
Portraying Love in Music

Opening song

"I Love You Truly."

Visual aids

Valentines; heart-shaped candy, box of chocolates; bouquet of flowers; love letters; photographs of loving couples

Songs to sing

"For Me and My Gal"

"I Want a Girl"

"When You Wore a Tulip"

"Bicycle Built for Two"

"Down by the Old Mill Stream"

"Love and Marriage"

"Love Me Tender"

"True Love"

"Let Me Call You Sweetheart"

"You Made Me Love You"

"Button Up Your Overcoat"

"It's Been a Long, Long Time"

"Love Makes the World Go Round"

"When I Grow Too Old to Dream"

Music for listening

Tchaikovsky's *Overture to Romeo and Juliet*

Wagner's *Overture to Tristan and Isolde*

Puccini's "Love Duet" from *La Boheme*

Gershwin's "Bess, You Is My Woman Now" from *Porgy and Bess*

Bernstein's "One Hand, One Heart" from *West Side Story*

Kern's "You Are Love" from *Show Boat*

Billy Joel's "Just the Way You Are"

"When a Man Loves a Woman"

Liszt's "Liebestraume"

Discussion questions

1. What love songs can you name?
2. What music says "love" to you, or makes you feel love?
3. If you could send a gift of music to someone you love, what would you send?
4. Think of someone you love. What association does music have with that person?
5. What classical music expresses love to you? How?
6. How do composers express love in music?
7. How has courtship changed during your lifetime?

Portraying Love in Music

e Activities

1. Comparisons. Play excerpts from two or three classical pieces about love. Talk about the similarities and differences between the pieces. Point out differences in tempo (how fast), loudness, instruments used, use of harmony, how the music builds to a high point and then becomes calmer, and rhythm (long or short notes, use of dotted rhythms, or syncopation).
2. Ask group members to think about someone they love while you play a short classical piece like "**Liebestraume**." After the music stops, ask the participants to share some of what came to mind.
3. Play the song "**The Girl That I Marry**" from Irving Berlin's *Annie Get Your Gun*. Ask if this would be a good courtship song for today's young people. Ask, *Do you agree with this statement: "A woman without a man is like a fish without a bicycle."* Sing the song "**A Man Without a Woman**" (music, p. 133). Ask group members if they agree with the sentiment expressed in this song.
4. Sing Cole Porter's song "**You're the Top**" or read the lyrics to the group. Tell group members to think about someone they love or admire. Encourage them to think of superlatives to describe the person, using different senses. If possible, fit these suggestions into the melody of "**You're the Top**" and sing it together. To make it simpler, stick to phrases that describe favorite foods or places. Rhyming is optional. Example:

You're the top, you're a maraschino cherry.
You're the top, you are Aqua Velva.
You are Larry King on late-night radio.
You're the president of Microsoft.
You're Wonder Bread.
You're a Porsche.
You're a Siamese cat.
You're a star on Hollywood's sidewalk.
I'm just a balloon that's about to pop.
But if, baby, I'm the bottom, you're the top!

Closing

Sing "Let Me Call You Sweetheart."

Presidents' Day

Opening songs

Sing “Yankee Doodle” (for George Washington - music, p. 88) and “Battle Hymn of the Republic” (for Abraham Lincoln - chorus “Glory Hallelujah” on p. 87).

Music written around George Washington's presidency

Beethoven's “Minuet in G”

“Oh, Dear, What Can the Matter Be?”

“The Irish Washerwoman”

“La Marseillaise”

Haydn's “Emperor's Hymn”

“Amazing Grace”

Mozart's *40th Symphony*

“Yankee Doodle”

Music written around Abraham Lincoln's presidency

“Beautiful Dreamer”

Offenbach's “Barcarolle”

“Battle Cry of Freedom”

“Battle Hymn of the Republic”

“Jingle Bells”

“Aura Lee”

“My Darling Clementine”

“Abide with Me”

“Tramp, Tramp, Tramp”

Gounod's “Ave Maria”

Discussion questions

1. How many presidents can you name?
2. Have you ever seen or met a president in person?
3. Who do you think has been our greatest president?
4. What presidents' birthdays are we celebrating on this holiday?

e Activities

1. Lyric writing. Read the words to the song “If I Ruled the World.” Play a recording of it or sing it. (It was recorded by Tony Bennett in 1965.) Ask each person in the group to finish the line “If I ruled the world...” Write what the participants said on a marker board. Encourage participants to be creative, expansive, or just plain silly. The lines do not need to fit the music of the song, though a higher functioning group might enjoy that challenge.
2. Play the song “Hail to the Chief” (music, p. 88). Ask: *How many presidents can you name? Which presidents in office do you remember? What do you remember about each of these?*

Presidents' Day

3. Presidents Trivia

- Which president was a Yankee Doodle? George Washington
- Irving Berlin wrote the song “**I Like Ike**” for which presidential candidate? Dwight Eisenhower
- The 1921 song hit “**I’m Just Wild About Harry**,” by Eubie Blake, was adapted into a campaign song for which president? Harry S. Truman
- What 1960 presidential candidate used the song “**High Hopes**” for his campaign song? John F. Kennedy
- Who was president during the Civil War when the song “**Battle Hymn of the Republic**” was written? Abraham Lincoln
- What song about New York was used as the campaign song of presidential candidate Al Smith? “**The Sidewalks of New York**”
- Woodrow Wilson led the U.S. effort to “make the world safe for democracy” to the strains of the song “**Over There**.” Which war was being fought? World War I
- Who was president during the War of 1812 when the “**The Star-Spangled Banner**” was written? (Hint: His wife was Dolley.) James Madison
- Which president’s theme song was “**Happy Days Are Here Again**”? Franklin D. Roosevelt

Closing

Sing “**God Bless America**” and serve cherry pie.

Glory Hallelujah!

E A E

Glo - ry, glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah! Glo - ry, glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah!

A B7 E

Glo - ry, glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah! His truth is march - ing on.

Chorus to “Battle Hymn of the Republic,” words by Julia Ward Howe, music probably by William Steffe, 1862

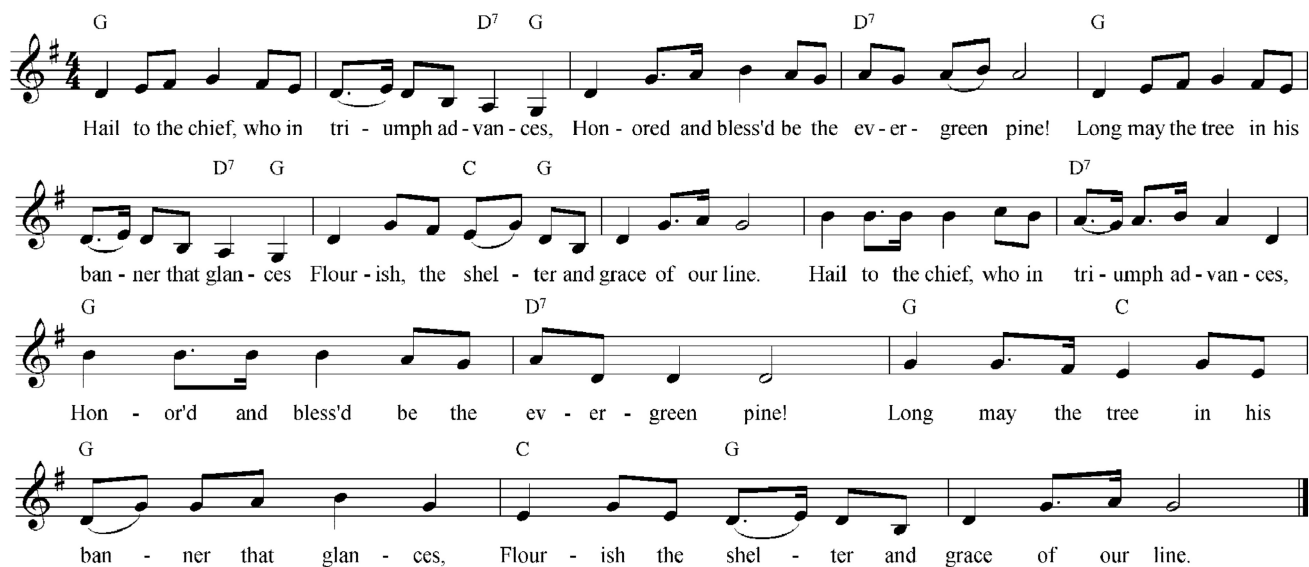
Presidents' Day

Yankee Doodle



Yan-kee Doo-dle went to Lon-don, just to ride the pon - y. He stuck a feath-er in his cap and
called it mac - a - ro - ni. CHORUS Yan - kee Doo - dle keep it up, Yan - kee Doo - dle
Dan - dy. Mind the mu - ic and the step and with the girls be han - dy.

Hail to the Chief



Hail to the chief, who in tri - umph ad - van - ces, Hon - ored and bless'd be the ev - er - green pine! Long may the tree in his
ban - ner that glan - ces Flour - ish, the shel - ter and grace of our line. Hail to the chief, who in tri - umph ad - van - ces,
Hon - or'd and bless'd be the ev - er - green pine! Long may the tree in his
ban - ner that glan - ces, Flour - ish the shel - ter and grace of our line.

Words by Sir Walter Scott, music by James Sanderson

Rainbows

Opening song

"Over the Rainbow"

Songs for listening and singing

"I'm Always Chasing Rainbows"

"There's a Rainbow Round My Shoulder"

"April Showers"

"Rain, Rain, Go Away"

"Look for the Silver Lining"

"Singin' in the Rain"

"Blue Skies"

"Wait Til the Sun Shines, Nellie"

"Look to the Rainbow"

"I've Got the World on a String"

"It Ain't Gonna Rain No More"

"Let a Smile Be Your Umbrella"

"Pennies from Heaven"

"Stormy Weather"

"Keep Your Sunny Side Up"

"Blue Skies"

Visual aids

Prism, soap bubbles, multi-colored objects, pictures of rainbows

Discussion questions

1. How does rain make you feel? How does sunshine make you feel?
2. What are the rainbows in your life?

Activities

1. Get a bubble maker and blow bubbles together. (Wipe the floor afterwards so no one slips on bubbles that reach the floor.) Ask the group to look for the rainbow in each bubble. Sing "**I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles**" together.
2. Read the story of Noah and the rainbow God put in the sky (Genesis 8:8-17). Sing the song "**Rise and Shine**," a humorous children's song about Noah. Do the motions for each verse and the chorus.
3. Sing the song "**Oh, Promise Me**" (found in many wedding books). Talk about the types of promises that people have made in their lives and how easy or hard it was to keep them.

Closing

Sing "I'm Always Chasing Rainbows" (music, p. 132).