



# Goodnight Moonshine

## Sensory Songwriting

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To build a song without needing to learn to read music
- To learn how melodies carry emotion
- To learn the parts of a song
- To explore the many purposes of songwriting

### ABOUT THE PROGRAMS

Married couple Duo Eben and Molly deliver beautiful performances of their songs encouraging listeners to embrace opposing desires, to challenge as well as support each other through inspiration and dissolution, and hopefully to share this journey with their larger communities. Performances and workshops are available for all audiences on topics of sensory-songwriting techniques, vocal direction and instruction, and guitar lessons for all.





# About the Artist & Program Preparations

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Molly Venter's voice has caught the ear of industry giants, and been prominently featured on FOX television, Apple Computers and in Warner Brothers films. Molly and Eben's Co-write "Willow Tree" was a #1 hit on the folk charts in 2014 and was featured in USA Today. Consummate performers, Molly and Eben have also appeared nationally and internationally, 100+ shows a year, with their respective bands Red Molly and Roosevelt Dime. Molly has been turning her journals into songs, turning her songs into records, and playing shows coast-to-coast for nearly 20 years; first as a solo artist, next in Red Molly, and now in Goodnight Moonshine as well. Eben Pariser studied music at the Oberlin Conservatory. He worked for nine years as a neuroscientist, researching birdsong and neurogenesis at New York's Rockefeller University and co-authoring several papers in prominent scientific journals, before shifting to music full-time. He plays guitar and sings in Goodnight Moonshine, and Roosevelt Dime, and has recently become the musical director for Red Molly. His song "Oh To Be" have hit #1 and #6 on the folk charts. Eben's experience as a musician runs the gamut- he sings, plays, directs, engineers, mixes, writes and arranges for horns and strings, produces records, and is a songwriter.

## SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

### Sensory Writing

This is a valuable tool for building poignancy and persuasion in any kind of writing. It's a way to build a relationship with the person in our story. The reader/listener can relate to the sensation of what's happening to the character.

<http://www.scholastic.com/browse/lessonplan.jsp?id=1115>

Put students in small groups.

Pick a scene (eg. the beach in October) or a noun (eg. hammock). Students can then explain the senses to the group: sights, sounds, smells, touch, taste, inner sensations.

Set a timer for 2min for each sense, and describe in as much detail as possible the sensory experiences the scene or noun inspires. Eg. "I taste the bitter salt spray. I feel a damp bone-chilling cold."

## CURRICULAR LINKS

### The National Core Arts Standards:

Anchor Standard 1: Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.

Anchor Standard 2: Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.

Anchor Standard 3: Refine and complete artistic work.

### Common Core Standards, ELA:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.3.1.C: Ask questions to check understanding of information presented, stay on topic, and link their comments to the remarks of others.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.3.1.D: Explain their own ideas and understanding in light of the discussion.

***Interested in Guitar lessons, or guitar workshops with Goodnight Moonshine? Give us a call!***



Website:

<http://www.aflct.org>



Contact:

203.230.8101



Email:

[info@aflct.org](mailto:info@aflct.org)