



Arts Curriculum

It is well recognized that students who are involved in extra-curricular activities such as the arts are less likely to look to destructive behaviors like alcohol and drug abuse. However, because of limited financial resources, arts programming in schools is not receiving the same priority it once enjoyed. Fewer and fewer students are aware of opportunities in the arts and most importantly do not benefit from the enrichment that a vibrant, creative arts program brings to their lives.

Our presentations encompass many art forms including singing, drama, dance, and improvisation, as well as other related skills such as public speaking, group dynamics, interpersonal relationships, and teamwork. It is important for students to have exposure to cultural events such as this, especially if your school is only able to offer limited arts programs. Many students in rural areas and cities alike may never have seen a live concert or drama performance before.

Not only will our presentation expose your students to a highly entertaining arts performance, we will encourage them by example and through participation and discussion to become more personally involved in the arts through school and community programs, private instruction, or simply singing and acting with friends as part of an expanded and enriched social life. Many students (especially boys) feel that only the most talented people should be involved in arts activities, or are too frightened to give it a try. We encourage everyone in the audience to participate in our show through singing and clapping along, as well as teaching them all how to make some of the drum and instrument sounds in our interactive demonstration. We encourage them to not be afraid to take a few risks, participate, join in the fun, and get involved in activities inside and outside of school.

“Two years ago I was having difficulty engaging grade six boys in music, so I booked HOJA to perform in our school. Our school has never been the same. Boys and girls who are shy and typically would not want to perform in public opened up to the idea and we have all had a lot of fun exploring both music and drama.”

- G. J. Van den Berg, Principal, Altadore School, Calgary, AB

“Having HOJA perform for our school was the best thing that ever happened for my music department. It was like a miracle took place. Every student was inspired. Having an event that all could share resulted in a new kind of school spirit.”

- Dorothy Friesen, Music Teacher, Sherwood School, Winnipeg, MB

“As the music teacher, I appreciated the fact that HOJA gave a short tour of the history of acappella singing, including excerpts of Gregorian chant, Barbershop, 50’s Doo-wop, and finally modern acappella. This was both informative and entertaining.”

- Karen Neufeld, Music Teacher, Captain John Palliser Elementary, Calgary, AB

“It was equally impressive when the group advocated on behalf of our Division 11 Choir. It is wonderful to see our boys and girls in grade 5 and 6 excited about singing!”

- Bonnie Pellicano, Principal, Jennie Elliott Elementary, Calgary, AB

“We believe that the presentation is especially relevant to the boys as they see singing and dancing portrayed as being cool.”

- The Learning Spirit Community, Winston Churchill School, Lloydminster, SK