

Kansas City Young Audiences

Teacher Program Guide

Native American Flute Playing

Artist: TerryLee Whetstone

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Contact KCYA for
more information on
this and other
programs.

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Performance Description

The Native American flute is a harmonic instrument. TerryLee Whetstone, an internationally re-known musician and teaching artist, believes that the melody created with the flute creates calm and a sense of well-being.

TerryLee's performance introduces students to the Native American flute and its place in American Indian culture. He explains the history of the instrument based on Cherokee traditions and beliefs and demonstrates his playing techniques. TerryLee's performance include a Native American creation story as told through music.

TerryLee has written and recorded Native American flute music on albums

which have sold worldwide. He has performed at Border's Books, toured for Barnes & Noble, and the Hospice Organization. TerryLee has given presentations at universities around the United States.

TerryLee has over 20 years of experience as a guest speaker. He is also an accomplished jewelry designer and storyteller.



Educational Objectives and Standards

Students will:

- Explore Native American culture through its indigenous art forms
- Recognize that music has deep cultural significance in every culture

National Music Standards:

- Identifies music by genre or style from various historical periods and cultures

Social Studies Standard:

- Know how a culture's art works and artifacts reflect its values and beliefs

Special Points of Interest:

This performance is designed for students in grade K-12. KCYA offers the workshop, *Navajo Weaving & Design*, which is an excellent companion workshop to this performance.

Special REQUIREMENTS:

Open performance space; two 6' tables; space available 20 minutes before performance for set up

Artist Bio: TerryLee Whetstone

TerryLee Whetstone has over 20 years of experience as a professional teaching artist on the Native American Flute. He is an internationally known musician and has released seven albums.

TerryLee has spent more than 30 years researching American Indian traditions, specializing in the cultures of the Dakota and the Cherokee.

TerryLee is also an ac-

complished jewelry maker and painter. He cuts and polishes stones set into American Indian jewelry of his own design. His paintings and jewelry have been featured in shows across the Midwest.

TerryLee says the basis for all his artwork are the stories handed down by the Elders.



TerryLee Whetstone

Vocabulary

Ceremonial pipe: Pipe used at significant events; preferred over “peace pipe.”

E-do-da: (Cherokee) Father

Grand Entry: The moment when the flags are brought in at a pow-wow; one should stand without speaking.

Oa-Ho’: (Cherokee) “It is so”, final.

Ogawadogge: (Cherokee) Heart

Osiyo: (Cherokee) Hello

Regalia: Ceremonial attire; preferred over “costume.”

Wa-do’: (Cherokee) Thank you

Post-Performance Activities

1. Research and listen to recordings of Native American music. What is the significance of music in Native American culture? How have these traditions been preserved over time and how have they changed?
2. Ask students to check out books in the school library about the stories and traditions of the Cherokee, Dakota and other Native American Peoples. Ask students to share the

stories they read and talk about what life values they think are important in Native American cultures.

3. Ask students to consider what it means for them to get “dressed-up.” Have they ever worn “ceremonial attire?” For Scouts, for a religious ceremony, for a family reunion or celebration?



List of Resources

BOOKS

Nakai, R. Carlos.

The Art of the Native American Flute.
Mel Bay Publications, 1997.

Crawford, Tim R. and Kathleen Joyce-Grendahl. Flute Magic: An Introduction to the Native American Flute.
Raindance Publications, 1999.

Spotted-Eagle, Douglas. Voices of Native America: Native American Music.
Eagle’s View Pub., 1997.