instruments such as the shekere rattle, the gankogui double bell, and the claves. As detailed below, in the first year, about two-thirds of the necessary instruments – the bare bones to effectively study these traditions – will be purchased. The following year, an additional third of instruments will be purchased, to complete the classroom set of instruments, allowing all students to experience a wide variety of experiences with these musical traditions, through the use of different instruments.

Though it may seem excessive, each instrument is critical to the overall curriculum of "World Music Drumming." By purchasing the dictated quantities, enough instruments would eventually become available, so that each student would have ample opportunities to become acquainted with each different instrument. Additionally, the music of the cultures being studied relies on the use of these various instruments simultaneously in an ensemble. In order to emulate the total experience of the cultures' music, as accurately as possible within the American middle school music classroom, the full complement of instruments must be present.

In this proposal, approximately 70% of the grant would be dedicated toward the procurement of the necessary inventory to effectively execute the "World Music Drumming" curriculum. The remaining 30% is allocated for the purchasing of ukuleles for classroom use. In

the first year, a minimal amount will be spent on a half-classroom set of ukuleles, as well as a few maintenance items. This would allow for a year of introduction to the use of ukuleles within the music classroom. As students become comfortable with learning and playing the instrument, an additional complement of ukulele-family instruments will be purchased, so that each student will have access to their own ukulele during class, and other ukulele instruments will be available for a more comprehensive education regarding the instrument.

Through the study of the ukulele, students will have opportunities to connect to their own personal musicianship – something critical to maintaining student growth and engagement in the music classroom. They will explore both the instrument, as well as the wider world of music, through various assignments, including cover songs, personal compositions, improvisation, and ensemble performances. Concepts relating to music theory will also be integrated, and students will have the opportunity to continually critically reflect upon their musicianship through these assignments and activities. By allocating grant money toward ukuleles, students will ultimately receive a new medium through which they can more thoroughly develop their musicianship.

Both the “World Music Drumming” and ukulele equipment specified below will set students up for a host of unique and beneficial musical experiences. Should this grant proposal be approved, students will have access to a comprehensive inventory of instruments, which will facilitate their development of both musical and social skills. By studying the drumming traditions of other cultures, students will simultaneously grow in empathy, understanding, and respect for diverse cultures, while improving their personal musical abilities. The study of ukuleles similarly opens up multiple doors for students to explore music and musicianship. This grant holds the potential to revolutionize the students’ educational and musical experiences within the middle school music classroom. Thank you for your time and consideration.

ITEMIZED PREDICTED ANNUAL EXPENDITURES

YEAR ONE					
WORLD MUSIC DRUMS					
Product	Qty.	Vendor	Item ID#	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Tubano – 10”	3	West Music	201584	\$212.00	\$636.00
Tubano – 12”	3	West Music	201588	\$239.00	\$717.00
Tubano – 14”	3	West Music	201592	\$289.00	\$867.00
Djembe	1	West Music	200673	\$269.00	\$269.00
Talking Drum	2	West Music	205011	\$143.55	\$287.10
TD Mallet	2	West Music	254788	\$19.60	\$39.20
Frame Drum	2	West Music	203746	\$61.35	\$122.70
Bongos – 6/7”	1	West Music	204032	\$64.95	\$64.95
Bongos – 8/9”	1	West Music	200285	\$92.60	\$92.60
Shekere – Sm.	3	West Music	202450	\$26.40	\$79.20
Shekere – Md.	3	West Music	202547	\$40.95	\$122.85
Shekere – Lg.	3	West Music	202548	\$46.95	\$140.85
Gankogui – Md.	1	West Music	200011	\$26.10	\$26.10
Gankogui – Lg.	1	West Music	200012	\$31.85	\$31.85
Small Bell	1	West Music	200484	\$17.95	\$17.95
Maracas	2	West Music	200990	\$10.95	\$21.90
Claves	3	West Music	203771	\$9.95	\$29.85
Guiro – Sm.	1	West Music	204141	\$6.95	\$6.95
Guiro – Md.	1	West Music	200901	\$12.95	\$12.95
Guiro – Lg.	1	West Music	200904	\$13.95	\$13.95
Master Drum	1	West Music	202416	\$509.00	\$509.00
Rhythm Sticks	10	West Music	205536	\$4.95	\$49.50
Shipping					\$69.63
Subtotal					\$4,228.08
UKULELES					
Sop. Ukulele Pk.	8	Sweetwater	MKSUkePack	\$67.99	\$679.90
Sop. Uke Strings	5	Sweetwater	41Y18M605	\$8.99	\$44.95
Maintenance Kit	3	Sweetwater	MN142	\$14.99	\$44.97
Shipping					N/A
Subtotal					\$769.82
ANNUAL TOTAL					
\$4,997.90					

YEAR TWO					
WORLD MUSIC DRUMS					
Product	Qty.	Vendor	Item ID#	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Tubano – 10”	2	West Music	201584	\$212.00	\$424.00
Tubano – 12”	3	West Music	201588	\$239.00	\$717.00
Tubano – 14”	2	West Music	201592	\$289.00	\$578.00
Djembe	1	West Music	200673	\$269.00	\$269.00
Talking Drum	1	West Music	205011	\$143.55	\$143.55
TD Mallet	1	West Music	254788	\$19.60	\$19.60
Frame Drum	1	West Music	203746	\$61.35	\$61.35
Bongos – 6/7”	1	West Music	204032	\$64.95	\$64.95
Bongos – 8/9”	1	West Music	200285	\$92.60	\$92.60
Shekere – Sm.	2	West Music	202450	\$26.40	\$52.80
Shekere – Md.	2	West Music	202547	\$40.95	\$81.90
Shekere – Lg.	2	West Music	202548	\$46.95	\$93.90
Gankogui – Md.	1	West Music	200011	\$26.10	\$26.10
Gankogui – Lg.	1	West Music	200012	\$31.85	\$31.85
Small Bell	1	West Music	200484	\$17.95	\$17.95
Maracas	2	West Music	200990	\$10.95	\$21.90
Claves	2	West Music	203771	\$9.95	\$19.90
Guiro – Sm.	1	West Music	204141	\$6.95	\$6.95
Guiro – Md.	1	West Music	201584	\$12.95	\$12.95
Rhythm Sticks	10	West Music	205536	\$4.95	\$49.50
Shipping					\$47.87
Subtotal					\$2,833.62
UKULELES					
Sop. Ukulele Pk.	12	Sweetwater	MKSUkePack	\$67.99	\$815.88
Sop. Uke Strings	8	Sweetwater	41Y18M605	\$8.99	\$71.92
Concert Uke. Pk.	5	Sweetwater	UkePPCN	\$79.00	\$395.00
Tenor Uke. Pk.	3	Sweetwater	LearnToPlayMH	\$119.99	\$359.97
Baritone Ukulele	2	Sweetwater	21Baritone	\$209.00	\$418.00
Maintenance Kit	5	Sweetwater	MN142	\$14.99	\$74.95
12-pk. Uke Picks	3	Sweetwater	Felt8012	\$9.95	\$29.85
Shipping					N/A
Subtotal					\$2,165.57
ANNUAL TOTAL					
\$4,999.19					

TOTAL GRANT USED: \$9,997.09 / \$10,000.00