

TAGT Conference – Houston, TX
November 15, 2007

Presenters: Kirk deCordova and Roberta Rast

Fiddle Flair!
Integrating Music Into the Classroom, GT Style!

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November 15, 2007
12:10 P.M. Room 332E

Fiddle Flair! **Integrating Music Into the Classroom, GT Style!**

Presenters: Kirk deCordova and Roberta Rast

Description: This workshop will present practical methods for integrating the wonderful world of music into your classroom. An emphasis will be placed on activities and resources along with brief profiles of gifted musicians. Come and be dazzled by expert fiddling while gaining knowledge and taking home a few new ideas.

Songs for the Classroom

HISTORY:

Musicians that feature historical songs

- Al Stewart/Dave Nachmanoff
- Woody Guthrie
- Johnny Horton

Original Song: Another Day, Another Dollar

ANOTHER DAY, ANOTHER DOLLAR (The Ballad of Kelly Flint)

I've left my home in County Cork,
There's nothing for me now,
And I've sailed across the ocean,
And I'll find myself somehow,
Like so many men before me,
I will make a new life here,
Another day, another week, another year.

When I stepped off from my passage ship,
I met a man named Tim,
And he said he'd take good care of me,
If I would vote for him,
Well, he found me an apartment,
And he bought me food and beer,
Another day, another week, another year

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Chorus:

*Another day, another dollar, another week, another year,
I've come searching for my fortune,
And I know my fortune's here,
They say that it's a land of promise,
And the promises are near,
Another day, another week, another year*

I arrived in 1860, they soon handed me a gun,
And they sent me to Virginia to a place they called Bull Run,
"The Southland's in rebellion, lad. The enemy is near!"
Another day, another week, another year.

Well, I fought beside my countrymen,
And hell fire we have seen,
And our regimental banner was a harp on field of green,
And we followed old Bill Sherman from Atlanta to the Sea,
They say that this could be the end of Bobby Lee.

Chorus

Bridge:

I know what I've left behind,
And I know what I have seen,
But lately I seem to wish that I,
Was in Ireland again.

Well the war it soon was over,
But the railroad's just begun,
So I joined an Irish grading crew,
And worked from sun to sun,
Well, we wasted all our money,
On cheap whiskey and warm beer,
Another day, another week, another year.

Oh, the UP's* heavy labor on my body took its toil,
And if the man can't break your spirit,
Then he's gonna steal your soul,
If you're looking for my body,
You will find it buried here,
Another day, another week, another year.

Chorus

* Union Pacific Railroad
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SCIENCE:

Photosynthesis Song

“Photosynthesis Song”

There is a process that affects you and me,
And every bird in the sky and every fish in the sea,
Every tree on the mountain, every plant on the list,
It's a crazy, little thing called photosynthesis.

Yeah, it's a part of science that you might have missed,
But I know that you'll get it if try and persist,
It's a deep, dark mystery lost in the mists,
And such a weird name, “Photosynthesis.”

Chorus:
Photosynthesis, Photosynthesis,
It's so important that I gotta insist,
Photosynthesis, Photosynthesis,
It's a part of biology that you can't dismiss.

Yeah, photo means light, and it's gonna change,
And it doesn't take long to see how it will arrange,
If you have the right elements, they'll be an exchange,
Light turns to sugar and that's really strange.

Chorus

Rap:
Ya put six water and six carbon-d in,
Then ya get a sugar back and six oxygen,
The plants need the food and the people need the air,
Still ya just a-sittin there like you just don't care,

What we're talkin bout here is life and death,
Without photosynthesis you ain't got breath,
Now if you're saying this is something not to dis,
Now you're understanding photosynthesis.

Chorus

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Activities for the Classroom

ENGLISH:

Musical Activities

- "Crazy Leaders" – creative activity where students choose a song, a leader, a situation, and a musical instrument and connect them together in a short story or poem.
- "Good Cause" – creative activity (similar to "Crazy Leaders") where students choose a music star, a charity, and a school fund raising method as basis for an original story.
- Musical Haikus – students can write haikus with a musical theme
- Reflective Writing – teacher plays a song and students write down words and phrases describing their emotions during the song; students use these notes to write their own story or poem.
- Background Music – teacher uses music to set the tone for writing activities

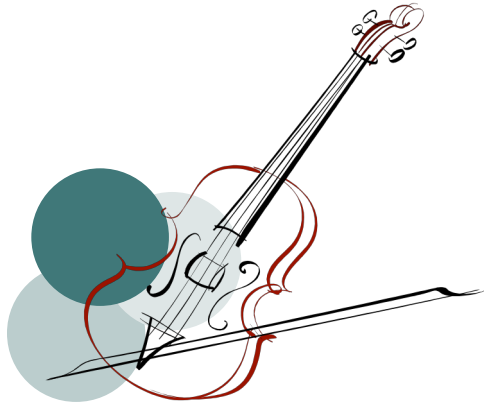
INTERDISCIPLINARY:

Musical Activities

- "Name That Thar Tune" – Teacher plays several songs within a specific theme for the students to identify by title
- "Jammin' Jukebox Jury" – teacher chooses eight songs around a thematic unit; five students form a "jury" that votes which songs continue in the competition and which songs are eliminated.
- Thematic Music – teacher chooses songs to enrich a topic of study
Ex. – country/region, historical event, literary theme ect.
- Musical Instruments – teachers utilize musicians in the school to demonstrate various musical instruments in the classroom

*For recordings of original songs by Kirk deCordova and Roberta Rast please email fiddleflair@aol.com.

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**Kirk deCordova
and
Roberta Rast**

Present

Gifted Ed with Fiddle Flair!

**Teacher Training
Fulfill GT Update Requirements With Live Music!**

Professional educators have said:

“Fun, exciting, yet informative!”

“Best day of in-service ever!”

“18 years of teaching – I can’t remember a more enjoyable and pleasantly informative workshop!”

Roberta Rast

- **World Champion Fiddler**
- **6-Time U.S. National Fiddle Champion**
- **Performed twice on the Grand Ole Opry**

Kirk deCordova

- **GT District Coordinator**
- **13 Years GT Experience**
- **Palmer ISD Teacher of the Year**

For more information or booking, please contact:

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