



### 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

*“It is important for our students interested in the arts to have the opportunity to see a performance of this caliber. For many of our students, this is the only time they have seen a live musical performance.”*  
- Debbie Ponich, Leduc Jr High, Leduc, AB

*“Taking time to demonstrate how particular musical sounds are made and the history of a cappella music gave the presentation an educational spin.”*  
- Michelle Micklich, Vice Principal, Griffiths-Scott Middle School, Millet, AB

*“An interesting thing happened on the Sunday after your performance. Two of our fifteen year-old guys showed up for practice and decided to sing in the local choir! Coincidence? I think not! Because you’re willing to put yourselves on the line and perform in an energetic and positive way, who knows what seeds are sown and what new talent might begin to grow!”*  
- J. Trott, Pierson School, Pierson, MB