

Concerts that Connect!
Interdisciplinary Units and the School Concert Band
March 28, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.
presented by Travis J. Weller

I. Introduction

- A. “You lured me here under the pretense of concerts...”
- B. How are interdisciplinary units defined?
 - 1. A unit of study involving two or more academic disciplines that are usually considered distinct.

II. Why consider using them?

- A. Enrichment
- B. Connection and Perspective
- C. Meaningful Experience

III. Session Activity 1 - Examining Personal Experience

- A. Consider the following prompts, and record your best, most vibrant memory.

Recording I cannot live without:	_____
Earliest musical memory:	_____
My best personal musical performance:	_____
My hidden musical pleasure:	_____
A song that changed my life:	_____
Best musical experience in school (as a student):	_____
Best musical moment as an educator:	_____
Melodies I can sing from memory:	_____
Other experiences in music:	_____

IV. What do we want?

- A. Meaningful Musical Experiences
- B. Promote Life-long Relationships and Appreciation
- C. Uniqueness/Brilliance/Lasting Connections

V. Interdisciplinary Units

- A. PURPOSE – What do we hope to gain for our students?
- B. BALANCE – How much is too much? How little is too little?
- C. RELATIONSHIPS – How strong is the relationship? Does it connect well with other subjects

VI. Session Activity 2 – Noticing Nuance, Detail and Emotion in Art

After viewing the four painting depicting the journey of the Cherokee Nation from North Carolina to Oklahoma, arrange them chronologically (1 being the first, 4 being the last). Consider the following in your analysis of each piece of art: seasonal cues in nature, and the depiction of emotional expression by the Cherokee. Discuss the emotional and spiritual tone that each artist creates by use of subtle details in their recreation of this historical event.

<u>Painting Name – Artist</u>	<u>Order</u>
The Trail of Tears by Lindneaux	_____
Leaving the Memories by Vann	_____
The Trail of Tears by Standley	_____
Shadow of the Owl by Guthrie	_____

VII. Session Activity 3 – Interdisciplinary Unit Brainstorming

Gather in groups of 2-5 (with balanced grade level representation if possible).

One member of your group will be asked to draw a theme/topic for an Interdisciplinary Unit

Using the sheet in your packet, nominate a recorder to write down ideas for resources and repertoire that can potentially connect to the Interdisciplinary Theme/Topic for your group.

One member will be asked to briefly present your topic, resources, and relevant repertoire that could be utilized.

Other groups will be invited to share ideas for resources and repertoire after that group reports.

VIII. Coda

A. How much is too much? How little is too little?

B. Balancing cultural heritage, ensemble history, context of teaching, needs of the students, and personal experience and strengths.

Contact Information

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Major Goals of other Fine Arts

ART	FASHION	POETRY	DANCE
Awareness of form, medium & styles	Business	Expansion of thinking	Strength & Flexibility
Mastery of Techniques	Design	Vivid Description	Body as art form
Evaluating quality	Social Context	Phonetics	Movement through space & time
Analysis of subject matter	Function	Self-expression	Choreography
Attention to Nuance	Creativity	Performing	Evaluating Quality
Educated Consumer	Technology	Appreciation	Styles
	Evaluating quality of a product	Literary technique/ composition	Health

General Points of Connection to Music

ART	FASHION	POETRY	DANCE
Evaluation Component	Evaluation Component	Evaluation Component	Evaluation Component
Self-expression/creation of product	Self-expression/creation of product	Self-expression/creation of product	Self-expression/creation of product
Nuance	Acceptability	Nuance	Nuance
Historical/cultural	Historical/cultural	Historical/cultural	Historical/cultural
Value and Variety of Media		Aural/Oral Elements	Practice and Performance
Inspiration to and from		Rhythm and Meter	Repetition
			Physical Energy/Health
			Rhythm, Meter, Phrasing

CONCERTS THAT CONNECT!

Group presentation on Interdisciplinary Concerts/Theme Concerts

Group Members:

Interdisciplinary/Theme Concert Topic:

On-site/in-house resources for rehearsal and performance enrichment:

Ideas for resources to bring into the rehearsal and performance setting:

Programming Ideas for Elementary Band related to Interdisciplinary/Theme Concert Topic:

Name of Piece	Composer/Arranger	How is it relatable?
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Programming Ideas for Middle School/Junior High Band related to Interdisciplinary/Theme Concert Topic:

Name of Piece	Composer/Arranger	How is it relatable?
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Programming Ideas for High School Band related to Interdisciplinary/Theme Concert Topic:

Name of Piece	Composer/Arranger	How is it relatable?

Programming Ideas for Adult/Community Band related to Interdisciplinary/Theme Concert Topic:

Name of Piece	Composer/Arranger	How is it relatable?