



VIRTUAL CONCERT: Featuring Black Musicians

Age Range:	All Ages
Learning Objective:	Students will listen and respond to pieces by notable Black musicians.
Concert Length:	20–30 minutes (Videos only: 17 min.)

HOW TO USE Virtual Concerts

Virtual Concerts give students the opportunity to practice being an audience and experience a variety of music. The teacher or students can play the role of Concert Host narrating between each piece of music.

Use the provided Concert Host Script to guide students through a series of videos reenacting a concert. Please customize the lesson to fit your needs, resources, and teaching style.

CUSTOMIZE the experience

Every classroom is unique. Choose among the following ideas to make the experience fit your teaching style and your students' needs.

- 1. Integrate imaginative play.** Imaginative play increases social skills and the ability to manage emotions. Here's a suggestion on how to utilize imaginative play: Pretend to take a field trip to the concert— in your very own school! Build excitement for the experience a couple days in advance. On the day of the concert, pretend to get on a bus. Pretend to drive students to the concert (maybe you take them on a circle of the school hallways). Arrive back at the classroom and find seats. Create an exciting atmosphere by turning off the lights. At the end of the concert, encourage kids to share with their families. *(Recommended for Grades K–2)*
- 2. Encourage student involvement through concert hosting.** Cut the script into strips and hand them out to different students. Be sure to number the strips first, so you can call kids up at the appropriate time. *(Recommended for Grades 4 and up.)*
- 3. Make the experience interactive.** Pause for reflection after each video. Ask kids what they noticed, what surprised them, what questions they have. Invite students to share their thoughts with a neighbor, so everyone gets a chance to talk. *(Recommended for all ages.)*
- 4. Discuss the role of the audience.** Prepare students for the virtual concert experience with a discussion about different kinds of audiences. Reflect on the difference between the crowd at a hockey game, the crowd at a rock concert, and the crowd at a choir concert. See our [Audience Lesson](#) for more ideas.

EXTEND learning

Choose one or more of the links below to learn more about the artists.

- **Valerie Coleman:** In 2020, she was named "Classical Woman of the Year" by the national radio show, *Performance Today*. Read about her award [here](#).
- **Stevie Wonder:** Try [this version](#) of the Stevie Wonder song. It includes visuals for adding body percussion.
- **Jessye Norman:** Watch a few minutes (or all) of [this interview](#) with Jessye Norman.
- **Hazel Scott:** Check out this [in-depth exploration](#) of Hazel Scott's career.