



TAIKOZA

Drumming from Japan

Grades K-12

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To demonstrate the sounds and rhythms of traditional Japanese Folk instruments.
- To educate audiences on the rich history of Japanese music.
- To demonstrate the incredible sounds and sights associated with Taikoza drumming.

ABOUT THE PROGRAMS

Taikoza is a powerful, exciting journey through Japanese Folk music with the incredible rhythm of the Taiko drums. This percussion-based group has dazzled audiences worldwide and is as thrilling as it is educational. This program is filled with both traditional music, and original compositions crafted by the band themselves. With the group's vast experience and skill, audiences are sure to enjoy these artists' performance, and the group never fails to excite!

FEATURED MUSIC

Hachijo: A song accompanied at first by a slow drum beat.

Mayake: A Taiko rhythm from Miyake island.

Matsuri: An Obon dance accompaniment.

Elsa: Music played during a festival of the same name.

Yatai Bayashi: A drum routine from the Chichibu Festival; originally played as a means to control oarsmen on barges.

Beginnings: An original piece created and performed by Taikoza.



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About the Artist & Program Preparations

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Founded in 1995 by Marco Lienhard, Taikoza has performed worldwide, electrifying audiences with the group's incredible talent, technique, and instruments. They have performed in concert halls, corporate parties, festivals, and school assemblies. In 2004, Taikoza's first album, Beginnings, was nominated for a Just Plain Folks Music Award.

VOCABULARY

Taiko: Literally translated, a Taiko is a "big drum." The term specifically describes a large, hollow drum made from keyaki wood and rawhide. It was used to drive away evil spirits.

Shakuhachi: A bamboo flute originally used during Buddhist meditation.

Fue: Similar to the piccolo, this is a bamboo flute played in festivals.

Koto: A semi-cylindrical zither with thirteen strings, each with a movable bridge making this a versatile instrument.

PRE PROGRAM

- Have a short geography lesson on Japan. Focus on the physical geography, as well as the area's history and culture. Be sure to study the islands and the capitol of Japan.
- Listen to contemporary music in the United States and compare that to traditional Japanese Folk music. Make a list of the similarities and differences. Ask your students which they prefer, and why. Be sure to have them reinforce their beliefs with adequate reasoning.
- Ask your students what they expect the performance will be like, and discuss why they hold these beliefs.
- Discuss the instruments you will be seeing in the performance and how they compare to Western percussion instruments.

POST PROGRAM

- Was the performance similar in any way to what your students expected? Have them describe how their preconceptions differed from reality, or how their beliefs were correct.
- Discuss the names and history of the instruments used by Taikoza.
- Ask your students if, and how, Taikoza's music is comparable to any contemporary music popular in the United States.

WEB RESOURCES

<http://www.fushudaiko.org/>
<http://www.sftaiko.com/>
<http://collegiatetaiko.org/>
<http://www.drum-tao.com/en/>

CURRICULAR LINKS

National Core Arts Standards

Anchor Standard #7. Perceive and analyze artistic work.

Anchor Standard #8. Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.

Anchor Standard #9. Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.

Anchor Standard #11. Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding.

Common Core Standards: Speaking & Listening: Comprehension & Collaboration



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