WELCOME TO CLASS NOTES CONCERTS

We are so excited to bring live music into your school—thanks for hosting a concert. This curriculum includes:

• Learning prompts for before, during, and after the concert experience
• Standards-based, K-6 lesson plans based on themes and ideas from your Class Notes Concert

Everything is designed to help you and your students get the most out of the experience. Please share your experience with us!

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BEFORE THE CONCERT

LEARN WHAT YOU WILL HEAR

Sprig of That combines fiddle-folk flavors, classical virtuosity, and world rhythmic textures in a naturally acoustic blend. Introducing tempo, balance and musical imagery through engaging original works, the ensemble works to bring intuitive musical concepts to students.

• Listen to and watch Sprig of That perform in the Classical MPR studios.

MEET THE PERFORMERS

Krissy Bergmark plays tabla. She loves coffee, fuzzy socks, and her two cats, Emmie and Py.

Isabel Dammann has been playing violin since she was four. She loves playing different types of music, looking at cool rocks (and telling people about them!), hanging out in nature, cooking tasty food and repurposing old stuff.
MEET THE INSTRUMENTS

• VIOLIN/FIDDLE

› The violin is the smallest member of the string family, which means it has the highest pitch. It can also be called the fiddle. There is no difference between a fiddle and a violin—the instrument is often called a fiddle when it plays a certain style of music. Fiddle players often learn by ear instead of reading notes on a page. This means they listen to music and try to imitate it back. It means a musician must use listening instead of written music.

› Listen to some violin/fiddle music by scrolling to the VIOLIN/FIDDLE section of the Sprig of That Lesson Plan Audio playlist.

Ilan Blanck loves playing music, listening to music and talking about music. While he mostly plays guitar, sometimes he plays car windows, kitchen pots and cardboard boxes. He has one sibling, and his favorite candy bar is Snickers.
• TABLA
  › Tabla are the traditional hand drums of Classical Indian Music. Tabla are a pair of drums that are different sizes.
  › Listen to the tabla by scrolling to the TABLA section of the Sprig of That Lesson Plan Audio playlist.

• GUITAR
  › Guitars are stringed instruments used all over the world. They usually have six strings. When a string is plucked or strummed, it vibrates, which causes the whole body of the instrument to vibrate, and the sound is amplified, or made louder.
  › Listen to some guitar music by scrolling to the guitar section of the Sprig of That Lesson Plan Audio playlist.
DISCUSS IN CLASS
• How can we use our bodies to listen?
• How can we show respect to performers and other audience members?
• What does it mean to be an audience?
• Watch a video about concert etiquette.

DURING THE CONCERT
• NOTICE
  › The way the instruments work together. Sometimes one instrument plays a melody and the other instruments adds sounds to go along with it. Sometimes one instrument plays a musical idea and the other instrument answers—almost like a conversation.
• WONDER
  › How often do these musicians practice?
  › How did they get their start?
• THINK ABOUT
  › How each instrument makes its sound.
  › How the shape of each instrument affects its sound.
  › The different kinds of sounds each instrument can make.
  › The feelings or images that pop into your mind as you listen. Do you think the composers wanted to make you feel a certain way with his or her music?
• IMAGINE
  › You are a composer. What sounds would you want each instrument to make? How would you create musical themes to match characters in a story?

AFTER THE CONCERT
• DISCUSS
  › How did the musicians work together to make music?
  › What things did they need to do to make sure they played together?
• TELL SOMEONE AT HOME
  › Two things you heard or saw or learned at your Class Notes Concert.
• DESCRIBE
  › How the music made you feel. Maybe different pieces of music made you feel different feelings.
• REMEMBER
  › How each instrument made its sound. Can you explain how each instrument’s sound is produced?
• CONNECT
  › Something from the Class Notes Concert to something you’ve learned in school. Explain the connection to a partner, a teacher, or someone at home.