



artstarts

**COVID Conscious
Artist Directory 2020/21**

Welcome to ArtStarts' COVID Conscious Artist Directory!

What is it?

The ArtStarts COVID Conscious Directory was created in response to the social gathering limitations and overall health restrictions due to the current global climate. Our hope with this directory is to make arts experiences still accessible for students in the province, especially during such a challenging and uncertain time.

Here you will find a collection of our Artist on Tour Directory artists who are offering online programming as well as tailored in school performances and workshops that are safer and adhere to the provincial health guidelines.

This includes socially distant workshops, smaller performance sizes, and limiting travel to within the region the Artist is based.

We will be using this specific directory for schools and districts to book from until the province deems it safe for programming to return to normal. If that happens throughout the 2020-2021 school year we will support schools and artists to decide if they want to shift their COVID Conscious booking to the artist listing on the general AOTD.
How do I book?

If you are interested in booking any of the artists on our COVID Conscious Directory, please email hannah@artstarts.com with the following information:

- Name of artist/group
- Your school name
- Number of participants and grade range
- Preferred dates (if any)

We will reach out once we have tentative dates for you.

Additional Notes

We are encouraging all Artists to self assess if they or any of their group members will be entering schools for risk of COVID-19. Any performances that need to be cancelled due to an outbreak in a school or artist(s) being ill, we will support to reschedule as soon as possible. We encourage booking contacts and artists to be in regular communication leading up to any in person bookings.

3 Crows Productions

Indigenous storyteller Dallas Yellowfly's ancestry is from the Siksika Nation (Blackfoot First Nation). Having been born and raised on Coast Salish, Sto:lo, territory he has been taught both coastal culture and plains culture from Elders. Sharing stories and culture in the classrooms, Yellowfly has been working in Indigenous Education for over 18 years. Using his experience in stand-up comedy, film production, multimedia and interactive storytelling Yellowfly is presenting across the province focused on increasing awareness of Indigenous perspectives in education.

Indigenous storyteller Alysha Collie's ancestry is from the Soowahlie First Nation. She recently completed her Bachelor of Science degree with a Biology Major and Visual Arts Minor. While at university, Alysha spent her time as an Indigenous Peer Mentor where she helped her peers with their culturally sensitive needs and provided academic support. During her university career she helped plan a Reconciliation Shakespeare Garden for the campus by providing Indigenous perspective and scientific knowledge. Alysha now focuses on reclaiming her ancestral roots through public speaking, storytelling, performing and film making.



Online Storytelling Workshop

In this online storytelling workshop, Dallas Yellowfly and Alysha Collie discuss fundamental elements of Indigenous storytelling. They will share their experience as professional Indigenous storytellers performing across BC. Both Yellowfly and Collie will introduce the traditional territories they come from and unique oral stories from those locations. They will discuss how some Indigenous stories require permissions while others are shared. Students will have the opportunity to learn about elements that accompany Indigenous storytelling such as masks and drums. Everyone will participate in an interactive story and learn to use plot diagrams. All this is followed by a Q&A period.

Details

Grade suitability	4 to 12
COVID-Conscious Notes	This workshop is online and won't require students to gather.
Region	Lower Mainland
Audience Capacity	30
Tech setup	Zoom, Bluejeans, Microsoft Teams or a similar video communication application
Price	\$300
Runtime	60 minutes



Amanda Panda – Hula Hoop Circus

Author, entrepreneur and creative influencer, Amanda Panda, will leave you smiling with her bright colours and exceptional skills. She's an entertainer and author of a motivational children's book as well as a pioneer of modern hoop dance in North America. As an international performer, Amanda has gone as far as Australia for the Adelaide Fringe Festival. Larger than life and a natural kid magnet, Amanda inspires people of all ages to try new things and to dream big!

Dream Big!

Work hard, play hard, dream big! A show to inspire passion, play and purpose while showcasing a variety of creative athletic feats involving hula hoops, juggling, spinning plates and humor. Amanda Panda playfully engages students and staff with her skills to demonstrate the importance of perseverance, practice and play. Amanda's book, *Mandi the Clown* and the *Hula Hoop Circus*, is referenced to reinforce the message of trying your best and to dream big!

Details

Grade suitability

K to 6

COVID-Conscious Notes

To make this performance COVID conscious Amanda will maintain a physical distance of 2m away from the audience at all times. Audience participation bits have been limited, spread out and sanitized. Anyone invited to participate on stage will receive sanitized props and will remain 2m away from others on the stage. All props are cleaned between shows.

Region

North

Audience Capacity

Government recommended mass gathering sizes. Recommended to seat students 2m apart within the gym to maintain physical distancing.

Tech setup

Performance Space: A large flat surface of about 20' wide 12' deep, 1 power outlet near performance space. Set up will take 45 minutes prior to the audience arriving for the show, preferred not to have students in the gym during set up and take down. Tear down takes 30 minutes following the audience leaving.

Price

\$650

Runtime

45 min includes Q&A



Andy the Musical Scientist

Andy has performed for hundreds of schools as well as the Vancouver Children's Festival, Surrey Childrens Festival, Vancouver Folkfest, and a Raffi album. His amazing musical inventions have been featured in 2 CBC documentaries.

With over 35 year's experience studying music from various cultures (including a sitar scholarship to India), he has also toured with numerous African and Indian ensembles. He even performed with the Children's Landfill Harmonic Recycled Orchestra of Paraguay. With Delhi 2 Dublin, he toured the world, performing for the prime minister, British royal couple, BBC, and MTV India. In China, he performed in the Forbidden City.

Performance

Music can generate interest in science, just as science can inspire new approaches to music. Andy (formerly of Delhi2Dublin) combines both to inspire children to "think outside the box". He enthralles the audience with his amazing homemade inventions made from random reusable household items! Inspired by instruments he witnessed children making when he travelling in Africa, they invoke a sense of wonder and curiosity in other cultures. Using hilarious personas he demonstrates technology, scientific principles, and recycling through music.

A testament to creative thinking, through which breakthroughs can be made in music, science, environmental stewardship, and all aspects of life!

Details

Grade suitability	K to 12
COVID-Conscious Notes	Audience sizes will be tailored to suit safety requirements at the discretion of each school (Up to max group size 100). Any other specific requirements can be sorted out with each school prior to the performance date. Some of the sections requiring volunteers have been temporarily cut from the show. Outdoor performances are also available.
Region	Lower Mainland
Audience Capacity	Small group size is at the discretion of each school (up to max 100)
Tech setup	Zoom, Bluejeans, Microsoft Teams or a similar video communication application
Price	Single performance \$300 2 shows in a day \$525 3 shows in a day \$700
Runtime	50 minutes



Gord Grdina

Juno award winner Gordon Grdina has lead many bands and toured throughout the world most notably in the Dan Mangan band, Haram, and the Gordon Grdina Trio. He is an Oud/Guitarist whose sound is a combination of his interests in rock, mainstream jazz, free-form improvisation and Arabic classical music. He has been performing in schools for over 15 years as a member of the Blues Berries and performed over 1,000 school concerts in BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Ontario. His educational performances have introduced hundreds of thousands of students to established genres of popular music through carefully designed programs including The History of the Blues, Jazz in the Gym, A History of Rock and Roll, Jazz, Jive, and Wail, and Blues Rocks!

Gord's Guitars

One person, seven guitars and an oud. Guitar virtuoso Gord Grdina takes students on an exciting musical, social and geographic journey through the history of guitar music from Arabic, Classical, Country, Blues, Jazz, Rock and Pop styles. Through looping technology, percussion and projections Gord will accompany himself on several instruments at once while engaging students through listening games and physical activity. Musically you'll hear everything from Stevie Ray Vaughn to Johnny Cash, and Muddy Waters to AC/DC. The show is based on the development of music through the lens of the guitar from ancient Egypt to modern day Rock'n Roll. We will cover the themes of musical migration and geography from Northern Africa throughout Western Europe. Students will hear the development of music from single-voice melodies through to classical harmony and modern day Rock. We hope that students will take away an understanding of cultural exchange across vast geographic areas while seeing the interconnectedness of music through the ages.

Details

Grade suitability	K to 9
COVID-Conscious Notes	Students will be spaced to limit contact; Dances and student participation will be modified to insure social distancing. Live stream performances are also available.
Region	Lower Mainland
Audience Capacity	Projector and Screen, one chair, power outlet
Tech setup	Performance Space: A large flat surface of about 20' wide 12' deep, 1 power outlet near performance space. Set up will take 45 minutes prior to the audience arriving for the show, preferred not to have students in the gym during set up and take down. Tear down takes 30 minutes following the audience leaving.
Price	\$650
Runtime	50 to 60 minutes



Jacky Essombe

Originally from Cameroon, Central Africa, Jacky Yenga grew up in Paris and now lives in Vancouver, BC. Her foundation for life was rooted in togetherness and collaboration, respect for the elders, for nature and the ancestors. Living a connected life was her only reality, until the age of 9. She experienced the trauma of disconnection when she was sent to the West to "live a better life". Now she is an enthusiastic ambassador for the wisdom of Africa and their message of togetherness, which she shares around the world in various forms, including as a dancer, singer, musician, and teacher.

Jacky's Village

Travel to the depths of Africa with professional dancer Jacky Essombe in this day-long workshop. Accompanied by a live drummer, Jacky celebrates the richness and community spirit of African culture using easy-to-follow African dance steps, traditional songs and storytelling. This shared social, stimulating and bonding experience allows students to interact in a playful and focused way, building important developmental skills and a love for creativity.

Details

Grade suitability	K to 9
COVID-Conscious Notes	Each session will be limited to whatever number the school deems to be safe, and won't exceed 60 in any case. Maximum five sessions per day, 30-45 minutes in length. Dancing will be touch-free.
Region	Lower Mainland
Audience Capacity	Max 60 students per session, five sessions per day
Tech setup	N/A
Price	\$970
Runtime	30 to 45 minutes

Jellyfish Project (JFP)

The Jellyfish Project (JFP) provides students with a unique experience to learn about ocean health and the climate crisis, motivating them to become active environmental stewards. The presentation features musical performances by a JFP band interspersed with a TED Talk-style presentation and Q&A. Our message of hope helps to mitigate the fear and helplessness students may feel by empowering them with the knowledge that they can become instruments of change. The Jellyfish Project's primary presenters are Laura Mina Mitic and Pat Ferguson from the band "Carmanah." Since 2014 they have delivered the JFP presentation to over 100 schools from Vancouver Island to Windsor, ON. On their travels and consistent with their values, Carmanah lessens their ecological footprint by fuelling their tour vehicle with used vegetable oil procured from restaurants along the way.



The Jellyfish Project

The Jellyfish Project presentation is geared towards Middle and High School students grades 6-12. Performance time depends on the amount of block time we are allotted by each school as well as the age range of the audience. Generally, the presentations are 45 – 60 minutes and include a musical performance by "Carmanah", a TED Talk-style slide presentation by the musicians, and a 5-10 minute Q&A. Laura and Pat are passionate about using art as a form of activism. Their music is a portal to speak about the urgent need for systemic change to deal with the climate crisis.

Details

Grade suitability	6 to 12
COVID-Conscious Notes	Presenters will: wear masks before & after the presentation, wash/sanitize their hands frequently, maintain a 2-metre distance from all students & staff, sanitize their presentation gear. We ask that presenters are escorted to and from performance space, to help ensure that we are not in close contact with students and staff while on the school premises.
Region	Vancouver Island Lower
Audience Capacity	Virtual presentations: unlimited capacity. Live, in-school presentations: total participant numbers must meet BC Health and Safety Guidelines.
Tech setup	Virtual presentations: WIFI, laptop/s, screen, portable mic / laptop mic, speakers, a school tech person for technical support Live, in-school presentations: large screen and projector, outlet
Price	Virtual presentations: \$700 / presentation Live, in-school presentations: \$1500 for two and \$2000 for three.
Runtime	45 to 60 minutes includes Q&A



Jessie and the Gumboot Kids

Join Scout, Daisy and the Gumboot Kids for a playful, fun and educational musical that celebrates the joy and wonder of nature and friendship. Based on the CBC Kids series, Gumboot Kids is proudly made in BC.

Songs by Juno award winner Jessie Farrell.
www.gumbootkids.com

Gumboot Kids - The Musical

Join Scout, Daisy and the Gumboot Kids as they embark on a journey to solve a nature mysteries! The Gumboot Kids' Musical is a multi-media experience featuring audio-visual displays and choreographed dance routines with the show's characters, Scout and Daisy, and the Gumboot Kids. The heart-centered show draws on the themes of nature connection, friendship, play and mindfulness.

Included is a curriculum pack for each school, designed for grades K to 3, with a set of story books, CDs, a series of classroom activities, links to videos online, sheet music, and nature craft ideas, to further extend learning into the classroom.

Details

Grade suitability	K to 3
COVID-Conscious Notes	The Gumboot Kids Musical is temporarily offering two back-to-back shows for the price of one, to allow schools to maintain social distancing, as well as an alternative, outdoor version of the show. All performers will have understudies, in the event an artist is displaying any COVID-like symptoms, and not be permitted to perform. The stage area should also be at least 5 metres away from the students.
Region	Lower Mainland
Audience Capacity	Audience capacity is up to each school and their social distancing requirements. We are able to perform up to two shows for each single booking to increase social distancing opportunities. Outdoor versions of the show are also a possibility, without the accompanying audio-visual component, provided performers can be in a covered area.
Tech setup	Requires access to electrical outlets. Private change area for mascots, close to the stage
Price	\$1,000
Runtime	45 minutes



Karima Essa

A three-time Canadian National Dance champion, Karima Essa is Vancouver's very own Bollywood star. A charismatic performer, choreographer and instructor, she has used her one-of-a-kind Bollywood talent to entertain audiences at festivals, theatres and schools across Canada. In 2014, her love for Bollywood took her to the screens in Mumbai as a two-time finalist on Omni TV's reality show, Bollywood Star. Karima showcased at ArtStarts in 2018 and has performed 100+ shows and dance residencies in B.C. schools. Karima is currently completing her Education Assistance certification and interested in exploring how dance can help improve socio-emotional skills in children with autism.

Bollywood Star Virtual Dance Workshops

Karima is offering schools pre-recorded Bollywood dance modules for both elementary and high schools for beginner, intermediate and advanced levels. There are a total of 3 elementary school dance modules and 3 high school dance modules that can be licensed as a bundle or individually to schools. In each module, Karima will choose one Bollywood song and teach original Bollywood choreography, including the key elements of Bollywood dance: neck and head movements, facial expressions and foot movements, while also using props such as scarves and Dandiya sticks (additional charge for a set of sticks for each student). The music selection and level of dance choreography will match the energy and technical ability for the grade level of the students. students learning more intricate choreography.

Details

Grade suitability

K to 12

Module 1 Beginner Bollywood (grades K-2)
 Module 2 Intermediate Bollywood (grades 3-5)
 Module 3 Advanced Bollywood (grades 6-7)
 Module 4 Beginner Bollywood (grades 8)
 Module 5 Intermediate Bollywood (9-10)
 Module 6 Advanced Bollywood (grades 11-12)

COVID-Conscious Notes

Each dance module will include 45-minutes of pre-recorded content and includes: a 2-min performance of a dance in full Bollywood attire, a 10-minute interactive warm up, 3 x 10-min dance choreography videos, and a 5-minute cool down. Karima will also include a 1 x 30-minute Zoom or Teams workshop session to help students polish their dance so that it is performance ready for parents and their peers.

Price

Fee for one module for 1-year license/school: \$350 + GST
 Fee for 3 modules for 1-year license/school: \$1,000 + GST
 Fee for 6 modules for 1-year license/school: \$1,500 + GST



Kiérah

Kiérah is a multi-award winning violinist and Celtic fiddler who completed her A.R.C.T. in classical violin with First Class Honours with Distinction. However, Kiérah's passion is composing, teaching and performing Celtic fiddle music. As an entertainer, she is an inspiration to young people that with hard work and determination you can accomplish anything! By age 17, Kiérah had her classical teaching certification with the Royal Conservatory of Music, three fiddle albums, a Canadian Folk Music Award and a published book of original fiddle tunes.

Celtic Traditions Across Canada

Celtic Traditions Across Canada is an interactive and educational performance of traditional and contemporary Celtic music found across Canada. Throughout the performance Kiérah plays 8 diverse styles of Celtic fiddle music and explains the history behind each of them. Along with telling the students about the importance of setting goals and hard work, Kiérah demonstrates by her own example the results of setting goals as a young person and working hard in order to achieve them.

Details

Grade suitability	K to 12
COVID-Conscious Notes	<p>IN PERSON PERFORMANCE: I do not require a lot of space to move around so I will be safely distant from students at all times. Typically I invite 2 volunteers to the stage to play the spoons during one song. Either I could omit this, or I could stay well over 2 m away from the students at all times and disinfect the spoons</p> <p>ONLINE LIVE PERFORMANCE: I am set up to perform with beautiful audio/video quality over Zoom. I could do my exact same performance/program, minus the volunteers. As my performance is very interactive, I would perhaps send in my audience questions ahead of time, and have teachers select students in advance that would provide the answers when prompted.</p>
Region	Lower Mainland
Audience Capacity	Unlimited (up to the discretion of the school/government requirements)
Tech setup	<p>In Person: 1 vocal mic, 2 chairs.</p> <p>Online: School requires access to Zoom</p>
Price	<p>IN PERSON: \$555 for one performance. OR \$285 each if multiple performances are needed to limit gathering sizes (3 a day)</p> <p>ONLINE: \$455</p>
Runtime	45 minutes includes Q&A



Krystle Dos Santos

Krystle Dos Santos is a WCMA-award winning blues, jazz and soul singer based in Vancouver with Guyanese roots. She has been performing for more than a decade across Canada and is known for her powerful voice and infectious warmth, pairing original soul music with beloved Motown classics. Her popular Motown school show premiered in 2019 and has been booked into 100+ schools across BC this past year. She continues to receive rave reviews from both students and teachers.

A History of Motown

WCMA award-winning soul singer-songwriter extraordinaire, Krystle Dos Santos and her band will take students back in time to the peak of Motown Music from the late 1950s to 1980s. Krystle's powerful and interactive medleys of hits by The Supremes, Stevie Wonder, the Temptations and the Jackson 5 will have students and teachers singing and dancing in their seats! Students will learn interesting facts about these key artists and about the historical and significant impact that Motown music has had on contemporary soul music today.

Details

Grade suitability K to 12

COVID-Conscious Notes Virtual Performance

Region Lower Mainland

Audience Capacity N/A

Tech setup N/A

Price \$500

Runtime 60 minutes



Kung Jaadee

Kung Jaadee is a professional storyteller, educator, author, singer, drummer and dancer belonging to the X̱aayda (Haida), x̱m̱ḵy̱m̱ (Musqueam) and S̱wx̱w̱mesh (Squamish) First Nations. For nearly 30 years, she has performed traditional Haida legends teaching universal messages about loving ourselves and others, while also sharing personal stories about her clan's survival of the smallpox epidemic and the history and hardships of her people. She has performed at hundreds of events, schools and festivals across Canada and is a published author of several essays, short stories, textbooks and children's books, including her popular books *Raven's Feast* and *Gifts from Raven*.

Haida Stories and Squamish Stories

Kung Jaadee is offering pre-recorded videos of her oral storytelling of some Haida legends (*Raven's Feast*, *Moon Woman*, *Salmon Woman*) and Squamish legends (*How the Squamish People Came to Be*, *Twin Sister* (The Lions mountains), *Capilano River*). Schools can choose to license one or both modules. Each 30-minute video includes 2-3 stories, a song with drumming and a discussion about Haida or culture and regalia. She will also offer a 15-minute virtual Q&A through Zoom, Teams or another online platform to discuss the meanings of these legends and discuss her culture. Students are asked to email questions in advance.

Details

Grade suitability	K to 12
COVID-Conscious Notes	Virtual Performance
Region	Lower Mainland
Audience Capacity	N/A
Tech setup	N/A
Price	Fee for Haida Stories for a 1-yr license: \$500 + GST
Runtime	45 minutes



Rhythm Resource

Daniel Duggan from Rhythm Resource is an expert percussionist with a BMus Honors Degree in Jazz Music, a successful session musician; on TV, Radio, on stage in Theatres and other venues. The author of Percussion Handbooks and online training material, an experienced workshop facilitator and a performer with years of professional success. The original holder of the Official Guinness Worlds Record for the Largest Djembe Drumming Ensemble, with 100's of elementary aged students playing one of his original compositions. His performance overflows with his passion for percussion and people making it a vibrant success.
@rhythmresource

Release the Rhythm, 'Covid Safe' Drumming Workshops

Hands on, interactive Afro-Peruvian drumming workshops for all ages and stages. Students will have fun learning how to play percussion instruments from around the world in a physical fun way together. Afro-Peruvian Drumming with Cajon drums is energetic and engaging, informative and educational. Students will be immersed in a creative cultural experience, while learning new skills and building community with their class mates. These workshops can also be booked as a residency that leads up to a performance by the students.

Details

Grade suitability	K to 12
COVID-Conscious Notes	Students to wash hands before & after workshop. Every participant has their own drum. Each drum is set 2 metres apart. Every instrument is sanitized before & after each workshop. Smaller groups to allow for physical distancing. Artist remains a minimum of 2 metres from students at all times. There's no sharing of instruments and each student is the only person to handle their instruments. Workshops can take place indoors or outside in an undercover area. Sharing events & performances can be privately streamed online for parents/carers to enjoy. Online option available.
Region	Lower Mainland
Audience Capacity	35 students per workshop, to allow for physical distancing. Approx 9 workshops per day.
Tech setup	Gym Hall or Covered area outside (weather permitting), power outlet
Price	\$995
Runtime	1 day



Shayna Jones

Shayna Jones is a professional Performance Storyteller and dedicates her artistic work to fostering the art of Oral Storytelling through African and African-American folklore, true narrative, and song. As a trained actor, singer, and dancer, Shayna brings the art of traditional Oral Storytelling to vibrant life. Audience Participation is lovingly required! Learn more about her work at her website: www.wearestoryfolk.com.

FugitiveFolk: Tales of African Slaves in North America

FugitiveFolk is a sweeping 35 - 45 minute expedition into the real life experiences of African Slaves in North America. Gritty, yet full of heart, warmth, and soulful songs, these tales will leave students with a deeper awareness of African Canadians, African Americans, and of their own unique yearning for freedom, regardless of cultural affiliation.

Details

Grade suitability	K to 6
COVID-Conscious Notes	Physical interaction is not required for this live performance. The solo artist requires no physical contact with students. Students may sit as far apart from one another as the performance space allows.
Region	Kootenays
Audience Capacity	500
Tech setup	A fully-functional cordless microphone, a fully-functional PA System (if it is built into the gymnasium/performance space, that is fine), and a fully-functional mic stand.
Price	\$700
Runtime	35 to 45 minutes

Stephanie Morin-Robert

Stephanie Morin-Robert is a one-eyed multi-award winning multidisciplinary artist (and mother) who tours to festivals, theatres and schools across the globe. Her solo work "BLINDSIDE" has captivated and delighted students, audiences, critics, and producers with its beautiful vulnerability and humour. Her upcoming Canadian, European and American tours underline her sought-out creativity and professionalism, as well as her dedication to presenting Canadian work on the international stage. Stephanie is known throughout the Canadian arts- community for her vibrant spirit and talent to inspire. When she was 2 years-old she lost her left eye to Cancer and has had a glass eye ever since. Through her performance of "BLINDSIDE", she establishes a trusting and safe environment by sharing her very own experiences with bullying and how she managed to work through her insecurities and come to terms with her disability.



BLINDSIDE

An eye-opening and highly recommended comedy about resilience, empathy, and self-acceptance. In a feat of riveting comedy, one-eyed cancer survivor Stephanie Morin-Robert recounts her life as a feisty 7-year-old who wields her glass-eye as a weapon. With the help of her cat, a pair of sunglasses, and an undesirable superpower, she soon discovers that she has what it takes to face her tormenting bullies at her new school and come to terms with her disability. This powerful show combines comedy, storytelling, puppetry, multimedia, and audience participation.

Details

Grade suitability	K to 12 (This show is available for all ages. However, different versions of the show are performed for different age groups.)
COVID-Conscious Notes	A video link and live zoom q&a with the artist is available if need be.
Region	Lower Mainland
Audience Capacity	600 (up to the discretion of the school/government requirements)
Tech setup	Power outlet, projection screen, PA sound system. The artist can also be completely self sufficient and bring her own equipment.
Price	\$1,000
Runtime	45 includes Q&A



The Bluesberries

The Blues Berries have performed before thousands of young audiences in schools, festivals and community venues across North America for nearly 20 years with carefully designed programs that excite and inspire students to the joys of modern music! They have three recordings that have each been nominated for West Coast Music Awards.

The History of the Blues Feat. Dawn Pemberton

The History of the Blues is a power-packed show from one of Canada's best-known groups for introducing popular music to young audiences. The performance traces the history of blues with an emphasis on how it has influenced popular music. The performance tells the social and musical history of the Blues from Washtub band to Hip Hop. Audiences can expect to hear everything from traditional field hollers to the White Stripes, Big Momma Thornton to Koko Taylor and Muddy Waters to the Sugar Hill Gang. Audiences will laugh, clap and sing while learning about vital social history. They will dance along with the queen of Rock 'n Roll and even do the hokey pokey. Live stream option also available.

Details

Grade suitability K to 12

COVID-Conscious Notes

The band will be placed farther back from the audience and social distanced on stage, students will be spaced to limit contact, dances and student participation will be modified to insure social distancing, projector and chairs will be cleaned and sanitized after the performance, performers will hand sanitize before entering and before and after the performance, performers not singing will be wearing masks, performers will have Covid-19 tests before performances and health monitored, equipment used and brought into schools will be sanitized before entry to school, and after leaving

Region Lower Mainland

Audience Capacity As many as can be safely socially distanced in the gym size

Tech setup Projector and Screen, two chairs, power outlet

Price \$895

Runtime 50 to 60 minutes



The Well Worn Trail

Rob and Lillian are lifelong musicians, songwriters and performers with a deep passion for environmental stewardship. They combine their talents into unique and uplifting performances which have been seen by tens of thousands from Vancouver to Newfoundland. They have also led song writing workshops in three BC elementary schools. As ecological caretakers, they encourage connection, protection and respect (CPR) for biodiversity and our great outdoors through homegrown music, puppetry, natural instruments and more! In their inspiring performances, they will take you on a musical, fact-based journey to kindle the amazing wonders of the natural world around us!

The Well Worn Trail

Our multi-sensory performance focuses on our connection to nature, land and place. We blend science, music, language and visual arts to give students insight into Canadian wildlife, their habits and lifestyles. Recorded animal voices, realistic-looking puppetry, natural props and instruments provide students and staff with a deeper understanding of Canada's biodiversity in our backyards and the wider world. The performances are filled with unusual and fascinating facts, inspiring songs and stories ranging from dragonflies to humpback whales. Our uplifting presentations appeal to all, yet we tailor them according to the ages and grades of the students.

Details

Grade suitability	K to 7
COVID-Conscious Notes	As performers, we will adhere to BC's continually updated protocol and to the COVID health-safety regulations for each school and each district according to developing provincial standards. This includes proper distancing. We will maintain this ourselves and ensure students follow this as well. We will also have a no-touch policy regarding our puppets, props, instruments and equipment. Online options available.
Region	Lower Mainland
Audience Capacity	To be determined by each school/district. We've worked with and have performed for individual classes (under 25 students) as well as full-school audiences (~800).
Tech setup	Two 8' tables for prop placement, two chairs and a PA system
Price	\$700
Runtime	60 mins includes Q&A



Tiny Islands

Hailing from a musical family, Tim Sars, veteran leader of Vancouver's inimitable Carnival Band, has over a decade of experience entertaining and engaging kids and their families with fun, spirited and participatory music.

Jazzology / Funkonomics

There's no more exciting way to introduce kids to a variety of musical instruments than through the upbeat, can't-sit-still jazz of the 1920s and '30s. Jazzology engages kids of all ages with irresistible tunes by jazz greats like Louis Armstrong, Cab Calloway and Fats Waller.

For a more contemporary sound, Tiny Islands presents Funkonomics. Featuring funk essentials like James Brown, Parliament, and even that classic 1970s disco hit "Do the Hustle," this program will get everyone moving and grooving to the driving rhythms of funk music. Be ready for energetic audience participation, from clapping to call-and-response, and getting your funk on.

Details

Grade suitability	K to 12
COVID-Conscious Notes	The group will present up to five or six 'mini-shows', each lasting about 30 minutes, spread throughout the day.
Region	Lower Mainland
Audience Capacity	We assume that the limit will be 50 per session unless otherwise advised.
Tech setup	N/A
Price	\$1,520
Runtime	1 day



Twin Kennedy

Their musical bond is as strong as their small town roots. Twin Kennedy, comprised of West Coast sisters Carli and Julie Kennedy, have been making music since they could talk. Born and raised in the small town of Powell River, BC, Twin Kennedy grew up perfecting their sibling harmonies and dynamic live performances, while making their name known throughout their small community as a family band.

Classical to Country

This Canadian country duo takes audiences on a tour from classical to country, with a mix of popular songs, instrumental fiddle tunes, and a taste of classical music. Twin sisters Carli and Julie have been making music together since they could talk and their musical bond is as strong as their small-town roots. Students will be inspired by their high-energy performance that showcases their virtuosity on guitar, fiddle, banjo, electric bass, and vocals.

Details

Grade suitability	K to 12
COVID-Conscious Notes	Up to five mini-performances spaced throughout out the day for smaller audiences.
Region	Vancouver Island Lower (Victoria Only)
Audience Capacity	Each mini-performance can play to whatever the school's limit may be; audiences of 50 maximum are anticipated
Tech setup	N/A
Price	\$1,270
Runtime	50 mins

Uzume Taiko

Uzume Taiko celebrates the rhythm of life itself with shows that wow audiences through a uniquely theatrical blend of music and dance. They have hand crafted a unique brand of West Coast Canadian taiko drumming that offers a visual, sonic and dynamic experience to their audience. Awarded “ArtStarts Champions” for their commitment to touring, Uzume Taiko has performed taiko drumming in schools, festivals and community venues across BC since 1992. The group has toured their evening concerts, festival and youth shows across North America, the United Kingdom and Europe. Uzume Taiko brings a vibrant, contemporary sensibility to an ancient art.



Virtual Taiko Drum Workshop

This Workshop has four components:

1. A Virtual Uzume Taiko Drum Performance.
 2. DIY Drum Objects and Drumsticks.
 3. Participation in a live ZOOM Taiko Basic Drills Drum Lesson.
 4. Practice Taiko Drumming with online videos.
- The Program is suitable for K to 12 students in schools and at-home learning environments. Students experience the artform through the Virtual Performance. They see examples of DIY Drums and Drumsticks from home objects. Students also receive “Taiko BasicDrills” video tutorials with corresponding Study Guide to practice with.

Details

Grade suitability

K to 12

COVID-Conscious Notes

Students participate using a desktop or DIY Drum from home and a pair of DIY drumsticks. DIY Drum from home can be a plastic tub, garbage can, tote bin, laundry basket, cardboard box, mixing bowl, cookie tin, or pot. DIY drumsticks can be wooden spoons, chopsticks, spatulas, paint brushes, or pencils. Alternately a drum pad can be placed on a desktop to soften the impact and sound. Drum pads can be a folded blanket, towel, mouse pad, cushion, or mat.

Region

Lower Mainland

Audience Capacity

One Learning Group per ZOOM Session (30 – 60 Students), at-home students may attend the ZOOM Session along with their in-school Learning Group.

Tech setup

Participants require internet access, technical device (computer, laptop, tablet, or cell phone), a desktop or DIY Drum from home, and a pair of DIY drumsticks to practice with.

Price

\$775

Runtime

1 day (up to 8, 50 min sessions)



V'ni Dansi

V'ni Dansi is a Vancouver-based traditional Métis and contemporary dance company dedicated to sharing the dances, stories and culture of the Métis. Led by Artistic Director, Yvonne Chartrand, V'ni Dansi holds the distinction of being the only company in Canada dedicated to both Métis and contemporary dance. Meaning "come and dance" in Michif, V'ni Dansi is thrilled to share the Métis people's joyful culture with audiences of all nations. V'ni Dansi's Louis Riel Métis Dancers specialize in traditional Métis dance and are dedicated to preserving traditional Métis dances.

Métis Dance Workshop

Our workshops are appropriate for audiences of all ages and include an introduction to Métis history and culture and a participatory tutorial on traditional Métis jigging and dancing. Accompanied by a fiddle player, our instructors have extensive experience teaching children of all ages and skill levels. Workshops are led by 1 dance facilitator & 1 fiddle player.

Details

Grade suitability	K to 12
COVID-Conscious Notes	To support a safe environment for students, staff, and artists, these workshops can be adapted to allow for physical distancing. Limiting the size of groups to approximately 30 students and conducting the workshops in the gymnasium will allow for the students to spread out during the instruction and participation.
Region	Lower Mainland
Audience Capacity	Approx 30 students
Tech setup	Sufficient floor space to accommodate physical distancing for 30 students, school staff, and 2 artists. No concrete or carpet. Wood or stage flooring.
Price	\$800
Runtime	1 day (up to 5, 50 min workshops)

Vancouver TheatreSports League

Vancouver TheatreSports® League (VTSL) began in 1980 and is now a local institution and a worldwide phenomenon, producing and staging some of the most daring and innovative improv in the world.



Inclusive Impov

What is inclusion and why does it matter? What better way for students to find out than through improv, where all voices and ideas are included? Vancouver TheatreSports' Inclusive Impov takes the familiar format of improv comedy and reinvents it by placing it in an inclusive world. Students of all ages won't just be learning about inclusivity, they'll be putting it into hilarious action in this dynamic and collaborative performance.

Details

Grade suitability	K to 12
COVID-Conscious Notes	Up to five mini-performances spaced throughout out the day for smaller audiences.
Region	Lower Mainland
Audience Capacity	Each mini-performance can play to whatever the school's limit may be; audiences of 50 maximum are anticipated
Tech setup	N/A
Price	\$1,520
Runtime	45 mins

West My Friend

Steeped in the visual styles of western Canada, West My Friend are veterans of the Victoria music scene. After 10 years as a band, they've recently released their fourth album, *In Constellation*, in September. On this, their latest effort, West My Friend continues to refine the art of creating achingly poignant folk music, only this time, they're backed by a full symphony orchestra, heavily layered while remaining lighthearted. Intricate yet accessible.



Canadian Folk Rumours

West My Friend introduces students to Canada's rich folk-music history from the voyageurs to the present. Weaving together rousing renditions of classic songs from "Big Yellow Taxi" to "Great Big Sea", West My Friend points students to the soul of the music whether it a celebratory, social commentary, or just plain silly. Students will come away from this performance with a knowledge of some of Canada's greatest folk music by such luminaries as Gordon Lightfoot, Joni Mitchell, Stan Rogers, Stompin' Tom Connors, Barenaked Ladies, and Great Big Sea. West My Friend takes students on a rollicking ride through Canada's proud folk music history.

Details

Grade suitability	K to 12
COVID-Conscious Notes	Up to five mini-performances spaced throughout out the day for smaller audiences.
Region	Vancouver Island Lower (Victoria Only)
Audience Capacity	Each mini-performance can play to whatever the school's limit may be; audiences of 50 maximum are anticipated
Tech setup	N/A
Price	\$1,520
Runtime	45 mins



Will Stroet

JUNO-nominated bilingual singer-songwriter and CBC Kids star, Will Stroet of Will's Jams shares his passion for music, languages and education with children across the country. Since transitioning from teaching to music full time, Will has performed over 2,000 shows in schools, theatres and festivals in Canada and China. In addition to his popular English, French and bilingual school shows of original music, Will leads songwriting workshops and has also created a new live show called "Hootenanny: A Folk Song Sing-Along" with singer-songwriter Jessica Mai.

Just Imagine / Imagine livestream concerts

Will is now offering schools a customized solo livestream concert in English, French or both languages. Schools/classes have the option of creating their own setlist of their favourite Will's Jams songs from his nationally acclaimed albums in English and French. Over the past decade touring schools, Will has developed a top-notch school show with audience participation, witty wordplay, sign language and catchy sing-along choruses. Will's original music explores the themes of literacy, imagination and creativity, and living a healthy and active lifestyle, which ties into BC's school curriculum. Workshop is also available as a live stream.

The concert also includes a 15-minute Q & A session on Teams or Zoom where students can ask Will questions about his music, songwriting process or tips for how to write your own songs.

Details

Grade suitability	K to 7
COVID-Conscious Notes	Virtual Performance
Region	Lower Mainland
Audience Capacity	N/A
Tech setup	N/A
Price	\$500
Runtime	50 mins